

**St. Alban's Episcopal Church**  
**Minutes of Vestry Meeting (AS APPROVED)**  
**Wednesday, August 15, 2018**  
**Room 301 Satterlee Hall**

**Vestry Officers Present:** Geoffrey Hoare (Rector), Laura Ingersoll (Senior Warden), and Trevor Swett (Secretary). Hollis McLoughlin (Treasurer) was away.

**Vestry Members Present:** Michele Bond, Leo Coco, Glenn Davis, Tomás Montgomery, Lara McCoy Roslof, Jane Schubert, Julie Clements Smith, Trevor Swett, and Woodfen McLean (Youth Representative). The following members were not in attendance: Adrienne Allison, Walker Carter, Lucy Fraser, Tom Gustafson, and Corinna Gilmore (Youth Representative).

**Staff Present:** Debbie Kirk (Associate Rector) and Jim Quigley (Associate Rector). Emily Griffin was on vacation.

**Others Present:** Mary Kostel (Chancellor), Jeremy Filsell (Director of Music), Barbara Manard (Diocesan Delegate), Robin Rudd (Chair, Workers of St. Alban's), and Tom Jansen (parishioner).

**Call-to-Order:** A quorum being present, the Rector called the Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Michele Bond recited an opening prayer:

*Dear Lord,*

*You are our wise counselor, our perfect teacher and our faithful friend. Inspire us with your goodness and love as we gather this evening.*

*We pray for the wisdom and strength to serve effectively as leaders of this parish, with enthusiasm and joy.*

*Help us to recognize and build on each other's strengths, and to engage with each other in an open and reflective spirit. Help us to nurture a renewed spirit of giving and sharing throughout our community.*

*In Christ's name we pray.*

**Introduction of Director of Music.** The Rector presented to the Vestry Jeremy Filsell, Ph. D., the parish's new Director of Music, who was greeted very warmly by those present. After speaking briefly of his experience as a church musician, his pleasure in joining us at St. Alban's, and plans in the works for the music program. Dr. Filsell left the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** Upon motion seconded, the Vestry approved the minutes of its July 19, 2018 meeting.

**[VESTRY ACTION 2018-08.1]**

**Treasurer's Report.** In the absence of the Treasurer, the monthly financial report was presented by Michelle Bond, a member of the Finance Committee. Pledge income remained strong in July and the endowment was up modestly for the month. The reserve fund has a healthy balance and will stand at or above \$500,000 after payment of all charges previously approved or contemplated for the near term.

**Prepayment of Outstanding Balance on Diocesan Loan.** Geoffrey Hoare explained the Executive Committee's recommendation that the parish prepay the entire balance remaining (\$68, 835) on the loan it received from the Episcopal Diocese of Washington to fund severance payments to the former Rector. A brief discussion followed. Upon motion, the Vestry then approved the recommendation and authorized the immediate prepayment of the loan balance.

#### [VESTRY ACTION 2018-08.2]

**Proposed Revision of Parish Bylaws.** The Senior Warden led a discussion about proposed bylaw revisions prepared by the Governance Committee with the advice and counsel of the Chancellor, an updated draft having been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Vestry proceeded to discuss various aspects of the draft, especially the provisions for filling mid-term vacancies. The Governance Committee will consider the feedback received at the meeting and will submit its recommendations at the September 19, 2018 meeting of the Vestry. The proposed bylaws and an explanation of significant changes will then be distributed to parishioners for written comments and for discussion at open meetings to be held on Thursday, September 27, and Sunday, September 30, leading to any final revisions by the Governance Committee, ratification of the final proposal by the Vestry at its October 17 meeting, and a vote by the parish at large a Special Meeting to be held on October 28, 2018.

**Oral Report on National Convention.** Mary Kostel made brief comments on the recently concluded triennial General Convention of the Episcopal Church. Among other things, she reported on (1) the creation of a task force to consider whether the 1979 version of the Book of Common Prayer should be revised from the twin standpoints of commonality and diversity in the Episcopal faith community; (2) a new procedure for allowing same-sex marriages to go forward under the auspices of a willing bishop from another diocese if the bishop of the diocese in question objects to such marriages on grounds of conscience (as do a very few bishops at present); (3) a visit to the Hutto Detention Center to show support for immigrant women at risk deportation; and (4) a listening session and healing ritual held by the House of Bishops on the subject of sexual harassment.

**Report of the Senior Warden.** The Vestry received a brief written report from the Senior Warden.

**Other Reports.** The Vestry received written reports from the Rector and from each of the Associate Clergy. Jim Quigley noted that the parish will offer hospitality to

Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, on Thursday, November 8. Accompanying the Rector's report was a draft of the liturgy being developed for the Celebration of New Ministry to be held on September 16. Persons willing to help with the reception following that service are requested to contact Susan Morris. The Rector noted that Jo Turner will be recognized on September 9 for her outstanding service as Lay Pastoral Care Coordinator.

**Lilly Granted Awarded.** The Vestry was informed that the Lilly Endowment has made a grant to St. Alban's to fund Jim Quigley's sabbatical for travel and study during 2019. Quigley graciously thanked all those who encouraged and assisted his work on the application, including the Rector, a subgroup of Vestry members, Wendy Reaves, and Ed Roslof. The Vestry offered Quigley joyful congratulations (and celebrated his success with a champagne toast after the meeting).

**God's Work in the World.** Jane Shubert gave an impromptu report on the Outreach Committee's recent meeting with the Rector, which focused on developing a strategic approach to the parish's outreach programs and to improving communications within the parish about those aspects of our common life.

**No Executive Session.** The Vestry decided to waive an executive session.

**Closing Prayer and Adjournment.** The Rector led the meeting in closing prayers. There being no further business at hand, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Trevor W. Swett III  
Secretary