



Vestry Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2025
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, Lewis Hunt, Patrick Kimball, Laura Jane Pittman, Louis Russo, Adam Smith, Shane Williams

Members Absent: John Erstling, Lisa McKenna

Others Present: John Sefton, Subchancellor; Paul Arrington, Treasurer

Clergy and Staff Present: The Very Rev. Kate M. Carroll, Dean; The Rev. Mark Anderson, Vicar; Megan Cochran, Parish Administrator

Quorum: Yes

Opening Devotion: Laura Jane Pittman gave a devotion based on an Andrea Gibson blog about loving the life we get to live.

Moment of Gratitude: Lewis Hunt is grateful for the 29 years Anice Jackson has loved on us. Dean Kate is grateful for Paul Arrington as our new Treasurer and John Sefton as Chancellor.

Approval of Minutes: After reviewing the minutes from the August 2025 meeting, Lewis Hunt motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Shane Williams seconded. All members present approved.

Financial Report: Shane Williams presented the financial reports for the year ending 7/31/25.

- Revenue and Expenses are trending well
- Revenue looks low because we did not receive the budgeted \$103,000 from the Plummer Foundation. Rather, they dissolved the foundation and gifted the cathedral \$3,761,620 that has now been invested as an endowment that will generate roughly the same amount of income each year as the grant had.
- Expenses are still trending under budget
- Jenny Glassmoyer is working with Fr. Mark and Megan Cochran to clean up the designated funds list and eliminate funds that can be folded into the operating account to provide greater simplicity in bookkeeping.

Finance Committee Recommendations

- **Closing Ameris and Cogent Special Funds-** Among the designated funds that need to be closed, there are an Ameris Special Funds and a Cogent Special Funds that were opened before any current staff were hired, and there are no notes or directives for using the funds. The Finance Committee recommends closing both and moving the balances to the operating account.
 - Shane Williams motioned to approve the recommendation and Patrick Kimball seconded. All present voted in favor.
- **CDJ Loan Amendment for Operating Expenses-** The vestry approved \$750k loan to CDJ in January 2025 as a line of credit for CDJ to purchase the Methodist parking lot on Duval St. and the Duval Trio properties from the city of Jacksonville for development. The original document was written to cover 3rd party carrying costs. CDJ is asking the Vestry amend the document to allow up to \$50k to be accessible for operating costs if needed until sale of the land to a developer is complete, which is projected to be in 2027. If used, the funds would be repaid with interest and the land is collateral.
 - Shane Williams motioned to approve the amendment and Adam Smith seconded. All present voted in favor.

Hellen Ingram Plummer Foundation Endowment: the Plummer Foundation Endowment is now fully invested with Episcopal Church Foundation.

Think Tanks: Dean Kate is experimenting with Think Tanks to address how the cathedral can focus its work as nonprofits are losing funding in a polarized environment. Our parishioners are a great resource of local experts on complex issues such as welcoming the stranger and creation care. The Think Tanks are organized into three parts: 1. Experts present the issues and complex considerations. 2. Experts offer possible solutions. 3. Parishioners discuss and decide as a body if and how to proceed.

duPont Grants: The duPont fund is expanding who can apply for grants and we are unsure how this might impact future awards.

CAP Report: John Bass updated members on CAPabilities, a new extension program for students with moderate to severe cognitive and physical disabilities.

- **CAP Board Nominee-** after reviewing Ann Hoverson's bio, John Bass motioned to approve her to the CAP Board of Directors. Louis Russo seconded, and all members present voted in favor.

The Cathedral School Board of Trustees Nominees: after reviewing Rebecca Andrew's and Amy Gilgore's bios, Donna Walker Bell motioned to approve Andrews for her second term on the Board of Trustees and Gilgore as treasurer. Shane Williams seconded, and all members present voted to approve both nominees.

Council Reports:

- **Center for Wellbeing-** Paige Hakimian is working towards a collaboration with Hubbard House. The center is growing quickly and will potentially need salaried help. Louis Russo is looking into software to assist with organization, a relational database, and metrics to gauge community impact.
- **Formation –** Adam Smith gave updates on upcoming formation offerings.
- **Outreach –** Glenn Guiler updated on current and upcoming Outreach programs. The Diocese of Cuba is in dire need of funding and the council is working on getting donations to them.
- **Parish Engagement-** no meeting to report on
- **Pastoral Care-** Lewis Hunt reported the council has ordered Intercessor name tags so congregants know who is there to pray. They are also discerning a banner to identify the space.
- **Properties-** Building Solutions is on site to prepare an audit of the facilities for long-term planning. The final report will be ready in November.
- **Stewardship and Development-** Thirty-five families have pledged \$266k for 2026. The campaign is 15% of the way towards its goal.
- **Worship, Music and Arts-** Next meeting will be prior to advent.

Sr. Warden's Report: The full delegation of clergy and delegates will attend the Diocesan Convention on September 20. The Diocesan Transition Committee is hosting Envisioning forums to glean what the diocese wants in the next bishop. The cathedral will host one session.

Vicar's Report: The 2024 Audit was turned in to the diocesan office before the due date. Feedback has been positive regarding the transition away from Rally Day to showcase ministries. Work is beginning on the 2026 budget. Children's staff and volunteers were recently trained in Trust Based Relationship Interventions. The new chef, Abigail Diocares, is phenomenal in the kitchen. We are interviewing sexton candidates.

Dean's Report: Dean Kate reported that her sabbatical was a blessed time. Weekly Peace is a blog posted on Substack with videos. She recently presented an online workshop for EPN on clergy burnout.

There being no more business to address, the meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Megan Cochran