

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes Highlights

The following are highlights of the December 7, 2016, Vestry meeting minutes.

RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rev. D. Dixon Kinser reported that the Episcopacy search (search for a new Bishop) has announced the slate of candidates and there is a 'walkabout' scheduled on February 16, 2016, at St. Timothy's for anyone who want to meet the candidates.

Dixon and our delegates attended the Diocesan Convention in Raleigh November 18-19.

St. Paul's parishioner Morris Friedman was elected to the Standing Committee.

Dixon explained the following resolutions were passed at this year's convention:

On Voting Delegates for Youth

Resolved,

The 201st Annual Convention adopts on second reading the following amendment to the Constitution of the Diocese approved on first reading by Act 2015-2 of the 200th Annual Convention:

The Constitution of the Diocese of North Carolina is amended by adding a new section to Article III as follows:

"Section 9. The Convention may by canon make provision for the selection of not more than seven lay delegates to represent the youth of the Diocese. Such delegates shall be enrolled confirmed communicants in good standing of a parish or mission of this Diocese who are between the ages of sixteen and eighteen as of the convening of the Annual Convention for which chosen and who have not matriculated at an institution of higher learning."

On Supporting Our Native American Sisters and Brothers at Standing Rock

Resolved, That the 201st Convention of the Diocese of North Carolina expresses its solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux and other Native Americans encamped at Cannon Ball, North Dakota, protectors of their sacred lands and the Missouri River watershed against the dangers of pollution posed by the Dakota Access Pipeline; and be it further

Resolved, that we applaud the example provided by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry who listened to and prayed with the protectors at Cannon Ball during his September 24-25 visit to the encampment; and be it further

Resolved, that given the historic injustices visited upon Native Americans by the United States Government and its citizens, we urge congregations, convocations, and all ministries of this Diocese to educate and act on the issues related to the Dakota Access Pipeline; and be it further

Resolved, that we encourage congregations, convocations, and all ministries of this Diocese to find ways to support the protectors at Cannon Ball through the raising of funds to be sent through the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota; and be it further

Resolved, that we encourage this Diocese, its youth ministries, congregations, and worshipping communities to consider pilgrimages to Cannon Ball and other Native American communities affected by those injustices; and be it further

Resolved, that we urge the Army Corps of Engineers to prohibit the extension of the Dakota Access Pipeline across the Missouri River and urge private pipeline officials, government officials, and demonstrators to use restraint and non-violence as we hope for a peaceful reconciliation to this conflict; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be communicated by the Secretary of Convention to the Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and, through the Diocese of North Dakota, to the protectors at Cannon Ball; and be it further

Resolved, to entrust the school of ministry and the committee on racial reconciliation to develop curriculum to equip the saints so that we may all be witnesses for Jesus Christ for and with a people whose witness and stories have been silenced and so that we may fully live into our baptismal covenant of respecting the dignity of every human being.

Act 2016-5

(Res. 201.5)

On Amending Canon 22 to Permit the Removal of Vestry Persons for Cause.

Resolved by the 201st Annual Convention:

Section 2 of Canon 22 is amended by adding new paragraph (h) as follows:

“(h) Removal of Vestry Persons for Cause.

A person may be removed as a member of (1) the vestry for cause by vestry only in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph (h).

(2) A person may be removed as a member of the vestry by the vote of two thirds (2/3) of the members of the vestry then in office if the person has missed three or more meetings of the vestry in a twelve month period without excuse, if before any meeting of the vestry at which a vote on the removal of such person will be made, such person is given notice of the date and time of the meeting and the cause for removal and such person is given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting.

(3) A person may be removed as a member of the vestry by the vote of two thirds (2/3) of the members of the vestry then in office for cause other than the failure to attend vestry meetings as described in subparagraph (h)(2), above, if before any meeting of the vestry at which a vote on the removal of such person will be made, such person is given notice of the date and time of the meeting and the cause for removal and such person is given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting.

CLERGY REPORT

Rev. Sara Ardrey-Graves shared news that the Adult Christian Education Committee met to discuss Spring /Lent offerings. As a committee, they are reading and reflecting on the book “Our Kids” by Robert Putnam and exploring ways to use the power of St. Paul’s to make a change in the community. They are also reading “Tattoos on the Heart” by Greg Boyle. The young adult group worked with Kids’ Café on December 8 and really enjoyed it. Sally Dudley shared that the clergy have been helping at Kids’ Café as well.

Sara told the vestry of a special service planned for Wednesday, December 21 at 5:30 called *St. Thomas Day: A Service of Light and Hope*. This is a service for parishioners for whom Christmas is a tough time.

The Rev. Darby Everhard shared plans for Lessons and Carols, the St. Thomas Service and Christmas Eve services. She and the other clergy are planning for Lent. New Year's Day the service times are 8:00, 10:00 and 5:00.

Annual Campaign Update

Sally Dudley reported on the annual campaign saying there are 369 pledges so far totaling 1.5 million. The average pledge continues to increase for the third year in a row. As of today, it's \$4,256.

SENIOR WARDENS REPORT

Sally Shore clarified the Vestry's role in The Feast of Lights.

Sally shared that funding for Page's Playground at the Preschool is still coming in.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Sally Engram reported that the willow oak in the back parking lot will be cut down the week after Christmas. St. Paul's is taking the steps to preserve large portions of the tree. The wood will be used at a later time on the St. Paul's campus.

Sally Engram also reported that Bill Goodson is the new Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee. The new committee members are Linda Bettis, Cynthia Bouldin and Dan Culp.

Other Committee Reports

Janice Bennett reported that the Welcome Committee is having a brunch on January 8 for visitors and new members. A tour will be offered of the campus.

Ted Irvin reported that the youth are taking an active role in helping at Kids' Café.