

St John's Cathedral
Vestry Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2022

5:30 pm, Cummings Chapel, 6 pm Diocesan Office

5:30 pm- Cummings Chapel

Members Present

Lloyd Lewis Sr., Lisa McKenna, Christopher Collinsworth, Claude Moulton, Glenn Guiler, Tom Serwatka, Donna Walker-Bell, Barbara Fiser, Meg Sacks, Patrick Kimball

Quorum:

Yes

Clergy and Staff Present

Dean Kate, Megan Cochran

Treasurer

Charles Winney

Housing Allowance

Dean Kate proposed a housing allowance for Rev. Mark Anderson. Chris Collinsworth moved to approve and Tom Serwatka seconded the motion. All voted yea.

Ratification of Cathedral District- Jax Board Member

Dean Kate introduced the bio of Olivia Frick to be ratified as a new board member for Cathedral District-Jax. Donna moved to approve and Chris seconded the motion. All voted yea.

Explanation of Meeting with Bishop Howard

Dean Kate explained that she, along with Sr. Warden John Sefton and Jr. Warden Lisa McKenna, met with Bishop Howard on Wednesday 3/23/22 to discuss Alternative Episcopal Oversight and that during that meeting Bishop Howard invited the rest of the Vestry to come meet with him as part of the 3/24/22 March Vestry meeting. Kate told members that this would be a chance for our Vestry to listen to and hear Bishop Howard. She then asked for questions. One member asked what had already been agreed. Kate answered that during the Wednesday meeting Bishop Howard told them that Bishop Peter Eaton from the Diocese of Southeast Florida would oversee all matters of marriage for the Cathedral moving forward. Kate explained we can only seek this because we are a parish as well as a Cathedral. Then discussion turned to whether an announcement should be made to the congregation. Ultimately all agreed that an announcement was the best way to proceed.

Closing Prayer –Dean Kate closed with a prayer.

6 pm – Diocesan Office

Members Present

Lloyd Lewis Sr., Lisa McKenna, Christopher Collinsworth, Claude Moulton, Glenn Guiler, Tom Serwatka, Donna Walker-Bell, Barbara Fiser, Meg Sacks, Patrick Kimball, John Sefton and Paige Hakimian

Guests, Clergy and Staff Present

Bishop John Howard, Rev. Allison Defoor, Dean Kate, Megan Cochran

Treasurer

Charles Winney

Opening Prayer – Bishop Howard

Discussion

Bishop Howard explained to Vestry members that Dean Kate has decided same gender marriage may be permitted at the Cathedral and that Bishop Peter Eaton will oversee all matters of marriage for the Cathedral henceforth. Bishop Howard told members that Dean Kate has shown love and respect for him in all matters, even this one. He disclosed the other parishes that have already sought alternative oversight: St. Peters, Fernandina Beach; St. Paul's by the Sea, Jacksonville, Jacksonville Beach; St. John's, Tallahassee; Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville. Bishop Howard explained that this decision is Dean Kate's prerogative, and he appreciates the Vestry's support of Dean Kate's decision. He expressed his love for the Cathedral and his wish to remain in good relationship with us. Dean Kate said she believed Bishop Howard is modeling unity for us. Various members expressed gratitude to Bishop Howard for his graciousness.

Closing Prayer – Bishop Howard