



**Vestry Meeting Minutes- Draft**  
**December 21, 2023**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**St John's Cathedral**

**Call to Order- 6 pm**

**Members Present:** Donna Walker Bell, Martha Cox, Barbara Fiser, Glenn Guiler, Paige Hakimian, Scott Hill, Lewis Hunt, Will Ketchum, Lloyd Lewis, Lisa McKenna, Meg Sacks

**Members Absent-** Chris Collinsworth, Patrick Kimball

**Others Present-** John Sefton

**Clergy and Staff Present-** Dean Kate Moorehead Carroll, Rev. Mark Anderson, Megan Cochran

**Quorum-** yes

**Opening Devotion-** Meg Sacks read the Nativity scene from Madeline L'Engle's *The Glorious Impossible*.

**Moment of Gratitude-** Martha Cox is grateful for a sold-out house at the Murder Mystery Christmas Dinner and to everyone who participated. Lisa McKenna is grateful for John Sefton for all he continues to do, and for Marie Tarver for coming back to help out on weekends after retiring and for all the love and hugs she shared over the years. Lewis Hunt attended an unfriendly church while traveling and is grateful the Cathedral is such a welcoming congregation. The members all expressed gratitude to Buck and Laura Jane Pittman for their work on the pledge campaign, and to Pam Searcy for her ideas and organization.

**Approval of Minutes-** Martha Cox motioned to approve and Will Ketchum seconded. All members present voted to approve the November 16, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.

**Approval of 2024 Budget-** The vestry reviewed the proposed 2024 budget approved by the Finance Committee. Rev. Mark Anderson explained differences in the format GuideServe uses, and variances from 2023. After discussion, Meg Sacks moved to approve the proposed budget and Barbara Fiser seconded the motion. All members present voted to approve the 2024 budget.

**Duval Trio-** John Sefton, who will continue to serve the vestry as Subchancellor, updated members on the outcome of the sale of the Duval Trio. The city placed the highest bid and is now the owner of the properties. Sefton is hopeful we will be able to negotiate a good deal for the property when the city is ready to sell.

**UF JaxLab Update and Discussion –** Dean Kate reported that while waiting for a lease to be signed, the UF School of Architecture has been renting space in the Cathedral District. The Dean asked the vestry to consider the possibility of repurposing the third floor if UF doesn't uphold the lease agreement and complete fundraising by January 5, 2024 to cover the cost of the renovations they would require. One possible use for the space could be to open a wellness center that would offer classes and services to foster connection and to nurture the physical, mental and spiritual health of people, enabling them to go into the world to serve.

**Revised Amendment to the Bylaws: Finance Committee-** Article 9 of the Cathedral's bylaws caps membership of our standing committees at 7 members. The Finance Committee would like the vestry to approve amending the bylaws to allow a maximum of 13 members so that the committee can increase the variety of expertise needed to

make financial decisions on behalf of the church. A revised amendment will be presented at the January meeting for members to vote on.

**Cathedral Arts Project Bylaws Approval-** John Sefton briefed members on the amended by-laws. Martha Cox motioned to approve and Scott Hill seconded. All members present voted to approve the August 2023 CAP amendments to the bylaws.

**Senior Warden's Report -** Martha Cox reported that the Nominating Committee has confirmed that Glenn Guiler, Donna Walker Bell, Patrick Kimball and Barbara Fiser, whose terms end in January, are eligible to run for a second term and would like to be on the ballot. The Committee is identifying more candidates. Voting will take place in advance of the February 4, 2024 Annual Meeting so that results can be announced at the meeting.

**Subdean's Report-** Rev. Mark Anderson reported that the 2022 audit is in progress. GuideServe is essentially onboarded. We are investigating if we qualify for an employee retention credit from the IRS. The Cathedral School Christmas program went great.

**Dean's Report-** The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll reported that the diocese's provisional bishop, the Right Rev. Scott Benhase will visit the cathedral to meet clergy from this convocation on Saturday January 13 and will preach and celebrate at the 8 and 10 am Sunday services on January 14. The Dean explained that the role of an assisting bishop is to provide sacramental support to the diocese while the Standing Committee remains the ecclesiastical authority.

#### **Other-**

- The vestry have been the members of the board for Cathedral Court, as they were for Cathedral Foundation Inc. Now that CFI has become its own entity, the vestry must pass a resolution to allow the board members of Cathedral Court to be their own members. Martha Cox motioned to approve the resolution and Lisa McKenna seconded. All members present voted in favor of the resolution.

RESOLVED, The membership of the Corporation shall consist of the individuals who serve as directors of the Corporation and their successors in office.

- **2024 Housing Allowances-** After discussion of the suggested housing allowances for Dean Kate, Rev. Mark Anderson, Rev. Gee Alexaander and Rev. Linda Privitera, Barbara Fiser motioned to approve the allowances and Lloyd Lewis seconded. All members present voted in favor of the 2024 housing allowances.
- **Acceptance of 2021 Audit –** After review of the 2021 Audit, Martha Cox motioned to approve accepting the 2021 Audit and Donna Walker Bell seconded. All members present voted to accept the 2021 Audit.

#### **Compline**