

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE VESTRY
OF THE CHAPEL OF THE CROSS
WILL BE ON THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023
in the Overlook Room
with the business session to begin at 6:00 p.m.**

**Minutes of the Vestry of the Chapel of the Cross
16 February 2023**

The Vestry of the Chapel of the Cross met in the Overlook Room of the parish on Thursday, February 16, 2023. Present were Roman Perun (Sr. Warden), Harriet Pegram (Jr. Warden), Annie Craver, Terry Eason, Meg Flournoy, Brian Coggins, Woody Coley, Caren Parker, and Gail Perry. Amy Daubert was present via Zoom. Also present were Elizabeth Marie Melchionna (Rector), Mary Cat Young, (Associate Rector for University Ministry), Keith Esposito (Curate), Mawethu Ncaca (Assistant to the Rector), Diane McOmie (Parish Administrator and Stewardship Coordinator), Sabrina Olsen (Treasurer), and Nancy Kelly (Clerk).

The Rector presided and the meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. She thanked Ms. Craver for providing the smorgasbord and cake to honor the outgoing Vestry members and the retiring Clerk.

Devotion/Prayer

Ms. Craver led the devotion for the evening, reading I Corinthians 2: 12 and following it with a prayer.

Consent Agenda

The following items were placed on the Consent Agenda (attached):

- Approval of Minutes from the January Meeting of the Vestry
- Acceptance of *Cross Roads* summary for January
- Acceptance of Rector's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Associate Rector for University Ministry's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Curate's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Assistant to the Rector's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Christian Formation Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Youth Ministry Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Parish Life and Worship Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Communications Report (attached)
- Acceptance of December 2022 Finance Committee Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Treasurer's Report for December 2022 (attached)
- Acceptance of Treasurer's Report for January 2023 (attached)
- Acceptance of Financial Reports for December 2022 (attached)
- Acceptance of Financial Reports for January 2023 (attached)
- Acceptance of Buildings and Grounds Committee Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Stewardship Committee Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Casavant Organ Committee Minutes, February 6 (attached)
- Acceptance of Casavant Organ Committee Project Status Report (attached)

It was moved by Ms. Pegram, seconded by Mr. Eason, and passed unanimously, that the Vestry approve the Consent Agenda.

Rector's Report

The Rector's report is attached.

Ms. Melchionna began by expressing gratitude to the outgoing Vestry class. This class began its tenure with the annual February retreat at which it took office, then followed a few days later with the regular February meeting of the Vestry held via Zoom because of an ice storm. This was the introduction to a long period of Zoom meetings as they worked their way through the Covid restrictions that began in March 2020.

The Seed Fund was the next item for discussion. There is \$100,000 in the *You Are the Light* fund for funding catalytic initiatives that are new. This money is presently held in the Program Fund. The recommendation is to establish a Vestry-designated seed fund for this money.

It was moved by Mr. Perun, seconded by Ms. Flournoy, and passed unanimously, that the Vestry approve the creation of a new Vestry-designated seed fund of \$100,000 received from the *You Are the Light* Program Fund designation.

The Rector passed out to Vestry members copies of the Annual Report that will be available to parishioners at the Annual Meeting on Sunday. She thanked Jeff Crawford and Ms. Young for their work on the photos and noted that many people did the writing. She also directed attention to the Parochial Report on p. 48.

Treasurer

The Finance Committee Report for December, the Treasurer's Reports for December 2022 and January 2023, and the Financial Reports for December 2022 and January 2023 are attached.

Ms. Olsen reported that 2022 ended great. Reporting that in 2022, as well as in 2021, there was 100% fulfillment of pledges, she commented that this defies our history.

There is good news all around. This year we budgeted \$70,000 for capital expenditures.

Casavant Organ Campaign Committee Update

The Casavant Organ Committee Minutes and the Casavant Organ Committee Project Status Report are attached.

Mr. Coggins reported that there are no major updates. The design work is wrapping up. Casavant is a little behind schedule, but that is because we are doing work here in preparation for the new organ that is normally done at a later date in the process. He also reported that the campaign is going well.

The good news is that a contract has been signed for removal of the Kleuker, at no cost to us. Work on the removal begins on May 15.

Sr. Warden

Mr. Perun offered a poem (attached) for the outgoing Vestry class and the retiring Clerk.

Ode to Nancy Kelly and the Outgoing Vestry

A William Shakespeare or Emily Dickinson quality poem this will not be,
But it is still a heartfelt thank you to Nancy Kelly and our outgoing Vestry!

Where should I start? The options are many.
Let's play it safe and go alphabetically.

Annie Craver, her love of our church she wears on her sleeve without pause,
I hope you'll still pick up my call if I need help with the by-laws!
You've never wavered on the importance of right process,
Thanks to you, we've avoided so much distress!

Amy Daubert, our sparkplug and fundraiser extraordinaire,
Who will we call on to be your Stewardship heir?
Your passion for supporting our church is legendary.
Oh, and that new organ will look great in the sanctuary!

Terry Eason, an expert in architecture and design,
A master in how his commitment to our church and his profession intertwine.
Even though your time on the Vestry is coming to an end,
The Casavant Organ project still beckons, my friend!

Meg Flournoy, who quietly leads by example and is committed to our mission,
Like E.F. Hutton, when Meg speaks people listen!!
Your servant leadership in support of "Our Faith in Action" priority shines bright.
You've touched so many lives and given them flight.

Last and certainly not least, our Clerk Nancy Kelly, who has served the Vestry 30+ years,
Will now enjoy more Thursday evenings without shedding a tear!
You have a special gift of kindness while still keeping us on track.
Please don't be a stranger. You are always welcome to join us for the Vestry meeting
snack!

I feel this short poem by Emily Dickinson personifies the hope each of you have given us
and COTC.

Hope is the Thing with Feathers

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all.

And sweetest in the gale is heard;
Ane sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chillest land,
And on the strangest sea;
Yet, never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.

Thank you to each and every one of you. We owe you a deep debt of gratitude.

Ms. Melchionna offered a prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy F. Kelly
Clerk of the Vestry

From the Clerk:

Thank you to all of the past and present clergy and Vestry members with whom I have served the parish over the thirty years in my position as Clerk of the Vestry, February 1993 - February 2023. I leave you in good hands with Alice Cotten.

Nancy

Attachments

- - - Consent Agenda
- - - Rector's Report
- - - Associate Rector for University Ministry's Report
- - - Curate's Report
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- - - Youth Ministry Report
- - - Parish Life and Worship Report
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- - - Finance Committee Report, December 2022
- - - Treasurer's Report, December 2022
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- - - Financial Reports, January 2023
- - - Buildings and Grounds Report, January 2023
- - - Stewardship Committee Report
- - - Casavant Organ Committee Minutes, February 6
- - - Casavant Organ Committee Project Status Report