



St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Davidson, NC

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING ON AUGUST 8, 2022

ATTENDANCE

<i>Vestry Members in Attendance</i>	<i>Also in Attendance</i>
Alex Slawson, Senior Warden	<i>Clergy</i>
Jean Bonnyman, Junior Warden	Rev. Carmen Germino
Bob Beckham	<i>Rector</i>
Tom Fischer	Rev. Kevin Lloyd
Greg Knudson	<i>Assoc. Rector & Davidson</i>
Cheryl Nealy	<i>College Episcopal Campus</i>
Mike Sass	<i>Minister</i>
Alex Slawson	Leslie Urban, Treasurer
Joseph Torok	James Wally, <i>Guest - Grow, Gather, Serve</i> <i>Committee</i>
	Deacon Valerie Colbert
	 <i>Unable to Attend</i>
	Allison Kratt
	Jenny Myers
	Jennifer Nelson Loher
	Danny Wiles

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Germino called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.



PRAYER/REFLECTION

Rev. Germino began the in-person meeting with Evening Prayer. Leslie Urban read from scripture.

Rev. Germino began the in-person meeting with prayer. Alex Slawson read from scripture.

Rev. Germino explained how the daily prayer for the evening focuses on service to Christ through one another, beyond oneself, and squarely relates to vestry service.

Leslie Urban read the goals of the Vestry:

As the vestry of St. Alban's, we...

- ...pray for each other and our church
- ...participate fully
- ...commit to being a learning community
- ...welcome a variety of opinions
- ...notice and share the joy of this community
- ...are open to change and the work of the Holy Spirit
- ...do business to further our purpose (mission and ministry)
- ...are in an ongoing state of discernment
- ...take faithful risks when appropriate
- ...collaborate to avoid ministry silos and empower the various ministries we support
- ...communicate thoroughly
- ...support our church staff and clergy
- ...gather informally to strengthen our relationships

As we do these, we will serve as role models of faith and service.

INFORMATION

- + Saturday, August 13, 2022: The 15th Annual Back2School Blast is scheduled at Gethsemane Baptist Church in Davidson. This community outreach event helps by providing shoes, book bags, and school supplies for area students.
- + Monday, August 29, 2022: First Men's Group meeting
- + Sunday, September 11, 2022: First Day of Sunday School



DISCUSSION

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 11, 2022 meeting of the vestry were submitted for review and were approved, with minor corrections, by unanimous consent.

PARISH HALL

- + James Wally, guest from the Grow, Gather, Serve Committee, displayed architectural plans illustrating the layout of the lower level of the existing church and preschool with planned Parish Hall plan. The Parish Hall includes restrooms, kitchen, service, and dining areas.
- + The illustration also included the relocated playground and landscaping, immediately north of the preschool, beneath the church sanctuary. The playground consists of a traditional mulch surface to allow eco-friendly replacement and cooler temperatures compared to artificial surface, and dimensions that meet current requirements for certification of a preschool facility in addition to serving church families. The playground includes the addition of a maximum of 3 shade trees in addition to preservation of the large tree visible from the church sanctuary windows.
- + Finally, the illustration depicts the eastern exterior entrance of the Parish Hall and a walkway running east across the rear lawn toward the gardens. The walkway would bisect a crescent on the eastern side of the lawn providing relief from the morning sun, making the rear lawn ideal for outdoor events.
- + Mike Sass asked James Wally the target date for removal and usage of the new playground. Mr. Wally guided the vestry to the proposed start date in February 2023 and estimated completion of March 31, 2023. The work is predicted to occur over about 2 weeks but allows approximately two months in consideration of winter weather conditions.
- + Mr. Sass asked whether there were any additional solutions for shade than the four trees. Mr. Wally explained that additional trees or artificial shade is not permissible given the budget.
- + Also, Mr. Sass inquired whether preschool students and staff could use the playground during construction. Mr. Wally replied yes, because the playground will be significantly separated from construction by space and by construction fencing. Between April and October, the worksite will be enclosed by a job fence enabling use of the playground and rear lawn.

Motion #1 by Mike Sass

The vestry approves execution the Contract with Creative Playscapes, LLC for demolition and disposal of the existing playground and installation of the new playground design in the new location, as described in the Contract, for \$99,045.



Seconded
by Alex Slawson

Motion #1: Unanimously passed.

Motion #2
by Alex Slawson

The vestry approves execution of the Contract, AIA Document B101 - 2017, "Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect," with Tony F. Miller, AIA d. b. a. Miller Architecture, for St. Alban's Episcopal Church Parish Hall architectural design and construction administration, as described in the Contract, for \$69,920.

Seconded
by Bob Beckham

Motion #2: Unanimously passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

+ Leslie Urban noted that a certificate of desposit was transferred from Aquesta to Vanguard generating a bit of interest and extra cash flow.

+ St. Alban's continues to be in good stead with its auditors and welcomes that auditors will be vigilant throughout the upcoming Parish Hall process. As mentioned during the July 11, 2022 vestry meeting, the vestry is now asked to approve the audit.

Motion #3
by Bob Beckham

The vestry approves audit conducted by C. DeWitt Foard & Company, P.A., Certified Public Accountants.

Seconded
by Jean Bonnyman

Motion #3: Unanimously passed.

+ Rev. Germino expressed thanks to Erin Garrett and Leslie Urban for their guardianship of our finances and their work preparing for a successful audit.

+ Currently, Leslie Urban, Treasurer, is the only approved signatory for Vanguard accounts. Therefore, it makes sense to add Jessica Ewell, Parish Administrator, as an additional signatory because she is present in the office, does not serve on the vestry, and will not rotate to other roles. Her authorization would result in one staff and one volunteer to act as signatories.



Motion #4
by Bob Beckham

The vestry authorizes and directs the Parish Treasurer and Parish Administrator to sign documents related to Vanguard Mutual Fund Accounts and Vanguard Brokerage Accounts owned by St. Alban's Episcopal Church, invest the assets of St. Alban's Episcopal Church, obtain account information and give instructions for the purchase, sale, exchange, or transfer of securities, and to engage in margin and option trading on Vanguard Brokerage Accounts owned by St. Alban's Episcopal Church.

Seconded
by Alex Slawson

Motion #4: Unanimously passed.

CLERGY UPDATES

Updates from Rev. Germino

- + Gordon and George Jacobs agreed to chair the upcoming Grace in Action Stewardship Campaign launching September 25, 2022.
- + A drop-in Bible Study will occur Thursdays this fall at lunchtime, in-person at St. Alban's. Everyone is invited to bring a lunch and enjoy a Bible Study in-person.
- + The new St. Alban's Ministry and Program Guide will be ready by the End of August for the upcoming program year.

Updates from Rev. Lloyd

- + Eleven high school students are enrolled in Confirmation classes lasting six weeks beginning in August, culminating in the Bishop's Confirmation ceremony in October.
- + Rev. Lloyd continues preparation for the return of Davidson College students who will resume class on August 29, 2022.
- + Rev. Lloyd has planned a Fall retreat at Lake Logan Conference Center in Canton, N.C. and is currently e-mailing first year Davidson College students in order to invite them to join the retreat and get to know them.

Updates from Deacon Valerie Colbert

- + Deacon Colbert has been at St. Alban's Episcopal Church for approximately 6 years. August 21, 2022 will be her 90-day milestone since she has been our deacon. She is grateful that she was placed at her home parish, considering that many new deacons are placed at other parishes. She honors St. Alban's history of a robust deaconate and is excited about her role in the upcoming Back 2 School Blast (B2SB).



- + Deacon Colbert has been increasingly involved in children's and youth oriented ministries, considering that her specific area of specialty is children's and parents' mental health.
- + Joseph Torok, Clerk, and Mike Sass noted her engagement with children during the Children's Chapel, during which Deacon Colbert engaged with children of different ages, individually, in a group setting, and provided thanks for her leadership.

WARDEN UPDATES

Alex Slawson, Senior Warden

- + Following tonight's vestry meeting, Mr. Slawson will send the vestry schedule for September through January. He welcomes vestrypersons to advise him of any potential conflicts, since he wants all vestrypersons to be a part of the process. Technical arrangements will be made if vestrypersons wish to attend via Zoom, for example.
- + Vestryperson of the Day (VPoD) sign-ups are available.

Jean Bonnyman, Junior Warden

- + Jean was seeking a pick-up truck to discard of the rug from the first floor of the building. As an alternative, it can be cut into smaller sections and disposed of in trash, but would preferably be disposed of at a Mecklenburg County facility. Two names were provided.
- + Jean continues to prepare the preschool. She is currently looking at pruning low-hanging tree limbs and mulching for the benefit of preschoolers outside.
- + Pat Stenhouse has identified a contractor to work on the fence for the memorial gardens who previously performed work at the Pines of Davidson.
- + Jean expressed thanks for a Boy Scout who is currently working in the Caldera Gardens as a service project.

LIAISON UPDATES

- + Jenny Myers, Preschool Liaison: Mike Sass relays the update on behalf of Jenny Myers. The vestry previously approved \$30,000 and has already provided \$15,000 to the preschool. However, at the preschool only estimates that they need \$2642 to conclude the school year. For next year, there is \$15,000 (as opposed to \$30,000) budgeted, but they are requesting an additional \$1500 for scholarships to be transferred into the account from the remaining last year's budget as well. However, Cheryl Nealy notes that she is waiting to see what the preschool may request from Outreach for scholarships. Therefore, the vestry now considers the transfer of \$2642 in preschool funding now, and may consider the scholarship funds in a subsequent electronic vote upon clarification from the Preschool and Outreach liaisons.



Motion #5
by Mike Sass

The vestry authorizes the transfer of \$2642 from the remaining preschool budget to be transferred into the preschool account.

Seconded
by Alex Slawson

Motion #5: Unanimously passed.

Patti Rossini, Preschool Director, shared (via Jenny Myers and Mike Sass) that some families may un-enroll due to the mask guidelines. Also, Patti communicated some concerns regarding the downstairs door being unsecure during construction. Jenny Myers will discuss security with Patti in the coming weeks.

+ Cheryl Nealy, Outreach Liaison: Cheryl thanked the vestry for approving the transfer of funds from refugee activities to the Habitat for Humanity function which will be held in September or early October. There are approximately ten to twelve participants and the location, either Huntersville or Mooresville, has not yet been determined. The first Feed N.C. activities are started. The Back 2 School Blast is repared. Outreach is within budget.

+ Jennifer Loher, Children's Ministry Liaison: No additional updates.

+ Mike Sass, Youth Ministry Liaison: Vacation Bible School is underway with 32 students. Courtney Fossett, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, did a great job coordinating volunteers and is now focusing on volunteers for Sunday School starting September 11, 2022, and Youth Ministry Programs through Christmas Eve.

+ Greg Knudson, Ministry of Fun Liaison: The Ministry of Fun will meet in a couple of weeks to perform Fall planning.

+ Bob Beckham, St. Alban's Anti-Racism Team Liaison (StAART): Laurie Harrison, Chair, has done a wonderful job developing the rolling StAART library. August 28 is its next meeting at St. Alban's.

+ Allison Kratt, Stewardship Liaison: No additional updates.

+ Tom Fischer, Welcome Ministry Liaison: Greg Knudson provided the update, noting that flower drop-offs to newcomers have been very well received. In addition, the Greeter Ministry and Newcomer team have been busy receiving people returning from summer travels and new to the Church. Greeters are also doing well when serving jointly as ushers.

+ Danny Wiles, Finance Committee Liaison: No additional updates.



CLOSING

Rev. Lloyd and Rev. Germino closed the meeting with Evening Prayer.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Torok
CLERK OF THE VESTRY