

Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Minutes

Monday, December 18, 2023

Christ Church Cathedral

Members Present: Billy Ballard, Erica Chappell, Brad Daugherty, Chris Isbell, Hal Johnson, David Morton, Susie Ries, Eran Stanley, Sarah Tally, Kelsey Urness, John Whitaker (Junior Warden), Tyler Yarbro (Senior Warden)

Members Absent: Donald McKenzie, Jay Wellons, Amy Woodson

Clergy Present: The Rev. Madeleine Rebouché, the Rev. Canon Lissa Smith, the Rev. Richard Wineland, the Rev. Mary McCarthy

Others Present: Mark McQueen, Dale Maxfield, Caroline Rossini

Opening Prayer

Tyler Yarbro opened the meeting in prayer.

Approval of November Minutes

The minutes from November's Vestry meeting were approved with amendments (Johnson, Ballard).

Report from Finance Committee

Dale Maxfield presented the financial statements. The Income & Expense Statement was accepted (Tally, Whitaker) as was the Balance Sheet (Johnson, Ballard). He also presented the cash reserves report and capital project finance report.

Dale presented the annual pledge campaign report as of December 14, 2023. Rebecca Collins, 2023 Stewardship Chair, provided a list of members who pledged last year but have not yet recorded a pledge this year and requested that Vestry members help make follow-up contacts.

Dale then presented a provisional budget for 2024 and reviewed changes since the last draft.

RESOLVED, that the Christ Church Cathedral Vestry at its December 2023 meeting accepts the provisional budget as presented, which will be finalized by a Balance the Budget Committee in mid-January once final pledge numbers have been received (Tally, Morton).

RESOLVED, that the Christ Church Cathedral Vestry at its December 2023 meeting appoints the Vestry Officers — Tyler Yarbro, Senior Warden; John Whitaker, Junior Warden; Dale Maxfield, Treasurer; and Caroline Rossini, Clerk — plus Hal Johnson to serve as the Balance the Budget Committee, which will meet in January to balance the budget if there is still a deficit at that time (Yarbro, Tally).

Dale then shared an update on financing the capital project. The Finance Committee is in the process of sending out an RFP to a few selected banks. The results of the RFP will be presented to the Vestry with a recommendation from Finance about the best option. Demolition of the Annex will be paused until a final estimate is received from RC Mathews and the options for financing are

clarified. Dale outlined potential options for how to cover future loan payments; robust discussion followed.

Report from Evangelism Commission

Maura Black Sullivan, chair of the Evangelism Commission, joined the meeting to share a report. Welcome bags are now available for newcomers. The commission is interested in making the church more visible and hospitable to our neighbors within a one-mile radius of campus.

Report from Vestry Nominating Committee

The Vestry Nominating Committee has selected a slate of ten nominees who are willing to stand as candidates for the Vestry Class of 2027: Andrew Reducha, Anna Grimes, David Payne, Deaver Collins, Ellie Teal Gardner, Mary Margaret Sprinkle, Joseph Watson, Maura Sullivan, Sam Bessey, and Susan Barge.

Voting will be conducted electronically from Sunday, January 21 to Sunday, January 28.

Report from Search Committee

Sarah Tally provided an update from the Search Committee. Focus conversations will take place on two Sundays in January, with some mid-week offerings for targeted groups who cannot attend on Sundays. The Search Committee received the results of the parish survey from Holy Cow Consulting. She shared some highlights from those findings with the Vestry.

Youth Ministry Transition

With the recent departure of our beloved youth minister Alison Bocking, the Vestry acknowledges a need to ensure continuity in youth programming, discern the hopes and aspirations of our parish for youth programming and our next youth minister, and hire Alison's successor. To meet these needs, the Vestry resolves as follows (Stanley, Ballard):

RESOLVED:

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is currently composed of the following members: Kathleen Gant, Chair; Amy Brewer; Kathryn Thompson; and Mary Ward. In this transition period, the YAC is charged to undertake the following tasks:

- Support youth programming by ensuring that the formation hour for youth is adequately staffed and resourced; reviewing the current schedule of youth programming to determine the feasibility of currently scheduled events; and assisting with volunteer recruitment to staff youth programming;
- Ensure that there are regular communications to youth parents about programming;
- Recruit additional lay volunteers to be involved in the YAC and youth programming going forward;
- Develop a clear, written mission and identity for the YAC so that the YAC is able to provide support and accountability for the next Youth Minister; and
- Prepare to welcome and acclimate our next Youth Minister.

The Vestry appoints an *Ad Hoc* Committee on Youth Ministry Transition to be chaired and assembled by Trone Sawyer. The Committee is charged to undertake the following tasks:

- Conduct an audit of current youth programming and determine successes, weaknesses, challenges, and opportunities;

- Survey past, present, and future youth program stakeholders to assess their views of the successes, failures, hopes, and aspirations for youth programming;
- Develop a report summarizing the findings from the audit and survey for use by the YAC and our next Youth Minister; and
- Work with Rev. Vicki Burgess to publicize the vacant Youth Minister position;

The *Ad Hoc* Committee and the YAC shall coordinate with one another and appropriate clergy to: (1) review applicant resumes and interview candidates for the Youth Minister position; (2) provide regular communications to the parish and Vestry about their work during this period of transition; and (3) ultimately recommend a final candidate to the Senior Warden.

Creation Care Committee

The Creation Care Committee requests to move from the Outreach Commission to Christian Formation Commission. This change request was moved and seconded (Daugherty, Morton), and so ordered without objection.

Interim Rector Report

Prior to the meeting, the Rev. Vicki Burgess submitted via email a report to Vestry members, as she was not able to attend.

Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled Vestry meeting will be January 22 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