



## June Vestry Meeting

### Minutes

Tuesday, June 27, 2023 6pm

Diocesan House Council Room

Dinner hosts: Becky & Peter

*Saint Mark's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People, who are still here, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of all the Coast Salish tribes.*

### **Vestry Members Present**

Tina Blondino, Diocesan Member (Zoom)  
Carmen Brady (Zoom)  
Wayne Duncan  
Greg Hamm, Junior Warden  
Scott Hulet, Senior Warden  
Becky Kacel, Diocesan Member  
Kristen Kelly  
Scott Kovacs, Junior Warden  
Justin Mills  
Kathy Minsch  
Katie Prettyman, Diocesan Member (Zoom)  
Chris Rigos, Junior Warden  
Peter Snyder  
The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean  
Alexandra Thompson  
Doug Thorpe (Zoom)

### **Vestry Members Absent**

The Rev. Canon Arienne Davison, Bishop's Representative

### **Officers Present**

Barbara Erickson, Clerk  
Re Knack, Chancellor

### **Officers Absent**

Lynne Cobb, Treasurer

### **Staff Members Present**

Erik Donner, Cathedral Administrator

### **Guests Present**

Kate Halamay and via Zoom: Emily Meeks, Christy Close Erskine, and Sarah Elwood-Faustino

### **Call to Order, Land Acknowledgment, Prayer, Review of Agenda**

Dean Thomason opened the meeting with the Land Acknowledgment followed by a prayer at 6:00PM.

### **Approval of May 23 Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the May 23, 2023 minutes as proposed.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS – Nomination to Postulancy: Emily Meeks**

Discernment Committee members are Sarah Elwood-Faustino, Chair, Christy Close Erskine, Liz Gruchala-Gilbert, Kate Halamay, Ross Hays, Peter Snyder, and Elsy Thayil-Blanchard. They fully recommend Emily as a postulant.

**Motion was made, seconded, and passed to nominate Emily Meeks as a Postulant for Holy Orders.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Affordable Housing Update and Action Item**

Emily Meeks reported that architect, atelierjones LLC, was selected for the site assessment and analysis work. Grant funding from Enterprise Community Partners for \$35,000 and Trinity Wall Street's Gift of Place grant up to \$50,000 are proceeding but additional funding is needed. The efficiency of the committee has resulted in a \$12,000 gap between funding sources. The Executive Committee recommends the authorization of an interest-free loan for up to \$150,000 from Impact Capital for additional predevelopment work. This loan has a \$1,500 application fee. The committee is requesting the Vestry authorize up to \$12,000 to ensure the continuity of work and to approve the application loan fee of \$1,500, if required.

**A motion was made to authorize up to \$12,000 for additional affordable housing funds to address the gap in funding for consultant services and approved by the Vestry.**

**The Vestry approved the Executive Committee's recommendation to authorize up to \$1,500 for Impact Capital's loan application fee, if such a loan is required.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Healthy Communication Document Update**

Scott Kovacs reviewed the revisions made to the document and a further clarification was made to #4 and "For example" will be used for consistency.

**Motion was made, seconded, and adopted with inclusion of the friendly amendments.**

### **Strategic Planning Process**

The first meeting of this committee will take place in mid-July.

### **Bloedel Renovations**

Dean Thomason reported that the committee led by Chase Silver and Riley Gill from Windermere Property Management has met and the project's initial scope has been identified so that initial bids/estimates can be obtained, after which we will refine the scope. We will engage an architect if/when needed.

### **Tent City**

Chris Rigos reported the Meal Sharing Ministry served 26 guests from Tent City 3 at the Sunday June 25 evening meal. Scott Hulet confirmed the Vestry is scheduled to serve the meal on Sunday July 30 and Sunday August 20.

### **July Vestry Meeting**

**A motion to cancel the July 25 Vestry meeting was made, seconded, and passed.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Affordable Housing Parish Forums September 13 and 24**

Dean Thomason requested Vestry members attend the forums scheduled for Wednesday September 13 and Sunday September 24.

### **Emergency Response Planning**

Scott Kovacs reported that progress has been made. The Emergency Response Document is being worked on to provide both a public and a staff view as well as addressing document revision cycles. A walk-through with representatives from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to review security and IT risks at the cathedral is scheduled for July 5. Meetings with the North Capitol Hill Emergency Communication Hub and with Susie Hammond, hub co-captain, have occurred. Susie is invited to attend the next Facilities Ministry meeting. The Active Shooter information session for the parish is rescheduled for August 13 after the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.

## **Annual Investment Distribution Resolution**

**A motion was made, seconded, and approved by the Vestry that the 4% annual distribution from the Diocesan Investment Fund be authorized by the Cathedral Treasurer and sent to the Diocese of Olympia. Resolution #23-FI-01.**

## **LEADERSHIP REPORTS**

### **Senior Warden**

- Names the fact that very exciting opportunities with discernment and the strategic planning process; invites all to be prayerful and open discerning hearts to what the spirit is doing in the broader community as well as within our cathedral community.

### **Dean**

- January's revision to the Employee Handbook (staff air travel related to cathedral business) would use carbon offsets – \$25/ton of carbon monoxide – which is about \$1,000 for the first half of the year.
- The Affordable Housing Committee is a well-functioning team.
- FEMA grant for House of Worship Security Improvements ends in June. Money has been well spent on:
  - Replaced parking lot lighting
  - Changed the entry door locks on narthex doors
  - Bollards at the three walkway entrances to the front of the Cathedral
  - Window film around first floor of Cathedral House – impenetrable glass – deterrent for breaking and entering.
  - Installation of additional security cameras for blind spots and replacement of vandalized cameras to be completed by Wednesday June 28.
- July 16
  - The Rev. Canon Eliacin Rosario-Cruz's last Sunday. Blessings and cake will be served after the 9 and 11 a.m. services.
  - Guest preacher, The Rev. Fadi Diab, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Ramallah, Palestine to preach at the 9 and 11 a.m. services, and guest for the Friends Talking 10:10 a.m. forum.
- Questions about what is happening with Leffler House since the Seattle Service Corps' departure should be directed to Dean Thomason.
- Pledge base has softened during these uncertain economic times.
- Had a fabulous time in Ireland and the weather was great. It was a work trip in preparation for the 2024 pilgrimage.
- Files of note
  - Audit Report 2022 for the Cathedral Foundation of the Diocese of Olympia
  - Thank you note from the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre

## **Ministry/Committee Reports**

### **• Stewardship**

Beginning in July, holding two meetings per month, all stewardship material will be sent to Greg Bloch on August 1. The tentative theme is "Pilgrims Together, Faith Leads Us Forward."

### **• Creation Care**

Climate Conversations happening on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.; field trip to a Skagit Valley farm on September 9; working on a trip to the Cedar River Watershed; plant sale in the fall; begin sharing stories of ways to improve taking care of the Earth. Erik added that Chris Brown has a light bulb recycling project – gathering discarded tubes, tests to see if working or not, shipping a box of tubes (150 light bulbs) back to supplier.

### **• Intergenerational Council**

A meeting was held last week, notes are in Dropbox. Summer events are available. Volunteers to help with Eat! Play! Love! planning or hosting, contact Wendy Barrie.

- **Restorative Justice Council**

Clean Water Project in Gaza through the Middle East Children's Alliance. Doug reestablished contact with the alliance.

- **Communications**

Held their second meeting, continuing to get to know Greg Bloch and the scope of his work, and all the different communication areas of the cathedral. Invited Josh Hornbeck, Diocese of Olympia, to talk about their communication approach to see how it intersects with the cathedral's.

### **REFLECTION: MUTUAL MINISTRY ANNUAL REVIEW**

- Carbon offset
- Light bulbs
- Affordable Housing
- Tent City 3
- Postulancy

### **CHECK OUT & CLOSING PRAYER**

Checkouts were given, and the closing prayer was given by Chris Rigos. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Erickson  
Clerk

Erik Donner  
Cathedral Administrator