



Vestry Meeting Minutes- Draft  
1/18/24  
6:00 p.m.  
St John's Cathedral

**Call to Order- 6 pm**

**Members Present:** Donna Walker Bell, Martha Cox, Barbara Fiser, Glenn Guiler, Paige Hakimian, Scott Hill, Lewis Hunt, Will Ketchum, Patrick Kimball, Lisa McKenna, Meg Sacks

**Members Absent-** Chris Collinsworth, Lloyd Lewis

**Others Present-** John Sefton, Subchancellor; Charles Winney, Treasurer

**Clergy and Staff Present-** Dean Kate Moorehead Carroll, Rev. Mark Anderson, Megan Cochran

**Quorum-** yes

**Opening Devotion-** Glenn Guiler read and reflected on a Celtic Prayer for Leadership.

**Moment of Gratitude-** Patrick Kimball expressed gratitude to Jay Wright and all those who donated icons for Taliaferro exhibit. Charles Winney expressed gratitude for Bonnie Hardman and Linn Winney for their work with the Celebration Singers. Lewis Hunt is grateful for Brenda McNeiland for subbing so faithfully for Tim Tuller. Will Ketchum is grateful to Martha Cox for taking on the role of Senior Warden. Dean Kate asked the Vestry to consider giving Marsha Hohimer the Angels in our Midst Award at the annual meeting for all she does as a volunteer. Martha Cox motioned to approve Marsha receiving the award and Scott Hill seconded. All members present voted in favor of giving Marsha the award.

**Approval of Minutes-** Upon review of the 12-21-23 meeting minutes, Donna Walker Bell motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Martha Cox seconded. All members present approved the minutes as presented.

**Financial Report**

**Audit Update-** Bill Abare has added an additional person to work on our 2022 audit and they should be done by the end of February.

**GuideServe Onboarding -** Mike Bianchi reported that due to illness, there are no financial reports for December 2023, but they will be done by the end of the month. The bookstore accounting is wrapped up for 2023. Dean Kate assured to vestry we have done well based on giving.

**Aging True Settlement-** The funds received have been deposited in the Unrestricted Reserve account, formerly known as the Saint's Fund. The Finance Committee is changing the name to clarify that the account is not an endowment. We have one major endowment with a separate articles of incorporation, the Preservation Fund. 5% of the total value, over a three-year average, is distributed annually for maintenance and upkeep of the campus, not including the Bookstore. The Finance Committee recommends the Vestry add the Aging True Settlement to the Hellen Ingram Plummer endowment that is being set up so that the funds are not restricted as much as the Preservation Fund to allow the Vestry to exercise its fiduciary responsibilities for the mission and ministry of the cathedral as a whole. The new Plummer endowment will not throw off a large amount of income but will help provide a buffer as inflation increases. Our goal is to have \$12 million in endowments to ensure the church has enough income to remain a church regardless of membership or the economy.

**Motion to Amend Bylaws re: Finance Committee-** The bylaws refer to three standing committees: Properties, Finance and Audit. The councils are separate from the committees. According to the bylaws of the church, the standing committees can each have a maximum of seven members. The Finance Committee has recommended that the Vestry amend the bylaws to allow a maximum of thirteen members for each standing committee. This will allow the Finance Committee to seek members with a diversity of expertise in finance. Barbara Fiser motioned to approve the amendment and Lisa McKenna seconded. All members present voted to approve the amendment.

### **Council Reports**

- **Outreach-** Paige Hakimian reported that the council is in the process of planning the Guatemala Pilgrimage. Family Promise host week is coming up. The council will partner with Wendy Anderson to support a mission to provide wheelchairs to areas where people do not have access to them.
- **Parish Engagement-** no January meeting
- **Pastoral Care-** The council is looking to update its vision and mission. Lewis Hunt is tracking eucharistic visitations but there is no tracking for intercessory prayer on Sunday mornings. The council will increase its capacity to deliver more care using licensed lay leaders. Cancer and grief support groups are being formed by parishioners.
- **Properties-** Carpets in Cummings, the Cummings hallway and Busey will be replaced. Paul Calewarts is trying to upgrade the AC controls to online software to manage remotely. The music suite renovation is moving forward with three potential bidders. The bushes in Cathedral Park are about to be trimmed significantly to deter illicit activities.
- **Stewardship and Development-** We are just short of our \$1.5 million dollar goal. We have had 306 households pledge \$1.4 million for 2024.
- **WMA-** Next meeting will be in February. The Epiphany exhibit in Taliaferro is an interactive exhibit about baptism.

**Senior Warden's Report** – Martha Cox updated members on the list of nominees for the upcoming vestry elections. They are current members Donna Walker Bell, Glenn Guiler, Patrick Kimball and Barbara Fiser, in addition to Shane Williams, Rev. Ben Tandy, recent alternate John Bass and Harriett Meyer. Rev Ben Tandy is not an episcopalian and therefore is not eligible to run and will need to be removed as a candidate. We will utilize electronic voting again and will announce the results at the annual meeting on February 4, 2024. Martha also encouraged all members who hadn't already participated in Sacred Ground to do so.

**Subdean's Report-** Rev. Mark Anderson updated the members on upcoming staff changes. We are in the process of hiring a part-time sexton and a lay person to be the Director of Children and Family Ministries and Chaplain to the Cathedral School. We are still looking for a Hospitality Director. The Finance Committee is addressing banking issues with guidance from Mike Bianchi for that sake of simplifying the number of accounts we have. We raised \$32,000 with the matching grant from duPont in the fall and will use it to refresh the church website and create a digital marketing presence online. The website will be more intuitive and up to date.

**Dean's Report-** The Very Rev. Kate M. Carroll will take a sabbatical in the summer of 2025. The 10 am service will move to 10:30 am beginning February 18, 2024, allowing us to focus more time on formation and fellowship.

**Other-** Members were encouraged to keep Deacon Sandra Kidd in their prayers as she continues to recover from heart surgery in December.

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

Minutes respectfully submitted by Megan Cochran.