

ALL SAINTS' VESTRY MINUTES

Location: All Saints' Episcopal Church

Date: November 28, 2023
7:00 P.M.

Chair: Rev. Catherine Thompson, Priest in Charge

Present: Jill Browning, Rob Cramer, Jody Deveney, Rev. Angela Furlong, Scarlett Gibb, Michael King, Leo Laryea, Sharon O'Rear, Hilary Pettigrew, Rachel Querry, Toni Serini, Rev. Catherine Thompson, Mark Walker, Waymon Wright

Absent/Excused: Angie Richards

The Vestry entered session at 7:01

Opening Prayer: Jody

Information Sharing and Updates: Visioning Topic (Waymon)

Waymon opened with gratitude for the assistance given to him in the summer to move. He wished to express active efforts need to be made to reach out to the POC communities. He observed there was only one black person and few other persons of color at the newcomers' welcome. Waymon suggested bringing in a black pastor from another church/organization who has specialized in helping churches attracting and keeping POCs. Suggestion was made to bring in an outside theologian to the vestry retreat in February to discuss reaching out to the POC community. An effort has been made to attract the LTGBQIA+ community and we should consider a similar effort. Media outlets could be used to advertise our acceptance of a diverse POC community. Waymon would like All Saints to be the model for diversity. Targeting the vision on diversity.

The best next step would be to discuss how we fit this into the visioning exercises for the retreat.

Action Item: Waymon will reach out to his contacts to coordinate a theologian to work/speak with the vestry and will get them connected with Catherine.

Stewardship Update (Rachel)

Posted update yesterday. To date, 103 pledges for 333,000 and 2 specifically to buildings and grounds for 15,000. Last year we ended with 125. There are 30 members that pledged last year that haven't pledged this year yet. Thank you for sending out thank you cards. Please give Rachel any thoughts on the brunch or with any suggestions for the stewardship effort.

Rachel will be transitioning the reins next year and we are grateful for her work on stewardship for many years.

Vestry Nominating Committee Update (Jill)

Not quite ready to give the vestry the slate. We will be sending a slate over email before the next vestry meeting so we can start the process. The nomination committee will be handling the voting process. A new procedure will be to not announce winners at the annual meeting. This will allow those not elected to accept other positions.

Angie Richards will be stepping down from her position on the vestry allowing for an elected person to serve for one year.

The diocesan convention position will need to be elected at the annual meeting along with the alternate. We need to let the candidates know this.

Action Item: Jill will post the voting process on Trello

Action Item: Jill will meet with Catherine to discuss the diocesan convention election.

Hospitality Committee:

Two people have volunteered to work on the hospitality committee and do it once a month. That leaves three spots to complete the schedule.

Is it possible to put a sign-up sheet on the table to have people sign up? The answer is yes.

Action Item: if you are interested in continuing hospitality let Jill know.

Draft 2024 Budget (Sharon)

Thanks to Cornerstone and Catherine we have a good start for our draft, and we have already surpassed our pledge expectations. We made some increases on expenditures. The draw from the endowment was 6.25 percent in 2023 and the new budget reduces the draw to 5.0 percent. We will be supporting Bright Beginnings and Youth mission trips as well as programs for youth and children. Personnel changes have been added and colas are included. Vicky will be moving to a salaried position, and we will hire a new part-time position. Pay attention to the highlights on the report.

Voting Agenda:

Consent Agenda – (Jill)

Toni motioned to approve, Hiliary seconded. motion carried.

Discussion regarding the “unfurling” of the flag occurred. There is an option to purchase a flutter flag that doesn’t flip and furl like the standard flag.

Action Item: Michael will investigate option for flag that doesn’t flip.

Action Item: Catherine will continue look for persons who can help with unfurling

Treasurer’s Report (Sharon)

Year to date at surplus. Good sign as pledges are coming in and we expect end of year gifts. Report may be found on Trello and will be posted.

CPR training will be held in March. The cost will be \$90/person.

Staff Lunch will be provided by Vestry from our budget for Wednesday December 13th. If anyone wants to assist let Jill know.

This Saturday there will be an article about the Bach Lunch program.

Getting ahead meal will be moved to 12/21 at ERUCC.

Spirit Tracker at Meeting

A vote was placed on the board.

Action Item Recap (Scarlett)

Action Item: Waymon will reach out to his contacts to coordinate a theologian to work/speak with the vestry and will get them connected with Catherine.

Action Item: Jill will post the voting process on Trello

Action Item: Jill will meet with Catherine to discuss the diocesan convention election.

Action Item: if you are interested in continuing hospitality let Jill know.

Action Item: Michael will investigate option for flag that doesn't flip.

Action Item: Catherine will continue look for person(s) who can help with unfurling

Spirit Tracker (Hilary)

Started off pensive, which caused the mind to start thinking about where we can go. Positive. Dialectical with stewardship and how Rachel is transitioning. Stewardship with a lot of explanatories. Vestry nominations, Trello, candidates, hospitality, voting agenda. The voting was positive and a moment of elation regarding the budget. Positive that the budget was not as stressful as prior years. Hope and sound and realistic basis for hope. Moving forward and incredibly thankful that all has fallen this way and we haven't drifted. Congratulate ourselves for work done and to look forward to work to be done. Mark does a lot of work, Catherine and Angela's reports also show effort. So grateful. A guiding light broughtus here.

Closing Prayer: (Jody)

Adjourned: 8:21 p.m.

