

**Vestry Meeting Minutes**  
**9/21/23**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**St John's Cathedral**

**Call to Order-** 6 pm

**Opening Devotion-** Dean Kate opened with a contemplative reading of Psalm 46:10, *Be still and know that I am God.*

**Members Present:** John Bass, Donna Walker Bell, Barbara Fiser, Glenn Guiler, Paige Hakimian, Patrick Kimball, Lloyd Lewis, Meg Sacks, John Sefton

**Members Absent-** Chris Collinsworth, Will Ketchum, Teresa Lind, Lisa McKenna

**Others Present-** Steve Busey, Chancellor; Charles Winney, Treasurer; Mike Bianchi, GuideServe

**Clergy and Staff Present-** Dean Kate Carroll, Megan Cochran

**Quorum-** yes

**Moment of Gratitude-** Donna Walker Bell expressed gratitude for Rally Day and the Newcomers Brunch, and all the support from staff members. John Bass felt the Parish Luncheon was very well executed.

**Approval of Minutes-** After review of the August 2023 minutes, Glenn Guiler moved to approve the minutes as presented and Lloyd Lewis seconded. The minutes were approved by all members.

**Financial Report**

- **GuideServe Update** - Bianchi shared and explained the Statement of Financial Position, or balance sheet, the Operations and Designated Statement of Activities, the Operating Statement of Activities, and the Parish and Affiliates Designated Funds report as well as two departmental statements of activities- music and personnel- to provide an example of what monthly departmental reports will look like. They are still working on coding detailed transactions for the first six months of 2023, so departmental reports are not yet completed. Coding for June through present is done.
- **Audit Progress-** Dean Kate shared that the 2020 review should be done soon and that Meredith Belger has completed the 2021 books.

**The Diocesan Convention-** the Convention has been moved to November 11, 2023 at Episcopal School Jacksonville's Munnerlyn Campus. John Sefton will hold the nominating committee for the 2024 vestry class until after the convention.

**Duval Trio-** John Sefton asked members to drive by the three houses before the meeting so they could see the problems for themselves. The trio consists of three dilapidated two-story buildings on narrow lots that are owned by Titus Harvest Dome and have numerous nuisance liens against them. The city is moving forward with negotiations to settle with Titus. As a result, either the deeds will go to the city, or they will go into foreclosure and we will have the opportunity to buy the property. The total area is 1/5 acre, which is not adequate for expanding the school but could be used to build a playground. Members discussed pros and cons of acquiring the property and possible uses.

**Security and Homelessness-** People need to feel safe coming to the church, especially on Sundays. The police officer sweeps the area at 7:30 am but cannot be at all entrances and parking lot at once. Do we want to ask volunteers to help? Can we have greeters stationed at entrances and outside as a deterrent and to alert the officer of possible dangerous situations and people? We need to ask the Safety and Security Task Force to suggest the best place for the officer to park to be of the most use.

**Cathedral Arts Project By-Laws-** John Sefton will make slight changes to make the amendments consistent with the Articles of Incorporation, and the vestry will approve them at a later date.

**Approval of Cathedral Arts Project Board of Directors Nominees-** After reviewing the bios of CAP board nominees Anthony Austin and Marc Mayo, John Sefton moved to approve both nominees, and John Bass seconded. Both nominees were approved unanimously.

**Approval of Cathedral District Jax Board of Directors Nominee-** After reviewing the bio of CD-J board nominee Jay Henderlite, Glenn Guiler moved to approve him, and John Bass seconded. Henderlite was approved unanimously.

### **Council Reports**

- **WMA-** Patrick Kimball reported that the council has expanded to include members from all the worship areas. The new art installation features the founders of our art program and 20 years of their work.
- **Pastoral Care-** John Bass reported there will be a commissioning of the Eucharistic Visitors and Intercessors on October 8th at the 8am and 10am services. Following the 10am service there will be a Pastoral Care Meeting/Luncheon.
- **Parish Engagement-** Donna Walker Bell reported that the council hasn't met since the last vestry meeting, but plans for the Thanksgiving potluck, Advent wreath making, and a Christmas Dinner will be discussed at the upcoming meeting.
- **Development-** Meg Sacks reported that the pledge drive is well under way and encouraged members to attend at least one of the home blessings being offered. Pam Searcy has done a wonderful job.
- **Properties-** Lloyd Lewis reported that since Paul Calewatts has been out recovering from a heart attack, there was no recent facilities report to provide an update on. Corey Tandy is back on staff as a sexton which is a relief for Paul. Dean Kate wants to encourage parishioners to help after events.
- **Formation-** Barbara Fiser encouraged members to attend the upcoming Quiet Garden Morning.

**Senior Warden Report-** John Sefton provided administrative updates on CFI. UF is fundraising for the JaxLab project.

The Finance Committee recommends that the vestry approve compensating CD-J \$25k for all the work they did to make this deal with UF possible. The funds would come from money raised for the project and not out of operating funds. **Resolution:** Sefton moved to approve paying CD-J \$25k upon completion of fundraising and commencement of construction. Patrick Kimball seconded, and all members voted to approve the resolution.

**Deans Report-** Dean Kate was invited to preach and teach at Christ Church in Charlotte, SC on Sept. 17, 2023. It is a huge church with ten priests on staff. She is grateful for our church in the heart of the urban core. She spoke to her reasons for participating in the march with Repairers of The Breach and Poor People's Campaign. Monday she argued at City Hall for the \$.01 tax on restaurants to fund housing for the unhoused. Miami has seen great success with this model, but the Council dismissed the bill. Jacksonville needs affordable housing with wrap around services. She will not be able to attend Bishop Howard's retirement party due to travel with family but encouraged vestry members to attend.

**Adjournment-** There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.