



The CHURCH of the
GOOD SAMARITAN VESTRY

ARRIVE EARLY. BE PREPARED. STAY ENGAGED. PRAY OFTEN.

Vestry Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2023 | 7:00 PM

church office, The Church of the Good Samaritan

Vestry members present: Darren Clipston, Tom Connett, Tammy Cooke, Revd. Phillip Ellsworth Jr. (Rector), Erena Evans, Reuben Garrett, Nicholas Gibson, Gary Henderson, Whitney Kuniholm, Ian MacDonald, Louise Makau-Barasa, Jonathan Purifoy, Leah Sioma, Rusty Smith, Richard Toland, Mary Anne Weightman, Rick Zuch (Parish Administrator)

Vestry members absent: none

Guests: Debbie Volk (Chair of Missions and Grants Committee; items 1 – 5)

Attachments:

- i. Vestry Meeting Minutes November 13, 2023
- ii. 2023-11-14 Missions Committee minutes
- iii. MISSIONS COMMITTEE Vestry Dec. 2023 – PowerPoint
- iv. Vestry Committees 2023-2024 (revised 2023-11-13)
- v. 2023-10-30 Facilities Committee minutes
- vi. 2023-11-08 Nominating Committee minutes
- vii. Vestry Decision Process
- viii. Vestry Schedule 2023-2024 (revised 2023-12-04)

Whitney Kuniholm (Rector's Warden) chaired the meeting, calling us to order at 7:02 PM.

1. Bible reading, hymn, and prayer

The Officers opened the meeting with a brief devotion.

2. Minutes

attachment (i)

- **Motion (1):** Approve the Vestry meeting minutes for November 13, 2023.
 - Vote: all in favor; none against; no abstentions. Motion passed.

3. Interim Priest-in-Charge Report

Phillip Ellsworth updated the Vestry on various activities and events within the parish, including the service attendance (averaging a total of 328 per week over the previous 4 Sundays); staff recruitment efforts (full-time clergy); his meeting with Bishop Gutiérrez; and thanks to many staff and volunteers for recent efforts.

4. 2024 Pledge Appeal update

Jonathan Purifoy reported that more pledges had been received than by this same point last year, including from approximately 45 new pledgers.

5. Missions and Grants Committee update

attachments (ii, iii)

Debbie Volk gave a presentation on the function, activities, and goals of the Missions and Grants Committee. Their budget for 2023 was \$232,300. Whitney thanked Debbie and the committee for their work and Mary Anne prayed for them.



6. Facilities Committee membership

attachments (iv, v)

- **Motion (2):** Add Rick Zuch and Connor Gisel as members of the Facilities Committee.
 - Vote: all in favor; none against; no abstentions. Motion passed.

7. Nominating Committee report

attachment (vi)

Nicholas Gibson reported that the Nominating Committee is seeking a slate of candidates for the five open positions for the 2024 Vestry election, and that only one current member of the Vestry plans to stand for re-election. Nicholas also informed the Vestry that he would be resigning as Clerk and from the Vestry with effect from the 2024 Annual Meeting.

8. Financial update

The Financial Warden reported that income year-to-date was ~\$300K ahead of budget and that expenses were \$77K under budget. The budget for 2024, while still in development, is expected to be of the order of \$2.4 million.

Phillip Ellsworth and Rick Zuch left the meeting.

9. Rector election

attachment (vii)

An election was held for Rector of the Church of The Good Samaritan, with Revd. Phillip Channing Ellsworth, Jr., as the sole candidate.

- **Motion (3):** RESOLVED, that the Vestry elects Fr. Phillip Channing Ellsworth, Jr. as Rector of the Church of the Good Samaritan.
 - Vote: 14 in favor, 1 against, no abstentions. Motion passed.
- **Motion (4):** RESOLVED, that the Rector's Warden and Financial Warden, in conjunction with the Office of Transition Ministry, develop a Letter of Agreement (LOA) for Fr. Ellsworth, and when agreed upon, to be signed by Fr. Ellsworth, the Officers, and Bishop.
 - Vote: 15 in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion passed.

10. Rector election next steps

The Rector's Warden was directed to notify Phillip, the staff, and the congregation of the Rector election results. The Clerk was directed to notify the Ecclesiastical Authority of the election of the Rector, as per the Canons.

11. Revised Vestry Calendar

attachment (viii)

Changes to the Vestry schedule for 2023-2024 were noted.

12. Closing prayer

The meeting closed in prayer and adjourned at approximately 9:00pm.

13. Addendum: Clergy Housing Allowance

Subsequent to the meeting, additional business was conducted by email over December 26-31, 2023 regarding Clergy Housing Allowance.

- **Motion (5):** WHEREAS The Rev'd Phillip Channing Ellsworth, Jr is employed as a minister of the Gospel by the Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan in Paoli, which although providing a residence for him does not provide the full cost of



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maintaining and furnishing such a residence, the Vestry resolves that of the total cash compensation to be paid to Father Ellsworth during the calendar year 2024, \$20,000 is to be designated a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the IRS Code of 1986.

- Moved: Whitney Kuniholm; seconded: Nicholas Gibson.
- Vote: 14 in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Gibson, Clerk of the Vestry