

Special Vestry Meeting May 10, 2025
Christ Episcopal Church

In attendance: Kent Miller, Sr Warden (by phone); Carl Muench, Jr Warden; Gina Thomas, Jr Warden; Barb Dillow, Karen Biggs, Jeff Farough, John McGowan, Treasurer

Kent opened the meeting at 12:13 pm with a prayer. Father Ryan requested the meeting in order to ask the Vestry to commit to paying Fr. Ryan's full salary for the duration of his contract (through January 2027), even if it meant using money from the Endowment Fund.

There are no restrictions regarding the use of Endowment Fund money. The current amount in the Endowment Fund is unknown as John does not have access to the church's financial accounts. A motion to add John McGowan to all of Christ Episcopal Church's financial accounts was made by Gina, second by Barb, approved by unanimous vote.

The 2025 budget deficit is \$41,083 with the Fountain House being rented by June 1 of this year; it is over \$50,000 if the Fountain House is not rented. The letter to the Bishop outlining the steps the church has taken to reduce the deficit was sent last week.

A motion was made by Gina to approve the amended annual budget for 2025 which was presented by our treasurer at the April Vestry meeting; motion was seconded by Karen and passed unanimously. By approving this budget, the Vestry is demonstrating a commitment to pay Fr. Ryan's full salary through 2025. Because of the uncertainties concerning the Endowment Fund balance and the action which may be taken by the Diocese to assist CEC, the Vestry is unable to commit at this time to honoring the full term through January of 2027. We need more information to make a wise stewardship decision.

The renting of the Fountain House is very important to the reduction of the deficit. A motion to provide Adrienne Poe (property manager) with the proper paperwork needed to rent the Fountain House as of June 1 was made by Gina, second by Jeff, passed by unanimous vote.

Kent adjourned the meeting at 1:15 pm and will contact Fr Ryan to inform him of the Vestry's decision.