

Vestry Minutes

30 August 2022 7:00-8:30 pm Murdoch Room

Present: Emily Pearce (Senior Warden), Matthew Salter (Junior Warden), Melene Glynn, Emily Correll, Peter McCabe, Bryant Trost, Allison Roulier, Jeremy Snider, Victor Ban, Moss Kendrix, Charlie Griffiths, Carol Cole Flanagan+ (Interim Rector)

The meeting commenced at 7:00 pm in the Murdoch Room. Minutes from the July 2022 meeting were discussed, and a motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept them as drafted.

Vestry Norms.

- Vestry norms were discussed and approved. Approved norms are attached.

Treasurer's Report.

- We welcomed Charlie Griffiths, who has very generously volunteered to return to the vestry as treasurer.
- The school and church treasurers are watching Federal Reserve Bank moves closely. Three interest rate increases are anticipated in the Fall, which should help us to reach our SWAP retirement goal of \$150,000.
- The Vestry would like to recognize Peggy Gilliam and the Finance Committee for their hard work. Carol+ asked Charlie if he can check with Peggy about being available to come to church and be recognized on the 18th of September.

Head of School Report.

- Head of School report was received via e-mail.
- School started Monday the 29th.
- Enrollment numbers are above what was budgeted, and additional enrollment is anticipated as the public school year begins.

Stewardship.

- Victor provided an update of stewardship activities.
- The stewardship campaign will have a soft kickoff during the parish picnic on the 11th.
- Victor asked that vestry members make pledges by the 18th; this will be a selling point as we kick off the campaign.
- Numerous parishioners have not regularly attended services in recent times. Members of the vestry and leaders of ministries will reach out to them and invite them to return to church for the picnic on the 11th.
- On October 9th there will be an adult forum question and answer session regarding the stewardship campaign.
- October 30th will be In-gathering Sunday and will represent the end of the stewardship campaign.
- We discussed copyright issues regarding a musical that the stewardship committee wants to

acquire rights to in order to modify it for the campaign kickoff skit. This raises a copyright issue because the skit will be broadcast and archived on Youtube.

- Carol asked if there is a way to include kids in stewardship, but there was no concrete response.

Senior Warden.

- Emily P provided an update on the Jefferson Building. The renovation and construction projects are currently on-hold pending permitting by the City of Rockville. Coordination between the contractor and school is ongoing and will continue regarding use of the parking lot and other portions of the grounds.

- Emily P will not repeat her term as Senior Warden.

- Drafting and design of the employee handbook continues. We are being careful to ensure that it complements and supports existing documents.

- There was a discussion of the requirement to allow each other the space to speak our minds, and to ensure that any decisions made by the vestry are appropriately discussed and considered. Respectful discussion must be allowed to happen. There was also discussion of the "obligation to dissent".

- On the Christian Formation front, we have advertised our position. A plan for Christian Formation for the year has been drafted, however, it will continue to evolve based on event and the search process. A new leader for choristers has been hired – the choir teacher at CES. This is an opportunity to increase cooperation between the school and church, and maybe get some new parishioners from the ranks of school families.

Junior Warden / Property Report.

- With regard to exterior maintenance, vetting and discussion of using Nationwide Exteriors of Maryland continues. Nationwide would provide an assessment of the facility by a professional inspector and provide assistance with filing insurance claims, however, it might tie our hands with regard to accomplishing new work. An alternative would be for the property committee to conduct assessments of our facilities, file claims as appropriate and then contract for repairs.

- Former interim rector Meg Ingalls+ has submitted a list of repairs and upgrades required to the Rectory to prepare it for a new resident. Matthew Salter and the property committee will work with volunteers to determine if there are repairs which do not require a licensed professional that can be accomplished.

- The Foley Bench is hidden by overgrowth which should be pruned.

- There is a buzzing black box near the parish house door that is annoying to many. It is unclear what the purpose of the box is, who controls it, or how it is powered.

Search Process.

- Bryant updated the Vestry on the search process for a new rector.

- Our rector position is posted on the Diocese website, however, it is not a featured position, Bryant and Carol+ will investigate this week.

- We have received five applications. Interviews will start this week.

- Victor will put together an infographic of the search process to be presented at the parish picnic.
- Once our new rector is called, responsibilities must be decided upon for welcoming the new rector and getting him or her off to a good start with us and in the community.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Christ Church Vestry Norms

Revised August 2022

1. We will pray daily for one another, for the parish and school, the wider church, and for our bishops and other clergy.
2. We will attend and participate faithfully in parish events, worship services, and special occasions.
3. To support church growth, we will invite new neighbors and friends to church.
4. We will try to forward items and proposed motions for the vestry meeting agenda to the rector in advance of each month's officers' meeting. The officers meet and prepare the agenda on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. The Vestry meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 PM.
5. We will come to vestry meetings prepared, having read minutes and reports in advance of the meeting and having submitted any items and proposed motions for the vestry in advance of the monthly officers' meeting.
6. We will respond to mail and messages in a timely manner, notify others when we will be absent, and take responsibility for learning what took place.
7. We will give highest priority to the needs of the parish as a whole, rather than those of a particular individual or program. To that end, we will strive to head off or eliminate internal divisions, factions, and misunderstandings. In this effort, we will communicate directly, respectfully, and honestly with each other – speaking *to* and *with* people, rather than *about* them – and we will involve pertinent parish leaders in the conversations wherever appropriate.