

**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
February 28, 2022 - 5:30pm – Zoom Videoconference**

Vestry members – Present

Myria Allen; Kay DuVal; Linda Jones – Senior Warden; Michael Holloman; David Kelley; Jeremy Oxford - Junior Warden; Jon Payne; Jerry Rose; Melissa Swann; Jeannie Whyne

Vestry Members – Not present

Lara Cato; Conner Eldridge

Other Attendees

Evan Garner – Rector; Suzanne Stoner – Associate Rector; Adelyn Tyler – Curate; David McMath – Treasurer; Peter Elzer – Clerk; Joy Poole - Parish Administrator; Samantha Clare - Director of Christian Formation

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Evan started the meeting at 5:32pm with a prayer.

Elections of Clerk and Treasurer

Peter Elzer's election as clerk was approved by acclamation.
David McMath's election as treasurer was approved by acclamation.

Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the January meeting were approved by acclamation.

Committee Orientation / Meetings

Prior to the vestry members breaking out into meetings, Evan provided suggestions for the conversations about the committee goals:

- name priorities, needs, values
- define areas of focus
- develop a strategic vision

The committees will be responsible for executing towards their goals with the help of St. Paul's staff.

Session A: Finance, Parish Life, Properties

Session B: Formation, Outreach, Stewardship

Committee Reports

The committees and the vestry outlined the following priorities / ideas / needs:

- Formation (**Cato**, Eldridge, Swann, Whyne)
 - Program for divorced people
 - Find and / or develop a follow up to Servant Leadership / Second Breath
 - Create offers for seniors, care takers

- Outreach (**Kelley**, Hollomon, Oxford, Rose)
 - Mirror St. Paul's values and beliefs in the community outreach
 - Engage with outreach partners beyond providing funds; define allocations
 - Events to coincide with pride parade, help with immigrants / Canopy NWA
 - Highlight the community impact
- Parish Life (**Hollomon**, DuVal, Swann, Whayne)
 - The central theme is connectivity, to form and re-establish ties to St. Paul's
 - Planning will start for the 175th anniversary of St. Paul's in Fayetteville (2023)
 - Revive the offers for newcomers
 - Plan for Ascension Day potluck / Parish picnics, find a fill-in during Grace's parental leave
 - Evan highlighted the desire for casual interaction
- Properties (**Oxford**, Jones, Payne)
 - Establish a multi-year plan
 - Create parishioner call list for the admin office
 - Prioritize renovation of the downstairs bathrooms
 - Continue the parish workdays
- Stewardship (**Allen**, DuVal, Jones)
 - Focus on Stewardship of Creation and the Earth - coordinate with other committees to make it a parish-wide effort
 - Annual giving campaign is well defined
- Finance (**Payne**, Allen, Cato, Eldridge, Kelley, Rose)
 - Priority is to be a good steward of our resources and foster good financial health
 - Goals are defined as
 1. pay off the loan for the Bassett building,
 2. establish the HR committee,
 3. find a replacement member for the endowment committee

Treasurer's Orientation & Report

David reviewed the statement of activities (operating), with special focus on time-phased, cyclical and non-recurring line items. The annotated presentation which accompanied the meeting invite was presented and discussed.

The treasurer's report and its details were received by acclamation.

Rector's Orientation

Evan highlighted the partnership and sharing aspect of the Vestry's ministry.

Wardens' Reports

Senior Warden: Linda appreciated last Friday's prayer service for India Eggleston. In these difficult times we need to remind the community that our church doors are open.

Junior Warden: A CPR class is being organized.

Curate's Report

St. Martin is seeing a great increase in numbers. The Camp Mitchell retreat was cancelled due to weather. Adelyn will be part of the Young Adult planning team for the Diocesan convention.

Associate Rector's Report

Suzanne is looking forward to socializing and engaging again.

Rector's Report

The report was attached to the meeting invite.

Evan mentioned the large number of new members and visitors, and the need to connect with these groups.

Other Business

- Parochial Report Approval: The report was approved by acclamation, and will be signed by the necessary parties.
- Vestry Retreat Plans: Finding a full weekend might be difficult to do; Evan suggested a Saturday meeting instead, and will send out a questionnaire.
- Sabbatical Support: Evan would like to be on Sabbatical during June, July and August of 2023. He will apply for a supporting grant from the Lilly Endowment, but grant approval would not be a precondition for the planned leave.
- David is thankful for the McMichael's lecture this past weekend.

Pastoral Update, Prayer, and Adjournment

Evan closed with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Elzer

Peter Elzer – Vestry Clerk

(Next Meeting of the Vestry: Monday, March 28, at 5:30 p.m.)

Approved by acclamation
during 3/28 Vestry Meeting
- Peter Elzer-