



**Vestry Meeting Minutes- Draft**  
**Thursday August 15, 2024**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**St John's Cathedral**

**Call to Order:** 6 pm

**Members Present:** John Bass, Donna Walker Bell, Martha Cox, Glenn Guiler, Paige Hakimian, Scott Hill, Lewis Hunt, Patrick Kimball, Lloyd Lewis, Lisa McKenna

**Members Absent:** Chris Collinsworth, Will Ketchum, Meg Sacks

**Others Present:** John Sefton, Subchancellor; Mike Bianchi and Jennifer Glassmoyer

**Clergy and Staff Present:** The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead Carroll, Dean; The Rev. Mark Anderson, Subdean; Megan Cochran

**Quorum:** Yes

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**Opening Devotion:** Patrick Kimball shared a Prayer of Gratitude to Start the Day, or a meeting.

**Moment of Gratitude:** Lewis Hunt expressed gratitude to Lee Polster for taking over Compline while he was away. Patrick Kimball is grateful for Paul Calewarts taking care of all our maintenance issues. Dean Kate is grateful to our Center for Wellbeing task force for all they are doing. John Bass is grateful to Bob Hill for all his work on the Investment Strategy. Paige Hakimian is grateful for Lisa McKenna for starting the cancer support group.

**Approval of Minutes:** Upon review of the June 20, 2024 meeting minutes, Patrick Kimball motioned to approved the minutes as presented and Scott Hill seconded. All present voted in favor of accepting the minutes as presented.

**Vestry Slate Elections:** Martha Cox explained the options for conducting Vestry elections and the pros and cons with those issues. The three types of elections are Contested Election, Chosen by Lot and Election of a Slate. Our current system is contested elections, and the issues we face are that fear of rejection and losing makes it difficult to get people to run in what can appear as a popularity focused election rather than a skills focused election. Most large churches use slate-based elections which allows a vestry to determine the skillsets needed in each class and recruit qualified individuals. Cox outlined the required work the vestry would need to do to move to a slate based system. Realizing that change is difficult for congregations, the vestry will need to prepare for an announcement and communicate clearly and thoroughly during the process. Cox proposed the vestry plan a vote to amend the by-laws in November, taking September and October to listen to input from the parish. Vestry elections can take place in February as has been the custom. Members discussed the overdue change with optimism.

**Financial Report:** Mike Bianchi reviewed the Statement of Activities and Statements of Financial Position for the year up to 7-31-24. The reports are only preliminary as the finance committee met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. The Finance Committee recommends making the budgeted transfers from savings accounts to operations after postponing due to having ample cash reserves for the first half of the year. GuideServe is working with our auditors to produce more accurate designated funds reports. Church staff are still catching up on credit card reports. Members celebrated all Mike's and his team's work this past year and a half.

**Approve Endowment Articles of Incorporation:** The Finance Committee has recommended the vestry vote to adopt the articles of incorporation and fund the Hellen Ingram Plummer Endowment. Lisa McKenna moved to approve the articles of incorporation and John Bass seconded.

**Approve Aging True Settlement:** While the vestry anticipates a cash gift from the Plummer Foundation in Spring 2025 that will fund the Hellen Ingram Plummer Endowment, the Aging True settlement could be used to fund the endowment now. Dean Kate has heard strong opinions supporting the need to tithe 10% of the settlement amount, and there has been much discussion on using a portion now for properties work that needs to be done but is

outside the current budget. The Properties Committee is working on a list of priorities and will have recommendations in 1 to 2 months.

Be it Resolved

- To set aside 10%, or \$333,333.33 to tithe
- To set aside 5%, or \$150k for properties work
- To use the remainder \$2.85 million to fund the Hellen Ingram Plummer Endowment

Glenn Guiler motioned to approve the resolution and Scotty Hill seconded. All members present voted to approve the funding resolution.

**Investment Manager:** The Investment Subcommittee, with some outside support, have interviewed investment managers, both locally and nationally, looking for an experienced and affordable manager whose values align with ours to manage the Plummer endowment. They have chosen the Episcopal Church Fund, who partners with SSGA, one of the largest asset management firms. Dean Kate described this as putting our money where our theology is.

### Council Reports

- **Formation:** The cathedral is hosting the Bishop's Institute lay preaching class. Owene is now working entirely remotely. Art offerings and children and family engagement is growing.
- **Outreach:** Next Family Promise Host week is in September. They are hoping to generate lots of interest at Rally Day and are hoping for a soft opening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Center for Wellbeing that day. The Grand Opening should be in October. The survey results are being studied to leverage the responses to best serve the community.
- **Parish Engagement:** Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday to fine tune Rally Day preparations. They are being mindful of listening, seeking and recruiting parishioners.
- **Pastoral Care:** Chaplains are being recognized by other churches for visiting members and are fine tuning communications about visits. They have revised their mission statement. The current challenge is to make sure transitioning patients do not fall through the cracks.
- **Properties:** Music Suite Asbestos abatement is complete. Renovations should be completed by mid October. Toole is working on software for the air handler. The alarm system will be tested soon for JSO certification.
- **Stewardship and Development:** Pledge packets will be mailed 9/5/24 and the campaign will launch on Sunday 9/15/24. There will be various activities both on and off campus related to growth.
- **Worship, Music and Arts:** Next event will be the instructed eucharist on Saturday 8/24/24.

**Subdean's Report:** The church is launching a new website in the fall. The family service is growing and brings in families that otherwise don't attend services. We have installed schedule cards at the doors of our major meeting spaces to help us keep up with what is happening around campus at any given time. The Duval Trio is now the Duval Duo after one collapsed.

**Dean's Report:** The pulpit swap with Church of Our Savior was a great experience. Dean Kate is becoming more active with the diocese and the community, including diocesan workshops and now being invited by Mayor Deegan to join the Homelessness Commission.

**Other:** Rev Anderson provided administrative updates on the Cathedral School.

**Closing Prayer:** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm with the members reciting the Lord's Prayer.