



Vestry Meeting Minutes- Draft
Thursday September 19, 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, Lewis Hunt, Will Ketchum, Patrick Kimball, Lloyd Lewis, Lisa McKenna, Meg Sacks, Shane Williams

Members Absent: Chris Collinsworth, Paige Hakimian

Others Present: John Sefton, Subchancellor; Charles Winney, Treasurer; 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

Opening Devotion: Donna Walker Bell shared two Vestry Prayers.

Approval of Minutes: Upon review of the August 14, 2024 meeting minutes, Donna Walker Bell motioned to approved the minutes as presented and Patrick Kimball seconded. All present voted in favor of accepting the minutes as presented.

Introduction of New Member: After the August 14, 2024 meeting, Scotty V. Hill resigned from the vestry due to time commitments. Shane Williams was the first alternate and was asked by Martha Cox to take Hill's place for the duration of his term, until February 2026. Williams began attending the Cathedral in the late 1980's, and officially joined the church in 2017. He is also the chair of the Finance Committee.

Moment of Gratitude: Charles Winney is grateful to Eleni Karamitsos, our new chef, for making lunches on Sundays he looks forward to and for getting the kitchen cleaned up. Lewis Hunt is grateful to Pam Searcy and Tim Tuller for the UNF Jazz concert. Donna Walker Bell is grateful to Pam Searcy for making Rally Day a success. Shane Williams is grateful to Felicia Bullock and Megan Cochran for a delightful Cathedral School Sunday.

Financial Report: Mike Bianchi reviewed the Statement of Activities and Statements of Financial Position for the year up to 8-31-24. Pledge contributions are slightly behind projections, but unpledged contributions are slightly ahead. The August quarterly transfer got held up due to unforeseen process issues but was processed on September 17. Bianchi will send a monthly report of all transfers that need to be initiated by the church. Expenses are tracking with budget projections. The list of All Entities Designated Funds is 98% complete and Bianchi is working with the auditors to continue to fill in accurate numbers.

Amendments to the Bylaws: Based on feedback from Steve Busey, John Sefton amended the bylaws to eliminate paper ballots, moving elections to a purely electronic format. A computer will be made available to parishioners at church on Sundays before an election to cast ballots. Martha Cox took a preliminary raise of hands vote to gauge vestry desire to move forward with amending the bylaws to provide for Slate elections. All members present were in favor of voting on slate elections in November, based on input from the congregation through a series of listening sessions, both online and in person.

Finance Committee Recommendation re: Aging True Settlement: Shane Williams motioned for the vestry to approve moving the 5% of the Aging True Settlement allocated at the August meeting for use by the Properties Committee to the Properties Reserve account for immediate use. Martha Cox seconded. All members present voted to approve moving the \$150k to the Preservation Reserve account.

Parish Website Revision: Rev. Anderson shared a review of the new website that Nancy Purcell has been working on for five months. It is "mobile responsive" so that it works well on people's mobile devices. We will launch the

website on Sept 28, 2024. It will be around 95% complete, but due to a maternity leave at the small firm we are working with, we must launch early or wait several months. This is a great step forward that we will continue to refine over time.

Center for Wellbeing Mission Statement: Patrick Kimball shared both the vision and mission statements the Center for Wellbeing Task Force has written. Members discussed the statements and Kimball will take the suggestions to the task force for revisions.

Approval of CAP board nominee Cherisa Murphy: John Bass is on the CAP Board and highly recommended Cherisa Murphy as an asset to the mission of the CAP board. Bass motioned to approve Murphy and Martha Cox seconded. All present voted in favor of Murphy.

Dean Board Involvement: Dean Kate updated members on the boards she is currently working with in an effort to expand the cathedral's presence in the community. She serves as board member for the national Episcopal Parish Network, locally for CAP, ESJ, and the local chapter of NAMI. By invitation of Mayor Deegan, Dean Kate serves on the Homelessness Commission for the City of Jacksonville.

Diocesan Report: Will Ketchum announced that COO of the Diocese of Florida, Keith Daw, will meet with the vestry during the October vestry meeting. There are six resolutions on the table for the Diocesan Convention and Ketchum asked for prayers for the clergy and delegates attending.

Council Reports

- **Parish Engagement:** The council is looking ahead to Christmas plans.
- **Pastoral Care:** Chaplains are working to make sure transitioning patients do not fall through the cracks. Dean Kate commented that this is the best chaplaincy program we have ever had.
- **Properties:** It has been difficult to get bids on the water intrusion due to the rain. 2nd and 3rd floor renovations are still underway. Both are projected to be completed by the end of October.
- **Stewardship and Development:** Pledge forms are going out soon, including an informative booklet about where the money goes and priorities of the church. There will be three events to gather parishioners in fellowship. The digital congregation will be invited to give on Giving Tuesday.
- **Worship, Music and Arts:** The Devotions exhibit has concluded. The next installation will fit in with the seasonal theme of Deep Roots Bear Fruits. We will host the Laramie Project in October with participants from inside and outside the cathedral.

Senior Warden's Report: The vestry needs to form a nominating committee for both vestry and convention delegate elections. One representative from each vestry class is needed to serve on the committee. We have thirty days after the convention to elect four delegates and four alternates for the 2025 and 2026 conventions.

Subdean's Report: Felicia Bullock is doing great work with the Cathedral School. For the first time, we will have pet adoptions during the Blessing of the Animals service on October 6. Pam Searcy will take over all giving statement questions now that Patricia Moore is working for the Bookstore three days a week. Searcy's focus will be on Worship and Development. Megan Cochran is moving into Parish Administrator roll and we are searching for an assistant to the clergy. We are also actively searching for someone to fill the newcomer position.

Dean's Report: Dan Kate was not awarded the Lilly endowment she applied for to fund her 2025 sabbatical. They seem to prefer giving to smaller churches. The apartments next door are up for lease. We need to make a point of welcoming and inviting them to the church. We are discerning calling a priest out of seminary for a curacy.

Closing Prayer: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with the members reciting the Lord's Prayer.