Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Minutes

Monday, October 23, 2023 Christ Church Cathedral

Members Present: Brad Daugherty, Erica Chappell, Chris Isbell, Hal Johnson, Donald McKenzie, David Morton, Susie Ries, Eran Stanley, Kelsey Urness, Jay Wellons, John Whitaker (Junior Warden), Amy Woodson, Tyler Yarbro (Senior Warden)
Via Zoom: Sarah Tally

Members Absent: Billy Ballard

Clergy Present: The Rev. Vicki Burgess, the Rev. Anna Russell Friedman, the Rev. Mary McCarthy, the Rt. Rev. William Mostert, the Rev. Madeleine Rebouché, the Rev. Richard Wineland

Others Present: Mark McQueen, Caroline Rossini, Madelynn Clare Roche (seminarian)

Opening Prayer

The Rev. Vicki Burgess opened the meeting in prayer.

Meditation

Tyler Yarbro offered a meditation.

Approval of September Minutes

The minutes from September's Vestry meeting were approved with amendments (Ries, Stanley).

Finance Report

Mark McQueen presented the financial statements. The income and expense statement was approved (Wellons, Daugherty), as was the balance sheet (McKenzie, Isbell). Shared Capital Campaign finance report. Shared 2024 pledge statistics report. Subcommittee expects more information in next month or two re: financing for capital project.

Outreach Commission Report

David Morton shared a report from the Outreach Commission, including an overview of committees and details about the 2023 budget for grants.

Designated Offerings

The Grants Committee recommends the 2023 Thanksgiving Offering be designated for Mosaic Middle East, St. George's Anglican Church, Baghdad. The motion was seconded by Brad Daugherty and unanimously approved. The Grants Committee recommends the 2023 Christmas Offering be designated for Rooftop Ministries, Nashville. The motion was seconded by Hal Johnson and unanimously approved.

Search Committee

Sarah Tally provided an update on the Search Committee's work. The parish survey will launch next week, and plans are underway for follow-up focus group conversations in early 2024.

Isaac Project

The Isaac Project leadership requested the Vestry's approval to add another article (#10) to the queue for publishing to the congregation. The request was unanimously approved (Yarbro, Isbell).

Vestry Nominating Committee

The Vestry Nominating Committee is composed of five members: two from the outgoing Vestry class, drawn by lot, and three appointed individuals. In the absence of a Dean and Rector (who normally makes two of the three appointments), this year the Vestry Officers and Interim Rector agreed that all three appointments would be made by the Senior Warden.

The Senior Warden appoints Susan Hudson, Sam Bessey & John Whitaker to serve alongside Erica Chappell and Eran Stanley who were drawn by lot last month.

Formation of New Committee

The Rev. Madeleine Rebouché shared about recent work on forming a Pride committee. Interested individuals have met twice and now present a proposal for Vestry Consideration. The proposal was unanimously approved.

RESOLVED, that the Christ Church Cathedral Vestry meeting on October 23, 2023, establishes the LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance, within the Christian Formation Commission, with the charge to be a faith community embracing all genders and sexualities, living into our Baptismal Covenant to respect the dignity of every human being; to strive to inspire greater inclusivity in Cathedral Life through education, Christian Formation, and outreach; and to celebrate God's invitation to all people to gather safely at the table. (Tyler, Daugherty)

Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Security

The Rev. Vicki Burgess reported that work is beginning on a new campus security review. David Morton is helping to identify people to be consulted, including Greeters, Tour Guides, Ushers, Wayfarers, Room in the Inn volunteers, and staff. The last security review was completed five years ago.

The Vestry unanimously approved a motion to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Security shall assess the current status of CCC's campus security measures and protocols, consider whether current security measures and protocols satisfy accepted best practices for urban church campuses and are appropriately serving the needs of our parish, and, if necessary, make recommendations to the Vestry regarding the adoption of additional or amended security measures and protocols, remembering our long-standing commitment to maintaining a weapon-free campus, taking into consideration the Gospel call to welcome the stranger, and acknowledging that only God provides perfect refuge. (Whitaker, Chappell)

Interim Report

The Rev. Vicki Burgess shared various updates. The clergy now share a dedicated Pastoral Care cell phone for the clergy member "on call." The Rev. Guilene Fiefie from Haiti visited this weekend and preached on Sunday. Preparations are already underway for the upcoming seasons of Advent and Christmas. The Adult Forum on the Isaac Project continues to be well attended and well received. Staff and volunteers are preparing to empty the Annex Building to prepare for groundbreaking early next year.

Senior Warden Report

Tyler Yarbro reminded Vestry members to work with their assigned commissions to prepare reports for the Annual Report and submit those to the Communications Staff by December 1.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be Monday, November 27 at 6:30pm (following Evening Prayer at 5:15 and dinner at 5:45). There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Caroline Rossini, Clerk