

Vestry Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

5:00pm

Present: Nelson Arrington (Junior Warden), Milton Bates, Dena Benedict (Senior Warden), Emily Davis, Jordan Earle, Elizabeth Fletcher, Norma Givens, Bill Hardaway, Nancy Kennedy, Chris Klasing (Assistant Treasurer), Harrison McLeod (Rector), Cecil Nelson (Chancellor) Cindy Poe, Reid Sherard, Penn Williams.

Attending Via Zoom: Sam Erwin, Wade Kolb (Assistant Chancellor)

Not attending: Betsy Elliott, Russ Miller (Secretary of the Vestry), Dan Seaman (Treasurer)

Guests: Anne Green Buckner and Addie Tapp

Executive Summary of Actions:

- The Vestry approved a motion to move Addie Tapp forward for postulancy.
- The Vestry approved a motion to distribute \$11,200 from the Hatch Fund for additional security cameras.
- The Vestry approved the July minutes as amended under the Senior Warden report to include: the rankings of the 2022 Priorities were shared.

Welcome: Dena Benedict welcomed everyone especially Harrison upon his return from sabbatical.

Prayer: Harrison McLeod opened in prayer.

Community Moment: Nancy Kennedy and Chris Klasing each shared how Christ Church is a community to them.

Welcome to Anne Green Buckner: Anne Green Buckner introduced herself as the new Director of Family Ministries.

Addie Tapp for Postulancy: The vestry previously received information on Addie and her desire to continue the process of becoming a seminarian from our parish. Addie spoke briefly asking if there were any questions. Norma Givens made a motion to move Addie Tapp forward for postulancy. Milton Bates second the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Rector's Report:

1. Expressed thanks for the recently concluded sabbatical & offered a brief reflection on the Elizabethan Settlement encouraging the vestry (community) to not only tolerate differences, but to celebrate them. We don't need to agree on everything. Our Anglican identity helps us understand that "common prayer" binds us together as a community more than "common orthodoxy."
2. Update on HR items and word of thanks for Bill Hardaway's continued good work with our employees.

3. Reminder that the vestry's role in working with staff to form preliminary budget is important and please be attentive to their participation.
4. Referred to the Sterling Hope Center bylaws reminding vestry we will vote to amend them at the next meeting. A copy of the SHC bylaws will be sent to vestry for their review prior to September meeting.
5. Invitation to attend and be a part of "Sparkle Saturday."

Senior Warden Report: Dena Benedict reported it was nice to have Harrison back after a well-deserved sabbatical. Along with having Anne Green join the staff, Eric Travis (Director of Youth Ministries) and Scott Fleischer (Associate Priest to Pastoral Care) will both join us in September, and we look forward to their arrival. There are five (5) nominees for the next Bishop to the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina. Information on the candidates is available on EDUSC.org. The Special Election Convention will be held in Columbia on September 25. The follow are lay delegates to the Convention: Nelson Arrington, Milton Bates, Betsy Baumgardner, Dena Benedict, Tom France, Norma Givens, Bill Hardaway, Wayne McDonald. Harrison, Kellie and Scott are also delegates.

Junior Warden Report: Nelson Arrington briefed the vestry on the updated security protocols for our Sunday services. There will be two uniformed officers from the Greenville Police Department posted on our campus. One will be inside the entrance gate in the parking area in between the South transept and Markley Chapel and the other will be in the main parking lot off E Washington St. Measures have been taken to lock all doors from the inside during the services except for the bell tower and Galilee porch doors. Ushers met for training and were given instructions on these new procedures. This is a work in progress and these protocols will likely evolve over time.

Treasurer's Report: Assistant treasurer Chris Klasing reported that, as of the end of June, year to date revenues were \$13K above budget mainly due to above budget pledge payments. Expenses were \$154K under budget due to open positions and programs deferred due to the pandemic. Overall, we have a YTD surplus of \$133K, \$167K better than budget.

Minutes from July meeting: Dena Benedict noted the July minutes should be amended to include under Senior Warden Report that the Priorities Ranking for 2022 were shared. A motion was made and second to approve the July minutes as amended. No additional discussion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Committee Reports:

- **Grounds:** Cindy Poe reported that Matthew Cotner is working on his Eagle Scout project which will be raised beds in the vacant lot on Broadus Avenue. Several members of the Grounds Committee recently met with Matthew to discuss his project.
- **Worship:** Norma Givens thanked all those who participated in Sparkle Saturday.
- **HR:** Bill Hardaway reported that all staff interviews conducted by Finding Great People had concluded.

New Business:

- **Hatch Fund Distribution.** Jordan Earle presented a motion from the Property Committee to distribute \$11,200 from the Hatch Fund for additional security camera in the ASC and the lower level of the Parish House. No second was needed as the motion came from the Property Committee. No additional discussion. All in favor. The motion passed.

Other Business: With the continuous rise in Covid-19 cases, there was discussion on paths to take for both the upcoming “Homecoming” events and the opening of CCEP. What, if any, mandates should be in place, how do we offer Sunday and weekday programs? What can we offer and how? It was decided to put a “pause” on Sunday School, weekday programs and Homecoming events. Additional conversations are needed to implement mandates for CCEP.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.