

# CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL VESTRY MINUTES MAY 16, 2019

Present were:

Michael Thompson, Sr. Warden  
Nancy Poston, Jr. Warden  
Jim Hatley, Treasurer  
Barbara Arthur  
John Barnes  
Ray Barney  
Joel King  
Seth Sizer  
Danese Sizer, Clerk

Absent was:

Laura Eichenberger

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in Fox Hall by Sr. Warden Michael Thompson, who opened the meeting with Prayer. Mr. Thompson began by asking the vestry to join him and Jr. Warden Poston on a tour to the top level of the church tower. Upon entering the tower room, the concerns outlined by Ms. Poston were observed by all. There is a section of the ceiling which has fallen into the room. The repair of the ceiling as well as plaster work is required. Ms. Poston has a bid from Alvarro Victoria to repair the ceiling, plaster, install new crown molding, paint that room and the tower stairwell for \$3,800. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to begin this repair work.

Then Mr. Thompson asked for reports on action items from the previous meeting. Ms. Poston began with her report. The Lady Chapel rails are in the process of being cleaned, but are missing hinges. A suggestion was made to investigate replacements at Eugenia's in Atlanta. Ms. Poston is working with Lawson Electric to have the main breaker/fuse box for the air conditioning systems in Fox Hall relocated to the inside of the building. The exact cost is unknown at this time. Because of the danger of the current situation, a motion to go forward with this work was made, seconded and approved. Mr. Hatley researched the insurance and liability issues regarding the UTC parking lot contract. He spoke with the Church Insurance Agency, and our additional cost would be \$15 per year. Ms. Arthur also researched the tax considerations and said the State Statute language is not clear. However, Mr. Hatley and Ms. Arthur spoke with other area churches which lease their parking lots under the same circumstances and none have had any tax issues. A motion was made to go forward with the UTC contract, seconded, with one objection by Mr. Barnes. Mr. Barnes said he felt uncomfortable because his list of questions had not been addressed. The vestry agreed to provide additional information to Mr. Barnes and to reconsider the matter again at the next meeting. Ms. Arthur asked to review a copy of the church's insurance liability policy, which Mr. Hatley agreed to provide. Ms. Poston stated that she had received bids for the stripping and waxing of the floors in Fox Hall and the main church. The vestry agreed that the cost was prohibitive at this time. Mr. Sizer offered to research the name of the company that was contracted for floor maintenance several years ago. Mr. King stated that he had not yet formed a committee to review room usage in Fox Hall. He said he and others would like to see clean-up of public areas of the church and also the preparation of an appropriate office space for a rector. He would like to see us have our best foot forward for upcoming interviews and agreed to put together a Clean-Up Campaign List and to solicit help from the parish. Ms. Sizer agreed to help with this effort.

A better way to address the ordering and dedication of altar flowers was discussed. It was agreed that Secretary, Kathlyn Wender, would continue to handle this. The Action Item List and Ms. Poston's Action Report are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereto.

Mr. Thompson reported on the Stewardship Committee meeting from May 14<sup>th</sup> during which plans for a Capital Campaign were discussed. The Committee determined that they should move forward with plans that would first include a thank you to the parish for their regular and dedicated giving. And secondly, provide financial education for the parish to tell them where their money has gone this year and what capital and special projects have been accomplished. The letter will differentiate between the Yates bequest and the addition of generous donations from financial stewardship. This letter will lead to a Rally Day theme leading into the annual stewardship campaign in the fall. Stewardship programs will use an 'aspirational giving theme' and that same theme will be used for a capital campaign after a priest arrives. The full report is included as a part of these Minutes.

Minutes from the Special Called Meeting on April 7, 2019 and also Minutes of the Regular Vestry Meeting on April 25, 2019 were reviewed. One correction was requested on Item 3 of the April 25<sup>th</sup> Minutes, to change the wording from "ceiling in the tower room 'is' leaking to 'was' leaking." Both documents were unanimously approved with the above change and are attached hereto as a part of this document.

Senior Warden's Report: Mr. Thompson stated he corresponded with Canon to the Ordinary, Michelle Bolt, regarding the status of our search for a priest. She responded that she had "a small handful of candidates who were in the background screening process now, and was hoping for others." Mr. Thompson felt, and the vestry agreed, this was an inadequate and unclear answer. Mr. Thompson announced Mr. King was to be the chair of Rally Day, and that plans were beginning now to make this a special day for the parish. This will be used as a lead-in event for our Stewardship Campaign theme. Mr. Thompson stated he had written thank you notes to the anonymous donor for the window and brick work. He announced that an anonymous gift was given to the altar guild to provide for statuary repair. There have also been gifts made to the Book of Remembrance which will pay for new cassocks and surplices for the altar party.

Junior Warden's Report: Ms. Poston updated the vestry on completed projects. The baseboards in the narthex have been painted. The tower brick work has been completed by Adams Masonry. They completed the job, including work on the lintels, and repointing the brick work on the main building within the original \$39k estimate. They replaced the window that was broken. Dave Perry, window restorer, will return to work within the month and will begin restoration of the large window behind the organ. He will move from completion of that project to the west side of the church for the restoration of those windows. Ms. Poston reports that she has the promise for the restoration cost of six windows and \$4k in matching funds. She talked with Betsy Bedwell about involving the children coloring a poster of the remaining windows to gain additional support and contributions. She reports cleaning of the priest's sacristy attic and the basement is complete. She described the red chancel light from the Lady Chapel that she discovered. It was discussed whether it was liturgically appropriate to rehang this light, and was determined that it should only be cleaned and repackaged and stored to protect it at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Hatley presented the May 2019 Treasury Report and accompanying detail reports, a copy of which are attached hereto and hereby made a part of these Minutes.

Ms. Barney announced that she participated in a spiritual art workshop at the Hart Gallery and her work would be displayed at an Open House on Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5-7:00 p.m. She invited everyone to attend.

There being no further business to come before the vestry, the meeting was adjourned with Scripture and prayer by Mr. Thompson. The next regular meeting of the vestry will be on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019. At 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Danese E. Sizer, Clerk