

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry on Thursday, August 22, 2024

Approved at the September 24, 2024 Vestry meeting

Vestry Members and Leadership Present

In-Person: The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse (Dean), The Rev. W. James Yazell (Associate Priest), Charles Shipley, Mike Thomas, Steve Moore, Nigel Jones, Blain Lagergren (Clerk), Julie Brogno, Valerie Johnson (Jr. Warden), Sharon Cheers, Sara Copeland

Via teleconference (Zoom): Chip Buckner (Treasurer), Paula Livingston-Lewis, Mathias Nichols

Absent: Pat Decker

Others Present: Dave Barker (via Zoom), The Rev. Barbara Wegener (Deacon)(via Zoom)

The meeting was held in hybrid format (Common Room and via Zoom teleconference). The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Dean Andy with opening worship.

Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Blain Lagergren presented the July regular Vestry minutes that were distributed in the August Vestry Packet. Valerie Johnson moved to accept the July meeting minutes as presented and was seconded by Nigel Jones. The motion passed without further discussion.

Dean's Report, The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse

Upcoming events: This Sunday during the coffee hours after both the 8 a.m. and 1030 a.m. services Pete's Garden will be available to answer questions and give tours of the facilities in Founders Hall. Outreach ministries will also be providing an ice cream social at that time as well. Following the 1030 a.m. service we will have the fall planting activity. Two weeks from this coming Sunday, on September 8, we will have our Ministry Fair as well as the Blessing of the Backpacks. We will have our croquet tournament, Croquet at the Bay, on Saturday, September 14. We will have our dialogues with the candidates for Bishop of the Diocese of West Missouri on Thursday, September 19, while the WestMO dialogues series will run from September 16 through September 21. Dinner for the dialogue will begin at 6 p.m. with a submitted question and answer period beginning at 7 p.m. Youth conversations will begin a 5 p.m., prior to dinner. Henry Galus has been elected as a youth delegate to convention. September 20 we will host the For Pete's Sake fundraiser, with wine tasting and small plates, in Founders' Hall. September 7 will be the memorial service for Kristina Kemper with the possibility for the memorial service of Mary Lee McCaffrey occurring on that same day.

Strategic Plan Update: We are still working on bylaws, items such as updates to rules governing hybrid format meetings. Regarding the worship component, we will be taking opinions of congregants on potential minor service variations, such as alternate eucharistic prayers, musical choices, and congregational singing.

Convention Delegates: Nick and Kim Smith, who were elected as delegate and alternate for convention, have moved away to New York. As a convention delegate one must be involved and present regularly, e.g. Deanery Meetings. Connie Boyd has showed an interest and Dean Andy has asked her to be a delegate to replace Nick Smith. Sharon Cheers moved to appoint Connie Boyd as a delegate and Sara Copeland seconded. Motion passed without further discussion.

We are still seeking an alternate delegate and Bill Boyd was offered as a possibility.

One current delegate is having health issues such that it may not be possible for them to fulfill delegate responsibilities, so there may be another need to appoint a new delegate.

Budget Committee Charge Update:

Associate's Report, The Rev. James Yazell

Dietrich Bonhoeffer book study had great attendance. We are getting ready to ramp up for the new program year. Father Sean Kim was installed as Rector of St. Mary's on August 15.

Financial Report presented by Chip Buckner, Treasurer

Chip stated that he had not received the information from which he prepares his report and asks that we defer the report until next month. We will table the treasurer's report until next month's vestry meeting.

Year-to-date revenues. N/A

Year-to-date expenses. N/A

Month-to-month revenues. N/A

Month-to-month expenses. N/A

Three-month balance sheet analysis. N/A

Finance Committee Report presented by Dave Barker

The finance committee was asked to figure out how to fund the \$60,000 of improvements to the common room. The committee recommended unanimously that \$20,000 be taken from each of these accounts: the earnings retention credit fund (ERC), the Grace fund for property, and the young adult program. The current balance in the ERC is \$268,844, the current balance in the Grace fund is \$87,030, and the current balance in the young adult program is \$44,373. We hope to have this done by the time that EPN Conference comes around.

Those estimates are two (2) years old and up to \$60,000, and this does not include furnishings. We will seek donations to provide funds for furnishings to the common room.

Michael Thomas moved to proceed with funding the common room project from those three sources and was seconded by Steve Moore. The motion passed following further discussion.

Stewardship Report presented by Steve Moore, Stewardship Chair

The theme of this year's stewardship campaign is "Bless Our Family Formed in Faith". Drawing on and talking about how we are a family and standing by each other through thick and thin. Our letter writing and prayers will follow this theme. Those letters should be ready for our next Vestry meeting, but will be signed at a time to be determined.

Junior Warden Report *presented by Valerie Johnson*

Buildings and grounds will be meeting in September, but there is nothing new as of yet. Figures are being prepared in order to submit to budget. Larger items, such as the bid for flooring in Founders' Hall, and adjustments to a repair vs replacement decision. There are basement water issues, perhaps involving pulling up carpet, and remediating asbestos. There is an outside drainage in the diocesan courtyard that is causing water ingress into sacristy. We will be evaluating memorial garden bids for capstones, increasing space for names in tandem with engraving durability. Granite slab caps over the existing sandstone will allow for smaller script, as it is a much denser material.

Senior Warden Report *presented by Steve Moore*

N/A

Other Committee or Vestry Liaison Reports

Dinner with Friends, *Julie Brogno*

Social Outreach, *Paula Livingston-Lewis*

Community Engagement, *none*

Safety/Security, *Sharon Cheers*

There is an increase of property crimes, business and vehicles break-ins, assaults, etc. throughout Kansas City. At the same time, KCPD, and other law enforcement agencies, including 911 dispatching are experiencing staff shortages which are hampering timely responses to these incidences. Incident reports should be made online at <http://www.kcpd.org/reports>. I suggest cc'ing Downtown Security when making any online reports to frank@downtownkc.org. The Downtown Security will respond to incidences in the Downtown Kansas City which includes the Cathedral properties. They are available seven (7) days a week and their hours (6AM-10:30PM) which coincide with the Cathedral's business and event hours. The Dispatch number is (816) 820-3475 and /or email frank@downtownkc.org. Downtown Security works with KCPD/law enforcement agencies on public safety matters including assisting persons with services requests, providing resources for houseless persons, detaining and removing persons from private property, taking crime reports, patrolling parking lots, cleaning streets/sidewalks, etc.

Emergency Preparedness Plans

I suggest the Cathedral Office link the Diocese of West Missouri and the MARC.org (Mid-America Regional Council) emergency preparedness plans to the Cathedral website. Theses comprehensive plans cover emergencies including: first-aid, medical emergencies, fires, weather/natural disasters, and more.

Election Day-Tuesday, November 5

The Cathedral is one of many polling locations for the upcoming Presidential General Election. Voters will be using Founders' Hall for voting. The polls are open from 6AM-7PM. Contact <http://www.kceb.org> for additional information, including lists of all polling locations. Given the interest/concerns and the expected high voter turnout, the Kansas City Election Board and all local election boards, are in communication with KCPD and other law enforcement agencies concerning the election safety.

The Street Sheet Resources

The Kansas City Public Library publishes/updates the "Street Sheet" directory of organizations' resources from housing, healthcare, employment, transportation, food and much more. The publication is available to everyone and located in the Cathedral track racks.

Children's Formation/Young Adults, Sara Copeland

We need more volunteers for Children and Youth. Volunteers require safe church training. Formation starts September 8, and youth group starts September 15. Paul is still working on children's music. Happening is scheduled for September in Carthage, MO.

Communications, none

Budget, Sara Copeland

Budget requests are due September 9.

Additional Discussion

Old Business

New Business

Dean Andy will be absent for September 26 Vestry meeting. As a result, the next Vestry meeting is scheduled for September 24.

Who Should We Thank?

The next Vestry Meeting will be September 24 at 5:30 p.m. in the Multi-purpose Room and via teleconference.

Charles Shipley moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Nigel Jones. The motion passed.

A closing prayer was led by Dean Andy. The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Blain Lagergren, Clerk