

Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Minutes

Monday, April 24, 2023

Christ Church Cathedral

Members Present: Billy Ballard, Erica Chappell, Brad Daugherty, Chris Isbell, Donald McKenzie, David Morton, Susie Ries, Eran Stanley, Sarah Tally, Kelsey Urness, John Whitaker, Amy Woodson, Tyler Yarbrow

Members Absent: Hal Johnson, Jay Wellons

Clergy: The Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, the Rev. Canon Anna Russell Friemdan, the Rev. Madeleine Rebouché, the Ven. Roger Saterstrom, the Rev. Canon Lissa Smith, the Rev. Richard Wineland

Other: Mark McQueen, Caroline Rossini

Opening Prayer

Dean Kimbrough opened the meeting in prayer.

Meditation

Caroline shared a reading from *We Make the Road By Walking* by Brian McLaren.

Following the meditation, Susie Ries shared a statement from the Creation Care Committee, added below as an appendix.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from March's Vestry meeting were unanimously approved (Tally, Isbell).

Report from the Finance Committee

Mark McQueen presented the financial statements. The Income Statement was approved (Ries, Whitaker). Mark presented the Balance Sheet and the Capital Campaign Fund report. The Balance Sheet was approved (McKenzie, Tally). Mark presented the Cash Reserves report.

Mark provided an update on Parking Vendor research. The options have been narrowed to two vendors under consideration: Metropolis (formerly Premier/Central Parking) and PMC (our current vendor). Burgin Dossett and Ellen Wright are putting together a more detailed list of questions for those two vendors and will share their findings with Finance in order to make a final recommendation.

Mark shared an update on the water damage from the plumbing leak.

A report on the roof has been received and shared with the chair of the Property Committee. We do not have specific recommendations yet in terms of repairs needed.

Report from the Pastoral Care Commission

Mary McCarthy, chair of the Pastoral Care Commission, joined the meeting to share an update on the commission's work.

Report from the Isaac Project

Brad Daugherty shared an update from the Isaac Project and a proposal for a series of reports to the parish based on the committee's research and findings to-date. Robust discussion followed, particularly related to preparing for any potential pastoral implications of sharing these stories. The Isaac Project committee will work on a more detailed plan for roll-out of these reports and follow-up at the next Vestry meeting.

Extend Meeting Time

Resolved, to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to 8:45pm. (Daugherty, Yarbrow)

Dean's Report

Dean Kimbrough shared some transition notes. Administrative documents (bylaws, policies, etc.) are in the Vestry Documents folder. Molly Cole (staff) is collecting other notes, guidelines, customaries, policies, and other helpful documents from all the various commissions & committees to keep them in one place and make them editable for future changes. Staff members all have a time scheduled to meet with Timothy to discuss transition plans. With Karmine, Timothy is planning a single meeting with commission chairs. A weekly meeting with the Wardens is starting a week from Wednesday. There will be at least two more meetings with Vestry Officers as a full group.

Dean Kimbrough shared some notes on staffing. Lissa's sabbatical begins at the end of May. Bishop William Mostert slated to arrive July 17 and stay through Easter 2024. Vicki Burgess is expected to come on 10 hours a week for pastoral care work, starting in the beginning of June. Madeleine completes her time as Curate this month and begins her time next month as the Associate for Liturgy and Christian Formation.

Executive Session

Dean Kimbrough and other clergy members present then departed, and the Vestry entered Executive Session.

Wardens' Report on Transition

A meeting is scheduled for next Monday with Bishop Bauerschmidt and Canon Howard. Please let Caroline know if you cannot attend or need a Zoom link.

The Vestry acted unanimously to create a Fond Farewell Committee for Dean Kimbrough:

Resolved, the Vestry appoints John Bridges to assemble and chair a Fond Farewell Committee which will organize and plan a send-off celebration for Dean Kimbrough, and charges the committee to submit a proposed budget to the Finance Committee no later than Friday, May 5 (Yarbrow, Tally).

Adjournment

The Vestry's next regular meeting is Monday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m. There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Caroline Rossini, Clerk

ADDENDUM: Special Meeting, Executive Session — May 1, 2023

At 6:30 p.m. on May 1, 2023, in the Christ Church Cathedral Wheeler Room, the Vestry met in Executive Session with the Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt and the Rev. Canon Jody Howard to discuss transition plans. Although such a meeting might normally have occurred following the departure of the incumbent Rector, the Bishop requested we begin the conversation somewhat ahead of schedule in light of their upcoming sabbaticals. At this meeting, they distributed copies of the diocese's Transition Process Handbook.

ADDENDUM: Special Meeting, Executive Session — May 17, 2023

At 6:00 p.m. on May 17, 2023, in the Christ Church Cathedral Annex (and via Zoom), the Vestry met in Executive Session with the Rev. Canon Jody Howard to discuss next steps for the transition period. Canon Howard shared next steps for beginning the Search Process for a new Rector, including electing a Search Committee and describing that committee's early work.

APPENDIX: Creation Care Committee Statement

We hear almost daily about the devastating effects of climate change. I recently heard that the glaciers are melting at a much faster rate than had been anticipated. It fills me with despair to think about the consequences that, for years, have been forcing people to move from their homes because their land is either underwater or too dry to farm. Like the Isaac Project, this is an issue of social justice. It sickens me to think that our children and grandchildren could ask, “You knew what was happening to the earth, what did you DO to prevent it?”

What can I do to make a difference? Probably not a lot, but I must do something, such as eat less meat, drive less often and live more simply. Our church must do something too. To not address this is to be complicit with the problem. [In the Ash Wednesday Liturgy from the BCP, we are challenged to confess “our self-indulgent appetites and ways,” “our waste and pollution of God’s creation,” and “our lack of concern for those who come after us.”]

At our church’s 80th General Convention last summer, three key resolutions were adopted.

One resolution is called and calls for Net Carbon Neutrality by 2030. It encourages all parishes, dioceses, schools, camps and other Episcopal institutions to pursue their own goal of net carbon neutrality by 2030 through a combination of reducing emissions from travel, reducing energy use, increasing efficiency in buildings and purchasing offsets...”

Another resolution calls us to “Support Decade (2020-30) of Action to Achieve Sustainable Development Goals.” It encourages all parishes, dioceses, and jurisdictions to:

- (1) educating themselves about the SDGs using United Nations, Anglican Communion and Episcopal Church resources;
- (2) developing their own educational resources to translate the core Christian values and imperatives of the SDGs
- (3) undertaking self-audits to assess how their existing mission work and ministries and
- (4) sharing stories about how they are working toward the SDGs and furthering the work that Jesus calls all of us to do.

A third resolution to “Commit to the Pressing Work of Addressing Global Climate Change and Environmental Justice,” encourages parishes, dioceses, and all other Church communities to: learn more about the pressing moral implications of climate change in their regions and existing local organizing efforts, then advocate for policies and solutions to address those local needs and incorporating local nature, environmental justice, and advocacy for creation care into all aspects of community life and Christian education.

Our current Creation Care Committee was formed in 2019 under the leadership of Ophelia Paine. It sits within the Outreach Commission with Roger Saterstrom as Clergy liaison. Ann Olsen became chair early last year and Ophelia remains very active. Creation Care has been particularly active this year in the Adult Education sphere, to help many of us learn about the positions and work of the Episcopal Church and our personal responses. They have had sessions in the Dean’s Forum and

Contemplative Life classes. The Committee has also established a Creation Care Friends group in Realm. It was used to provide weekly study and reflection guides during Lent. One thing you can do right now is join that group and read the occasional messages. I'm circulating a signup sheet for that.

The Committee is also drafting a creation care policy for our church which the vestry will be asked to consider. It will have helpful actions and programs to integrate into our life at church.

I want to tell you to expect that policy draft and also I want to urge us all to implement more environmentally sustainable practices.