

**ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
608 WEST JEFFERSON STREET
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI 38804**

**MINUTES OF
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023
VESTRY MEETING**

PRESENT:

The Rev. Phillip Parker, Rector	Alice Alexander	
The Rev. Becca Walton, Curate	Carol Alvis	Richard Pate
Cathy Fitzpatrick, Sr. Warden	Sue Ann Averett	Margaret Anne Robbins
	Karen Dieckmann	Grant Smith
Tommie Moore, Clerk	Leila Keel (by phone)	Donna Timmons

ABSENT: Caleb Bedillion, Mike Fitzpatrick, Stephen King, Joellen Murphree, Ann Springfield

VISITOR: Ty Robinson

The Rev. Phillip Parker opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:00 p.m.

CHECK IN

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Consider date change for January Vestry meeting

VENTURING CREW:

Ty Robinson opened the discussion by giving more detailed information about the Venturing Crew that would like to have All Saints' charter their organization.

Venturing is a coed age 14-20, youth-led, high adventure activity program all about building and developing essential skills like leadership, event-planning, organization, communication and responsibility. Ty advised that Jimmy Ray has agreed to be the Crew Leader and is in the process of recruiting other adults to help lead the Crew. He reported the Venturing Crew will meet on a night other than when Troop 85 meets as he does not want to conflict with the youth in Troop 85 moving toward their Eagle rank. There is a \$100 chartering fee, which Ty offered to cover. He stated the Unit 85 Committee recommends that the All Saints' charter the Venturing program. At this point, the following motion was offered:

MOTION: (Timmons/Robbins)

Approve All Saints' as the chartering organization for the Venturing Crew.

A discussion followed. A concern was raised by a Vestry member about the proper vetting of the Crew Leaders. Ty explained that background checks are conducted for each leader. He noted if anything is shown to be negative on the background check, then that person would not be installed as a leader. Detailed results of the background checks are only known to the local Scout Executive, which in our

case would be Owen McCulloch. Ty assured the Vestry that Owen would be glad to talk with and answer any questions about the process in vetting the leaders in the BSA association. The suggestion was made that All Saints' run their own background checks on all leaders of Pack and Troop 85 and the Venturing Crew leaders. It was explained that while different vendors might submit information for background checks, all checks are run through a common data base, meaning any information that would be noted on a background check that the BSA organization would run, would be the same information that would be noted on a background check that All Saints' would run. At this point, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Keel/Alvis)

Table the discussion until further information about the BSA vetting process could be obtained.

No vote was taken on the above motion.

As the discussion continued, it was determined that most members of the Vestry were ready to "call the question" and take the vote on the first motion.

MOTION: (Timmons/Robbins)

Approve All Saints' as the chartering organization for the Venturing Crew.

APPROVED.

Of the 10 voting members, 7 voted to approve the motion / 3 voted not to approve the motion.

PROGRESS REPORTS FROM VESTRY:

Vestry goals/objectives:

- Be intentional about engagement with parishioners or newcomers (personal connection, lunch, coffee, etc.); Share social media posts
- Help to communicate liturgy explanations to the Parish.
- Increase Vestry attendance at services, events, programs, classes.
- Start each Vestry meeting by reviewing goals and reporting on specific progress.

Cathy asked the Vestry to pay special attention to the emails that Nancy sends out identifying visitors who have turned in a pew card. She encouraged Vestry members to contact those visitors and let them know we are glad they visited. Sue Ann Averett said she would contact the recent visitors who live in Saltillo.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- November 2023 financial reports
- November 13, 2023 Vestry minutes
- December 18, 2023 Executive Committee minutes
- Christian Growth Commission report - written
- Christian Service Commission report - written
- Christian Stewardship Commission report - written

MOTION: (Dieckmann/Timmons)

Approve Consent Agenda as submitted.

APPROVED.

Treasurer's report

On behalf of Treasurer Mike Fitzpatrick, Cathy Fitzpatrick advised that actual revenue for November was \$51,699 against a budget of \$45,672; YTD actual revenue was \$542,000 against of budget of

\$502,000. Expenses were under budget for the month. She noted we have a \$19,000 year-to-date surplus.

Cathy reported that we have received 90 pledges for 2024, totaling \$473,000. The Stewardship committee is following up with calls to those parishioners we have not heard from yet.

Our building loan balance is \$580,000. A “Burn the Note” capital campaign will begin in early 2024.

MOTION: (Pate/Dieckmann)

Approve Treasurer’s report as given.

APPROVED.

Consider quote for cleaning and staining Nursery deck

A written quote from Ivy Fence Company was submitted to clean and stain 192 square feet of deck fencing and stain 656 square feet of decking on the Nursery deck. The deck is used by children in our Nursery, as well as children in Pathway Montessori School. It is necessary to have this done in order to preserve the integrity of the deck and extend its lifespan. Treasurer, Mike Fitzpatrick has advised funds to pay for this project would be available from 8064, “Pathway Montessori School”.

MOTION: (Averett/Timmons)

Approve quote from Ivy Fence Company to clean and stain 192 square feet of deck fencing and stain 656 square feet of decking at a cost of \$1,197.87 using funds from 8064, “Pathway Montessori School”.

APPROVED.

Discussion of refrigerator repair

Cathy reminded the Vestry that at the October meeting they were advised the oldest of our three refrigerators in the kitchen needed a new compressor and it was expected that the repair would be expensive. The refrigerator in question is not used very often and the other two refrigerators are able to handle all of our needs. At that time, it was suggested that there might be some channels open to us to obtain a free commercial refrigerator through Viking. Leila Keel volunteered to research this possibility. Leila advised she still has not received an answer from Viking and would like to table the matter until after the holidays, when the company would have a full workforce.

MOTION: (Pate/Dieckmann)

Table the discussion regarding the refrigerator repair until the January Vestry meeting.

APPROVED.

Consider Capital Campaign co-chairs

Cathy Fitzpatrick asked the Vestry to consider Wayne Averett and Donna Timmons as co-chairs for our next Capital Campaign which will begin in early 2024.

MOTION: (Dieckmann/Robbins)

Approve Wayne Averett and Donna Timmons as co-chairs of our next Capital Campaign.

APPROVED.

Consider date for 2024 Vestry Retreat

Cathy asked the Vestry members that will be serving in 2024 to consider March 1 and 2, 2024 as the date for our next Vestry Retreat. A discussion followed.

MOTION: (Fitzpatrick/Averett)

Approve March 1 and 2, 2024 as the date for the 2024 Vestry Retreat.

APPROVED.

January Vestry date

Phillip asked the Vestry to consider changing the date of the January Vestry meeting to January 16, 2024. The regular Vestry meeting falls on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and many offices are closed in observance.

MOTION: (Fitzpatrick/Timmons)

Approve moving the next Vestry meeting to January 16, 2024.

APPROVED.

CHECK-OUT: The meeting was held at the former NCADD building, next door to the Chapel. NCADD generously gifted the building and furnishings to All Saints'. Phillip encouraged Vestry members to take a tour of the building after the meeting.

CLOSE: With no further business, The Rev. Phillip Parker dismissed the Vestry meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Submitted by Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING:

November 2023 financial reports

November 13, 2023 Vestry minutes

December 11, 2023 Executive Committee minutes

Christian Growth Commission report - written

Christian Service Commission report - written

Christian Stewardship Commission report - written

Ivy Fence Company quote