

Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Minutes
August 26, 2024
Diocesan House
6:30 p.m.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

None!

Clergy Present:

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

Others Present:

Ellen Wright (Clerk), Mark McQueen; Roger Moore, Arnold Malcolm, and Catherine Clark from the Search Committee; Dale Maxfield (Treasurer.)

Report from the Search Committee

Roger reported for the committee. There was a robust group of vetted candidates that was narrowed in July. After that group was interviewed, finalists were chosen on Aug 4. The committee has been calling references since. Should have a decision by end of September- hopefully by the next vestry meeting.

Opening Prayer

John Whitaker opened the meeting with a prayer.

Meditation

Jay Wellons gave the meditation.

Approval of Agenda (Bessey, Ballard)

Approval of July Minutes

Approved, with two corrections. (Tally, Ries)

Interim Rector Report

Vicki reported and summarized what we received in the document folder. Getting ready for stewardship kickoff at Tempo on Sept 8. Mary McCarthy putting together a database of people who need pastoral care. Anna Russell is going full time Sept. 1. Vicki plans to retire on Oct. 1. Hal will oversee the gap between her retirement and the arrival of a new Dean and Rector. Hal called for prayers for this crucial time in our parish life.

Report from Finance Committee

Dale Maxfield gave the Finance reports, which were included as part of the packet. He reviewed the Income and Expense statements, which are summarized in the packet. Approved, as presented. (Grimes, Barge)

Highlights:

- We are 1% behind on pledges.
- Plate offerings are down 2.3%, which is optimistic.
- Investment income still up, but the Fed is going to decrease rates.
- Parking had its best revenue month ever in July, but we expect a dip in revenues during the colder months. Utility bills up as an expense driver.
- Some search committee costs incurred (\$9K). He expects we may spend around \$7500 for bringing candidates in - a non-budgeted expense.

Balance sheet review: \$760K cash on hand; \$571K in Capital Campaign funds; \$7.9M in CDs. All endowment balances are up to date. Opportunity fund has \$126K. Mark is working on including the Construction loan payment in the liability category. Approved, as presented. (Bessey, Morton)

Cash reserves running above target of 25%. Outreach payments in July caused a dip. Should begin building up after summer. Reminded us about the origin of the target of 25%: that is what is needed to fund CCC for 3 months, in the event of no incoming cash.

Capital Campaign pledge report reviewed. \$11.2M pledged. Pre-campaign costs \$500K; after that, expenses incurred. Majority thus far has been spent with EOA (\$1.2M committed; almost paid out.) Still have outstanding pledges. Hal and Trey are asking for folks to finish payments.

Difficult to know how much is actually outstanding for pledges, since additional monies have been added. Interest is making up a good bit of the shortfall. Currently making 5% on the CDs, compared to less than 1% at the outset of this campaign.

Reviewed DRAFT of construction report from Steve Lasley, tracking the progress of the building. It is based on the approved budget, largest of which is for Mathews Construction. The report will follow disbursement of funds.

Steve makes sure Mathews isn't paid until the structure is up. Report will be sent out tomorrow or tonight.

Goal is to have Cheek Hall ready by Sept/Oct. Hal hopes the buzz will bring in new pledges.

Heather Daugherty reported on her ordination process, and the vestry letter of support was signed by all.

Stewardship Update:

Anna Grimes expressed sense of momentum and asked for pledges (Joseph Watson and Mary Miller, co-chairs this year). She asked that 100% of vestry and clergy pledge (with a 10-15% increase, please) before letter to parish goes out Sept. 8. Season of transition and excitement over upcoming changes are the themes this year. Kickoff at Tempo on Sept. 8. Ability to pledge on Realm should be available this week. Goal is to have letter mailed Sept. 8, then season of clergy announcements thru Sept. Speakers lined up for Oct-Nov. 17, after which the public portion of the campaign will close.

Security Update

David and Donald reported on 3 companies interviewed. Opted for Michael Mann, who met with reps of ushers, greeters, wayfarers, clergy, and vestry two Sundays ago. Report due this Friday. Will review it with vestry officers, then distribute to group that met with him.

Hal reported that we had off duty police for several services. Did not receive the grant that was applied for.

Report from Christian Formation Commission

Ellie Gardner and Madeleine reported. Anna Russell reported on hiring 3 new nursery staff. Toddler and nursery atri are temporarily on the 2nd floor. 6 wk-(not yet potty trained) 3 yo in nursery. Next step is for 3 yo potty trained children (thru 12 yo) as catechesis. Starting Sept. 15 in 810 Building, Vacation Bible School style.

There will be some combined classes. Pet blessing Oct. 6; kickoff into new space Oct. 13. Numbers are still recovering from Covid. Youth council still looking for director. MC is still youth coordinator and seminarian. Maeleline's confirmation class will still be sophomore year, but will be shortened to Jan-Easter. 25 youth were at pool party yesterday. Young adults still meeting as YA on Tap every other week, with an attendance of 8-15. Adult forum will be started by Vicki, with curriculum based on the book, *After Party*. Madeleine will see it through. EFM is going. Journey In Faith will be Jan- Easter this year, like confirmation classes. Relevant dates are outlined in vestry documents.

Chris Isbell, chair of Community of the Cross and Nails, feels like it should be nested under Evangelism, rather than Cathedral Life. She made the following motion, which was seconded by Sam Bessey and passed unanimously: *Moved, that the Community of the Cross of Nails should be moved from the Cathedral Life Commission to the Evangelism Commission.* There was then some discussion of how it had been dormant. The Bishop of Coventry has said that only 10 of 70 current chapters are active.

Senior Warden's Report

Some discussion of Vicki's departure ensued.

Adjournment

By Hal at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Wright, Clerk

**OUR NEXT VESTRY MEETING WILL BE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 at
Diocesan House, 3700 Woodmont Blvd. Chris Isbell will give the
meditation. Anna Grimes will provide dinner. The Cathedral Life
commission will report.**