

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

**MINUTES OF
APRIL 28 2025
VESTRY MEETING**

PRESENT:

	Annie Plunkett	
	Carol Alvis	Amanda Reed
David Alford, Jr. Warden	Sue Ann Averett	Kamme Riddle
	Leslie Criss	
Tommie Moore, Clerk	Nathan Duncan	Josh Westmoreland
	Marcie Morgan	Marrion Winders

ABSENT: Rev. Phillip Parker, Richard Pate, Mike Fitzpatrick, Alice Alexander, Ann Springfield

VISITORS: Les Alvis

Jr. Warden, David Alford opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:03 p.m.

CHECK IN

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Approve Edward Thompson as co-chair of the Safety Committee

COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Quote for the perimeter fence

Les Alvis attended the meeting to give updates on the Columbarium Gardens. He advised that the perimeter fence will be the last thing to be installed, but the fence and wall permit application needs to go forward now. The application requires All Saints' to provide the cost of the fence. Because the fence is outside of the \$37,000 budget, Les asked the Vestry to approve the cost of option 1, in the amount of \$17,431.48 so that the committee can complete the application. Marsh Iron Works submitted several fencing options to the committee. The details of each option were included in the Vestry's information packet. Les advised that the committee recommends option 1 which includes 200' of 4' tall custom built ornamental iron fence to match the existing ironwork at the church. Two 4' gates and one 6' gate. This comes built, powder coated and installed. Les stated that the money for the fence would not be spent yet, so no funding approval is needed at this time. He stated he will come back to the Vestry for the cost approval. After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Westmoreland/Duncan)

Approve Marsh Iron Works quote (option 1) which includes 200' of 4' tall custom built ornamental iron fence to match the existing ironwork at the church. Two 4' gates and one 6' gate. Price includes building of the perimeter fence, powder coated and installed.

APPROVED.

Les continued by advising that we have \$37,000 in cash on hand for the Columbarium Gardens project. He noted there is a \$1,700 contingency built into the budget to cover issues that may be uncovered as the project progresses. He also stated that the committee is rethinking the need for the chain link fence and if they decide it is not needed, that will result in additional savings.

First of parish communication materials

Les continued by turning the Vestry's attention to a draft of the first parish communication proposed by the committee. He stated that the committee would like to have a series of communications moving from the general to the specific as the project progresses. As mentioned in the attachment, they do not intend for this to be used until activity actually begins on the site.

Les advised that the committee has begun working on the rules and regulations for the Columbarium Gardens. He hopes to have a rough draft for the Vestry to review at their June meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- March 2025 financial reports
- March 17, 2025 Vestry minutes

MOTION: (Riddle/Winders)

Approve Consent agenda as submitted.

APPROVED.

PROGRESS REPORTS ON VESTRY OBJECTIVES:

Update on engaging with members/newcomers/visitors (*Annie Plunkett*)

Annie, along with other Vestry members noted the visitors that have been coming over the last month. Several Vestry members have made personal contact with the visitors to help them connect more fully with All Saints'.

Update on Website refresh/redesign (*Sue Ann Averett, Marrion Winders*)

Sue Ann gave an update on the progress of our new website. Lance Moore is working to interface the member portal with our ACS system, as well as tweaking the calendar and archiving the miscellaneous documents, while keeping only the most recent files.

Update on family group organization (*Josh Westmoreland, Marrion Winders*)

Josh advised that he and Marrion met to determine first steps in forming the family groups. They divided the list of households into 4 groups, with approximately 35 households per group and distributed the list to the Vestry. They were asked to review the list to see if there were any changes that needed to be made, i.e., any that needed to be in a different group, any that have moved away, etc. Marrion noted that they tried to form the groups with a good mix of ages, households with children, households that were active and households that were not very active. They would like the groups to have at least three activities during the summer months. They will work on appointing leads for each of the groups and will report back to the Vestry in May.

Update on photo directory (*Nathan Duncan, Marcie Morgan, Annie Plunkett, Carol Alvis*)

Nathan advised that only 2 households have sent him photos for the directory. He advised that in addition to the advertisements that are currently running, those who have agreed to work on the project may need to start calling parishioners to remind them to turn in their photos. Nathan advised that he was willing to take some of the photos after parishioners have had time to turn in their own.

Update on organizing extra events (*David Alford*)

David Alford stated that some of the men in the church will be cooking hamburgers and hotdogs for the last night of VBS. Josh added that they will be cooking for the lunch following the service on Pentecost and he is looking into advertising in the community and possibly having a band.

Update on forming a technology committee to handle livestreaming and website (*Mike Fitzpatrick, Sue Ann Averett*): No report.

Update on playground options (*Amanda Reed, Kamme Riddle*)

Amanda reported that they have recruited two parishioners to serve on their committee and have talked about several locations suitable for the playground. Several years ago, a former Vestry member did some research on playground equipment and Tommie offered to email that information to the committee.

BUSINESS:**Treasurer's report**

Treasurer, Mike Fitzpatrick submitted a written report, which is attached to these minutes. In his report, he noted that March 2025 was a very good revenue month as we received \$63,870.89 in total revenue of a budget of \$43,906.50. Year-to-date total revenue received is \$140,867 of a budget of \$131,719. Total expenses year-to-date remain below budget - \$128,001 of a budget of \$132,236.

MOTION: (Westmoreland/Morgan)

Approve Treasurer's report as submitted.

APPROVED.

Sr. Warden report**Update on Endowment Trustees**

In a written report, Richard advised that Grant Smith has accepted a three year term as an Endowment Trustee (term to expire in February 2028) and Ty Robinson has agreed to serve as chair of the Endowment Trustees for a one year term.

Jr. Warden report

- David advised that due to a storm, we lost a tree that was located on the side of the Office building.
- Two of the refrigerators in the kitchen and the HVAC unit are not working properly. He has called for service on these issues.
- David agreed with Richard that the Jefferson Street parking lot needs to be restriped. The lines are very faded and hard to see.

Consider new co-chair for Safety Committee

In a written report, Sr. Warden, Richard Pate suggested Edward Thompson as a co-chair of the Safety Committee with Cathy Fitzpatrick. Richard believes Edward's background can provide a different perspective.

MOTION: (Westmoreland/Averett)

Approve Edward Thompson as co-chair of the Safety Committee.

APPROVED.

CHECK-OUT

With no further business, Jr. Warden, David Alford dismissed the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Submitted by Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry

ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING:

March 2025 financial reports

March 17, 2025 Vestry minutes

Marsh Iron Works Columbarium Gardens fence quote

Columbarium Gardens communication materials draft