

THE PARISH OF THE ADVENT MINUTES OF THE VESTRY

Type: Regular Meeting

Date: 18th of November, 2021

A regular meeting of the Vestry of the Parish of the Advent was held on the 18th day of November, *anno Domini nostri Iesu Christi* MMXXI, the Rector presiding.

The following fifteen members of the Vestry were present, thirteen of whom were present at the meeting's commencement, thus constituting a quorum:

The Rev'd Douglas E. Anderson (Rector)
Mrs. Meg Nelson (Rector's Warden)
Mr. Thatcher L. Gearhart (People's Warden)
Mr. Adam Rutledge (Treasurer)¹
Mr. Nicholas T. Westberg (Clerk)
Miss Lynda J. Blair²
Mr. John Boyd³
Miss Amanda W. Daley
Mr. Dustin Henderson⁴
Dr. David Lapin⁵
Dr. Philip W. Le Quesne⁶
Mrs. Carolyn P. McDermott
Mr. Francesco M. Piscitelli⁷
Mr. Frederick Ou
Miss Julianne Turé

The Rector, after ensuring that those participating in-person and remotely could hear each other and be heard by one another simultaneously, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and offered an opening prayer.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

¹ Mr. Routledge was not present for the quorum. He joined shortly thereafter.

² Miss Blair joined via remote communication.

³ Mr. Boyd joined via remote communication.

⁴ Mr. Henderson was not present for the quorum. He joined shortly thereafter.

⁵ Mr. Lapin joined via remote communication.

⁶ Mr. Le Quesne joined via remote communication.

⁷ Mr. Piscitelli joined via remote communication.

The Rector presented the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Vestry, held on the 21st of October, 2021. After review, upon motion, duly made and seconded, it was

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Vestry's 21st October, 2021 meeting be approved.

II. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer reported that the budget is balanced and that the Parish is ahead of budget YTD.

III. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Treasurer reported two ongoing matters. First, the Finance Committee is presently working on its budget presentation for the December meeting. Second, that the Committee continues to conduct its legal review of the Parish's endowments. In connection to the latter matter, after open discussion and upon motion, duly made and seconded, it was

RESOLVED, that the Finance Committee (acting through C. Thomas Brown, Chairman) is authorized to engage Milbank, Tweed, Hadley, and McCoy LLP (henceforth, "Milbank") to provide legal advice to the Committee in connection with its review of the Endowment;

RESOLVED, that the fees and costs charged by Milbank be payable from the Endowment, as determined and approved by the Treasurer in his reasonable discretion, with the following amendment

That if the cost exceeds \$50, 000, then the Finance Committee will inform the Vestry via progress reports and open discussion; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Finance Committee shall provide a summary of report findings and recommendations to the Vestry at the conclusion of the Endowment Review.

IV. REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Stewardship Committee reported on both the present year and the 2022 pledge campaign. With regard to the present year, November marks the first month in which pledge payment from parishioners has fallen behind schedule. The Chairman assured the Vestry that this was no cause for alarm as pledge payment at the Parish is traditionally back-end heavy. As regards the progress of the 2022 pledge campaign, fifty-five pledging units have thus far pledged \$140,000.

The Junior Warden happily reported that the Parish recently surpassed 200 pledges for 2021. There are more parishioners pledging now than there were immediately prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

V. REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Property Committee updated the Vestry on three of the ongoing projects. First, the fence installation was delayed on account of the unforeseen difficulty of the repair work. Nonetheless, installation is scheduled for Monday, 22 November. Second, Members of the Vestry plan a tour of the Sacristy at All Saints' Ashmont on Saturday, 20 November. Third, the Vestry can expect two different samples of the kneelers in an upcoming meeting.

VI. RECTOR'S REMARKS

The Rector discussed nine points:

6.1 20s/30s Group. The young adult ministry has enjoyed remarkably high attendance in its Fall 2021 events.

6.2 Inaugural Meeting of the Women of the Advent Group. Wednesday, 17 November marked the first official meeting of the Women of the Advent, organized by Magdalena Westberg, which gathered for Evening Prayer followed by dinner. The Group plans to meet weekly for Evening Prayer, with the accompanying dinner being added once a month.

6.3 Community Groups. The Beacon Hill Group convened for the first time in person since the pandemic. The Green Line Group is scheduled to meet in person with Frs. Hanson and Macdonald-Radcliff on the first Tuesday of December.

6.4 Grafton Conference. The Conference is anticipated on Ascension Day 2022. Events will include a key-note address, paper presentations, Evensong on the first evening, and a banquet on the second evening. Fr. Macdonald-Radcliff is presently coordinating the foreign speakers and guests.

6.5 Community Life Coordinator. The Rector announced that the search has been successful, as he and the Wardens offered the position to Mrs. Karen Harrington.

6.6 Sunday Service Attendance. The Parish welcomed the largest number of mass attendees since the beginning of the pandemic on Sunday, 14 November: 210 people.

6.7 **Pastoral Note.** The Rector provided an update on the health of Ray Porter (Verger).

6.8 **Executive Session.** At 7:01 upon motion, duly made and seconded, it was *RESOLVED*, that the Vestry enter into Executive Session to discuss an employee-related matter.

At 7:54 upon motion, duly made and seconded, it was

RESOLVED, that the Vestry exit Executive Session.

6.9 **Coffee Hour.** After open discussion, and upon motion, duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the Wardens be authorized to write letters to the 5 or 6 distributors of the coffee hour buttons.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to consider, upon motion, duly made and seconded, the Vestry voted to adjourn the meeting, whereupon the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

I attest that the above is a true record of the Vestry meeting held on the 18th Day of November, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas T. Westberg,
Clerk