

Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Minutes
April 22, 2024

Members Present:

Billy Ballard, Susan Barge, Sam Bessey, Ellie Gardner, Anna Grimes, Christina Isbell, Hal Johnson (Sr. Warden), Donald McKenzie, David Morgan, David Paine, Susie Ries, Sarah Tally, Jay Wellons, John Whitaker (Jr. Warden), Tyler Yarbrow

Members Absent:

Clergy Present:

Vicki Burgess, Anna Russell Friedman, Mary McCarthy, Madeleine Rebouche, Lissa Smith, Richard Wineland

Others Present:

Ellen Wright (Clerk), Varina Willsey, Roger Moore, Mark McQueen

Opening Prayer

Hal opened the meeting with a prayer.

Meditation

Ellie Gardner gave the meditation.

Approval of March Minutes

Approved, with two corrections. (Bessey, McKenzie)

Agenda was approved. (Whitaker, Ballard)

Report from Finance Committee

Mark McQueen gave the Finance reports, which were included as part of the packet. Susie wanted to know how income from the Womens' retreat is used. Hal explained that we save those discussions for year end. She wondered if those funds could be used for another womens' retreat.

Balance Sheet (Ballard, McKenzie) and Income and Expense statement (Bessey, Morton) were both approved, as presented. The final capital campaign pledge

payment to Episcopal School of Nashville was sent out today. Tyler asked about the CDs that house our capital campaign dollars. They are laddered, with different maturity dates.

Dale is working with First Horizon toward closing our building loan. There was some discussion of the demolition and possible reuse of the recovered limestone. The new gas line is being installed this week. Apparently, the large vault in the bank will be crushed, rather than extracted from the building.

Report from the Pastoral Care Commission

Sam and Jay passed out reports, and Mary reported. She reminded us that we need to find a new chair for the Commission, since she is now ordained. There are fourteen ministries listed in the report, and Mary reported on each. Highlights include the success of the Eucharistic visitors, under the direction of Becca Ingle, and the prayer patch ministry, under Molly Dale Smith. The greatest challenge is recruiting volunteers.

Lissa is planning a multi-church, multi-night, diocesan-wide gathering for bereavement ministry. Alive Hospice wants us to help spread the word about them and their services.

Jay asked about a grave diggers' ministry; Lissa suggested he call Larkspur.

There was some discussion about ideas for Christian formation classes, which are not a part of this Commission.

Report from Search Committee

Roger and Varina appeared. Varina shared the slide deck for the upcoming Dean's forum, in large part taken from the process document that was included in the vestry packet. The committee has four tasks: 1. Profile, 2. Nominations, 3. Discernment, 4. Call, and Varina expounded on them. She explained that, given our current situation (at "intersections"), the committee generated the parish profile from whole cloth, rather than relying on prior profiles or website text. They created original content of about 12K words. Our audience is, in order of importance: prospective candidates, parish and clergy, then the larger community. The main purpose of the profile is to present the cathedral parish in a way that allows us to attract the right candidate. Roger reported on the candidate profile, using the words that appeared most often in the focussed conversations. He talked about the Dean and Rector position and then reviewed the nomination process.

Interim Rector's Report

Update on Roger Saterstrom: he is focussing on recovery, with daily physical therapy exercises, but he is still suffering from general unsteadiness and blurred vision. He walks with a cane. Vicki has urged him to wait until Pentecost before trying to return to services.

1200 people attended Holy Week services. The YAC is meeting regularly; the subcommittee is zooming with prospective youth minister candidates tonight. Vicki is waiting to hear from Stephanie Spellers re: Isaac project and is trying to be in touch with Gordon Memorial to see if they want to be part of that effort. She will leave this week for the clergy colloquium, to be followed by a trip with her husband and then on to the Province 4 meeting in Kanuga. She returns May 11.

Senior Warden's Report

Sam mentioned the possibility of an anti-racism class w/Rick Britten. Eight of us need to attend.

Adjournment

Mary closed with a prayer at 8:16 p.m.

OUR NEXT VESTRY MEETING WILL BE MONDAY, MAY 20.