

**St. John's Cathedral
Vestry Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2022**

6:00 p.m. – Vestry Meeting begins

Members Present

John Sefton, Glenn Guiler, Patrick Kimball, Barbara Fiser, Tom Serwatka, Donna Walker Bell, Paige Hakimian, Lloyd Lewis, Lisa Mckenna Will Ketchum, Christopher Collinsworth, Meg Sacks
Charles Winney, Treasurer; Steve Busey, Chancellor

Quorum:

Yes

Guests, Clergy and Staff Present

Dean Kate, Debbie Johnson, Megan Cochran

Devotion

John Sefton gave the devotion.

Introductions

All members and staff present introduced themselves and described how they were called to be members of the vestry or on staff

Moments of Gratitude

Donna Walker Bell expressed gratitude for the Dot West bequest to go to music programming and renovating the Music Suite. She also expressed gratitude for Nancy Purcell and the communications team for their great work at the annual meeting; and to the cooking ministry for the delicious treats they served. Tom Serwatka expressed gratitude that the Rev. Eric Kahl will be engaged in ministry and services at the Cathedral.

Election of Officers

John Sefton proposed the following officers for the 2022 year: Lisa Mckenna as Jr. Warden, Claude Moulton as Secretary, Charles Winney as Treasurer, and Steve Busey as Chancellor. Tom Serwatka moved to accept, and Lloyd Lewis seconded the motion. All voted yea. John Sefton proclaimed adoption by acclamation.

Vestry Council Designations

Dean Kate presented the 2022 Council designations:

WMA- Patrick Kimball

Spirituality and Formation- Barbara Fiser and Chris Collinsworth

Parish Life- Donna Walker Bell and Glenn Guiler

Pastoral Care- Tom Serwatka

Outreach- Paige Hakimian

Properties- Lisa Mckenna and Lloyd Lewis

Stewardship and Development- Will Ketchum and Meg Sacks

Finance Committee- John Sefton and Claude Moulton

Conflict of Interest Document

All members signed and returned Conflict of Interest Documents

Approval of Minutes for January 20, 2022

Moved to approve by Glenn Guiler, seconded by Tom Serwatka. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Update

Debbie Johnson presented a Variance Report and explained that revenues are greater than expenses. Pledge income and non-pledge income was up in January. She presented documentation of weekly income since 2019 showing a consistent rise in revenue. She presented a Cash Over Review and explained it shows the market value of investments and the balances in all accounts.

Council Reports

Outreach:

Both members rotated off and so there was no presentation, but Dean Kate brought up the \$5,500 donation to Blessings in a Backpack from the Cathedral Bookstore that was presented at the 10 am service on 2/13/22.

Parish Life:

There is an upcoming workshop on 3/5/22. The council hopes Rev. Mark Anderson will join them. They will reach out to the LGBTQ group.

Pastoral Care:

The council held a call-a-thon for homebound members. 30% answered. Of folks spoken to, most expressed appreciation for the call and reported feeling well cared for by the church due to these types of outreach efforts. The council is discerning the need for more of these events. Kate called them "Phone Banks of Caring."

WMA:

Deborah Baker has officially resigned. There is workshop coming up on 4/2/22. The council is getting organized to work together better to get more events on the schedule. There will be an usher workshop in May that will include a NARCAN training and ways to respond compassionately to our neighbors experiencing homelessness and addiction during services. A list of upcoming events was reviewed and someone asked how many groups ask to perform here. Patrick responded that many contact us asking to perform here, often after seeing videos of other services.

Properties:

Subterranean fumigation has been completed at the Brown House. Fumigation of the Cathedral House will occur in April. The air handler has finally come in. The wall unit in the Choir Loft is leaking. Condensate Line is backing up and a sump pump will need to be purchased. There are \$36k in water intrusion costs in a number of areas around the campus. An assessment of the leaking new roof at the Cathedral School has been completed and repairs can begin.

Stewardship and Development:

We had a very successful pledge drive. It was hoped more people would be back to in-person worship but while physical numbers are down, the amount pledged has increased. The team worked together very well over zoom and in person to complete a successful drive. There are many new offerings coming up that should excite people into giving.

Spirituality & Formation:

The council has decided to not meet as often as whole but rather to meet in specialized subgroups. Kate will invite the congregation to fast from cell phones for Lent. Paige Hakimian will offer a wellness class for Lent and Kate will offer Refreshing Your Faith. Eric Kahl is stepping in as Director of the Center for Prayer and Spirituality.

Sr. Warden's Report

UF architects want to get started on JaxLabs but the lease has still not been approved by trustees who will not meet until May or June. The Cathedral nursing home is understaffed. While those working are worn out, they are still providing 5-star care.

Dean's Report

Kate presented a letter addressing the Cathedral's role as a Mother church for retired clergy and discussed the roles of clergy who are currently engaged in ministry here.

Dean Kate explained that while Bishop Howard disagrees with the national church's policy regarding marriage of same- gender couples, the national church has provided a way for parishes to conduct same gender marriage if they believe that to be what God is calling them to do, called Alternative Episcopal Oversight. According to the policy, Bishop Howard must ask another Bishop to oversee marriage if AEO is requested by the Rector and Vestry of a parish in this diocese. Kate asked the Vestry to take the next month to prayerfully consider requesting Alternative Episcopal Oversight for marriages and asked for a vote to be held during the March meeting. Donna Walker Bell motioned to vote immediately rather than waiting until March. Many members simultaneously seconded the motion to vote immediately. The vote garnered a unanimous YEA. Kate and the Wardens will seek an appointment with Bishop Howard to move forward with AEO. The oversight will continue as long as we have a Bishop who is not in accord with the marriage policy of the National Church. The AEO will be terminated if the incoming Bishop allows same gender marriage in the Diocese.

Other Business

The use of name tags during services was discussed.

Closing Prayer

Led by Dean Kate

Minutes submitted by Megan Cochran.