

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Fayetteville, AR**

*The mission of St. Paul's is to explore and celebrate God's infinite grace, acceptance, and love.*

**Vestry Meeting Minutes  
August 22, 2022 - 5:30pm – St. Paul's Parish Hall / Zoom Videoconference**

Vestry members – Present

Linda Jones – Senior Warden; Jeremy Oxford - Junior Warden; David Kelley; Robert Murphy; Jerry Rose; Melissa Swann; Jeannie Whayne; Jon Payne; Conner Eldridge; Myria Allen; Michael Hollomon; Peter Elzer

Other Attendees

Evan Garner – Rector; Suzanne Stoner - Associate Rector; Adelyn Tyler-Williams - Curate; Kathy McGregor - Deacon; David McMath – Treasurer; Peter Quinlisk - Clerk

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Evan started the meeting at 5:31pm with a prayer.

Election of Vestry Member & Clerk

Peter Elzer was nominated as member of the Vestry to serve out the remainder of Lara Cato's term and was elected by acclamation.

Peter Quinlisk nominated as Vestry clerk to serve out the remainder of Peter Elzer's term and was elected by acclamation.

Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The previous minutes were amended to include the following about Suzanne's retirement:  
"Suzanne gave notice that she intended to retire. The vestry congratulated and thanked Suzanne. Evan explained that he as rector would make the decision on the hiring of her successor and that it would not be an easy process."

The amended minutes of the July meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

The report and financial notes were sent out before the meeting. A previous pledge came in this month, putting us back on budget.

Joy will be retiring on September 19. She's agreed to finish the August finances. It may be a little more work until a replacement is in place. The treasurer expressed gratitude Evan put in place clear processes in how finances are to be handled. The position has been advertised for.

Evan warned that by the end of the year we may be over budget, and should keep that in mind moving forward. The past couple of years, we've ended the year at a surplus, and this year we'll be closer to 0, but there is no need to panic.

The report was received by acclamation.

### Committee Reports

- Formation (Swann, Whayne, Eldridge)
  - Steering committee has been established. It is meeting Wednesday to gather details on how to move forward.
  - Had a lot of kids in Sunday School. Adult Formation is picking up. Choir Club is back. Inquirer's Class is starting up.
  - Had a productive Spiritual Formation program design meeting last night. Trying to figure out how to split the work over the next two semesters.
  - Rector's Bible Study is being done on Mondays as well as Wednesdays after the service.
  
- Outreach (**Kelley**, Hollomon, Oxford, Rose)
  - The committee did not meet
  - IAF is looking for organizations that want to be a part of their work. Adelyn will work with the outreach committee on gathering information to present to the vestry. This would be a strategic decision as well as financial.
  
- Parish Life (**Hollomon**, Rose, Swann, Whayne)
  - The committee did not meet.
  - The committee is still looking for a chairperson to head up the celebration planning for next year's church anniversary.
  - The Ministry Fair was a success. Good participation and lost of energy
  
- Properties (**Oxford**, Jones, Payne)
  - Meeting with people about bathrooms
  - Jon meeting with someone about trees
  - ACs need to be replaced. Committee will meet to assess what to do. All units we need are on backorder.
  - Budget surplus should be used on the building.
  
- Finance (**Payne**, Kelley, Allen, Eldridge, Murphy)
  - Discussed the proposal for hiring a new associate director.
  
- Stewardship (**Allen**, Jones, Murphy)
  - Robert not able attend
  - Met with Grace about what needs to be done in her absence
  - Grace feels good about what she had prepared for Celebration Breakfast
  - \$500 catering deposit required by catering company
  - We will need volunteers to help out. Catering employees will be here at 7:30.
  - \$52 to rent 150 champagne flutes, \$75 to rent table linens, \$120 for catering needed for Celebration Breakfast
  - Payments approved by acclamation
  - Looking for Stewardship speakers. Letter goes out September 1st. Rector's talk is second Sunday in October, followed by lay speakers the following 2 Sundays

Creation: Working on kitchen use policy. Lots of things are happening, but nothing concrete yet.  
Working on parish hall use policy for sustainable practices.

#### Wardens' Reports

Senior Warden: Our church was represented well by St. Paul's Choir in England.

Junior Warden: n/a

#### Deacon's Report

Beginning a new ministry with the Parish Nurse Program. Lynn Patterson working on certification as Parish Nurse.

The Prison Ministry negotiated with Little Rock Prison Ministry for a grant.

#### Curate's Report

Getting events ramped up at the university. Have names of people already connected with the diocese and St. Martin's.

#### Associate Rector's Report

Suzanne is looking forward to Walking the Mourner's Path. Excited about the new Sunday morning class. Trying to focus on leaving things set up for the next Associate Rector.

#### Rector's Report

Vestry is serving dinner on September 21st serving vegetarian chili, cornbread, and salad. Will need three volunteers to cook and three to serve. David, John, and Melissa available to prepare. Jeannie, Peter, and Linda available to serve. Robert available as backup.

#### Other Business

Nominating Committee:

Everyone needs to begin thinking about how to ask others to consider serving on the vestry and other positions. Nominations start the Sunday after Labor Day (September 11th). Deadline to submit a bio is in the middle of December.

The Nominating Committee will need to nominate 1 member for the Endowment Committee, 1 Butterfield Trail corporate board members (these must be made at the next meeting), and 1 Diosisan convention delegate and 2 alternate Diosisan convention delegates

Audit Review:

Vestry reviewed the full audit. Vestry received the report and recommended no further action.

Staff Vacancies:

Emma Mitchel is leaving for a job at the cathedral in Little Rock on September 18th.

Pastoral Concerns:

The Vestry had a long discussion on pastoral concerns about the church. It was decided to table the discussion until a follow-up meeting could be held. The follow-up meeting was later set for September 12th at 5:30pm.

#### Pastoral Update, Prayer, and Adjournment

Evan closed with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Peter Quinlisk*

Peter Quinlisk – Vestry Clerk

(Next Meeting of the Vestry: Monday, September 12, at 5:30 p.m.)