

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

**MINUTES OF
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2024
VESTRY MEETING**

PRESENT:

The Rev. Phillip Parker, Rector
Cathy Fitzpatrick, Sr. Warden
David Alford, Jr. Warden
Mike Fitzpatrick, Treasurer
Tommie Moore, Clerk

Carol Alvis
Sue Ann Averett
Leslie Criss

Marcie Morgan
Joellen Murphree
Richard Pate
Margaret Anne Robbins
Ann Springfield

ABSENT: Alice Alexander, Nathan Duncan

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

CHECK IN

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Proposal for ink pens in pew racks

CONSENT AGENDA:

- September 2024 financial reports
- September 16, 2024 Vestry minutes
- October 15, 2024 Executive Committee minutes
- Christian Growth Commission report
- Christian Stewardship Commission report

MOTION: (Fitzpatrick/Murphree)

Approve Consent Agenda as submitted.

APPROVED.

PROGRESS REPORTS ON VESTRY OBJECTIVES:

- **Update from the Men's Group**
Richard Pate reported they had 19 in attendance at the October breakfast, 4 of which were visitors. Richard has been elected as the President for the 2025 term. He advised that going forward, the team building exercises will focus on the group objectives.

- **Update from ECW**
Cathy reported they had 15 in attendance at the October meeting. Tracy Proctor will be the special guest for the November meeting. In December, the men's group and ECW will meet together. She noted that new officers for 2025 will be elected soon.

➤ **Update on engaging with members/newcomers/visitors**

Phillip reported that we continue to have new visitors on Sundays, noting there were 3 new families that visited on October 27.

➤ **Update on Wednesday night dinner & programs**

Attendance continues to grow at the revamped Wednesday Night Dinner & Programs. Positive feedback has been received regarding the food and the programs. The November program will be a Q & A panel discussion with Phillip, the Wardens and the Treasurer. In December, Cathy and Mike Fitzpatrick will present a program on their summer pilgrimage to walk the Camino De Santiago. In January, 2025, Frank Anger will present a program on hot air ballooning.

BUSINESS

Treasurer's report

Mike Fitzpatrick submitted a written report on our financial status as of September 30, 2024. He reported we had a good revenue month with "Total Revenue" received of approximately \$51,000 of a budget of approximately \$47,000. We currently have a deficit of \$25,000 of a budgeted deficit of \$17,500.

Pledge packets were distributed on Sunday, October 13. The balance of the packets were mailed on Tuesday, October 15. Mike noted we have received 20 2025 pledges so far. Parishioners were asked to return their 2025 pledges by All Saints' Sunday, November 3.

MOTION: (Pate/Cathy Fitzpatrick)

Approve Treasurer's report as given.

APPROVED.

Update from Nominating Committee

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Cathy presented a list of parishioners as potential nominees for Sr. Warden and Vestry. She noted the list of parishioners had been vetted and met the qualifications as outlined in our Bylaws.

Members of the Nominating Committee are:

Cathy Fitzpatrick, David Alford, Dana Maharrey, Deanna Alford, and Karen Dieckmann.

The list was reviewed by the Vestry. After the review, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Murphree/Averett)

Approve list of potential nominees for Sr. Warden and Vestry as submitted.

APPROVED.

Renewal of Licensed Lay Leaders

Tommie presented the list of lay leaders to be licensed by the Bishop. The list was included in the Vestry's October packets.

MOTION: (Fitzpatrick/Murphree)

Approve recommendation of the list of lay leaders as submitted, to be sent to Bishop Wells for final approval.

APPROVED.

Discussion of repainting iron railings

Cathy opened the discussion by advising that the Property Committee found the iron railings around our campus in need of new paint. Wayne Averett submitted a quote from Marsh Iron Works to have all of the railings sandblasted and power coated. The quote included the cost of having all of the railings done, as well as broken down by areas. A discussion followed. It was suggested that we move forward with having the Office railings and the Parish Hall handrails (leading up to the porch) sandblasted and power coated as they are the ones in the worse shape. The Vestry felt the others could be sanded and spray painted by the Property Committee.

MOTION: (Cathy Fitzpatrick/Springfield)

Approve sandblasting and power coating the Office railings and the handrails leading up to the Parish Hall porch at a cost not to exceed \$2,970 with funds from Restricted accounts line item 8043 “Vestry Capital/Discretionary Reserve”.

APPROVED.

Set Annual Meeting date

Phillip advised that the Vestry needed to set the date for the 2025 Annual Meeting. He suggested Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. He noted this particular date was the 2nd Wednesday which is when we normally gather for our Wednesday Night Dinner & Programs. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: (Averett/Murphree)

Approve setting February 12, 2025 as the date for our Annual Meeting with provisions made to cater the dinner at no cost to parishioners.

APPROVED.

Discussion of website redesign quote

Sue Ann Averett, co-chair of the Website Redesign Committee with Marrion Winders, opened the discussion by advising the committee was charged with reviewing each section of the current website to determine what needed to be kept/refreshed and what was not needed. Each member was assigned a section on which to work. Once that task was completed the committee met via “Google Meet” with Lance Moore of Mooresites.com to review the work they did. Sue Ann and Marrion followed up with an email outlining the discussions they had with Lance. Lance sent a detailed quote, which was included in the Vestry’s October packets. The quote outlined the following:

\$2,850 to build the site

\$215 yearly to maintain the site

\$300 (one time fee) for photography. This would entail Lance taking photos of our campus.

Lance agreed he could have the site live and ready to debut by our 2025 Annual Meeting (February 12, 2025). After a discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Cathy Fitzpatrick/Springfield)

Approve quote to rebuild our website in the amount of \$2,850, \$215 to maintain the site and \$300 for photography.

APPROVED.

Discussion of piano dolly

Sue Ann advised that included in the Christian Growth’s convener report was a request from our Music Director, Dr. Debra Atkinson to move the piano away from its present position facing the choir seats, to a more acceptable placement where the choir would be able to see Debra and her direction better. In her

report, Debra suggested moving the piano up next to the front row pew on the east side of the Nave. If this is not allowed, she suggested purchasing a piano dolly which would enable her to move the piano more easily out from the choir, should it not be allowed to remain in front of the first pew on the east side. A discussion followed. The concern was raised that moving the piano in front of the first pew could make it difficult to exit through the transept of the Nave. David Alford volunteered to research this matter further. In the meantime, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Cathy Fitzpatrick/Criss)

Approve purchase of a piano dolly not to exceed \$804.38 for use in moving the piano when needed. Fund the purchase from line item 5081, "Adult Music" operating budget, on the condition that the purchase would not put the Adult Music operating budget, line item 5081 over budget as of December 31, 2024.

APPROVED.

Ink pens in the pew racks proposal

Joellen Murphree proposed replacing the pencils in the pew racks with pens, making it easier to read the information on the pew card when filled out. She researched options for pens and found we could purchase 300 pens with "All Saints' Episcopal Church" engraved on the pens for \$128.80 from www.4imprint.com. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: (Cathy Fitzpatrick/Averett)

Approve purchase of 300 pens with our name engraved on them for \$128.80 from www.4imprint.com.

APPROVED.

CHECK-OUT:

Cathy offered an update from the Columbarium Committee. She stated that Pete Poland is drawing up preliminary plans for an outside columbarium. Once he has finished and the committee has reviewed, they will present the plans to the Vestry.

CLOSE: With no further business, The Rev. Phillip Parker dismissed the Vestry meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Submitted by Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 28, 2024 MEETING:

September 2024 financial reports
September 16, 2024 Vestry minutes
October 15, 2024 Executive Committee minutes
Christian Growth Commission report
Christian Stewardship Commission report
List of Licensed Lay Leaders for renewal
Marsh Iron Works quote
Mooresites website redesign quote
Proposal for pew rack pens