

St. John's Episcopal Church, Tower Grove
Vestry Meeting Minutes for April 21, 2024 @ 12:15 PM

In attendance: Rev. Nancy Emmel Gunn, Liam Clements, Correne Murphy, Ann Balsamo, Jeff Carter, Jonathan Cureton, Paul Freeman, Ronya McCool

Absent: Mary Anne Pikrone; Liam will update

Opening Prayer, Nancy Emmel Gunn

Declaration of a Quorum and Reminder of Behavioral Covenant, Nancy Emmel Gunn

Today will be a combination vestry meeting and workday to follow up on issues raised during February 3's vestry retreat.

Financials for March 2024

- Budget is \$3,674 in deficit which is where we would expect to be with a deficit budget of \$14,000. Cash on hand equals \$42,000.
- Bookkeeper Joseph Jeffers was recommended by Jonathan as a candidate to replace Jim Kern.. On Thursday, April 18 an ad-hoc vestry team comprised of Liam, Rev. Nancy, Jonathan, and Ronya interviewed Joseph and was impressed with his poise, experience, credentials, and his willingness to work with the church to reframe the budget. Jonathan motioned to extend a six-month contract at \$475 per month to Joseph to take over the church's bookkeeping. Liam seconded, and the vestry voted unanimously.

Accept minutes from March 2024 meeting

Approved with changes to date: March 2023 to March 2024. Jonathan motioned to approve, seconded by Correne. Motion passes unanimously

Workday Report

The vestry investigated the number of committees as stated in the parish's Annual Report and discussed reorganizing them under categories such as Parish Life, Engagement/Outreach, and Church Management. Some committees are really ad-hoc and not long-term. Other committees, such as Worship and Stewardship, may fit under more than one category. Vestry also discussed best communication practices with the parish and decided to connect with the leaders of each committee in the coming months to get a snapshot of each committee's responsibilities.

Workday Action Items

- Ronya and Nancy will meet to identify groups and streamline them under the categories
- Liam will meet with outreach committee leaders
- Ann and Nancy will identify the physical and fiscal management committees and their responsibilities
- Jeff will oversee meetings with parish life and worship committee leaders.

Loose Ends

- Vestry agreed to add an “action items” wrap up to each vestry meeting for more accountability
- Nancy will add the announcement responsibilities to each agenda. Liam will provide announcements on Vestry activities on Sunday, April 28.

Reminder of Next Meeting Dates – Nancy Emmel Gunn

a. Next Vestry meeting: May 19

b. Executive Committee: May 15 Zoom 7pm

i. Additional Vestry member present: Jonathan Cureton

Closing Prayer, Nancy Emmel Gun

Meeting adjourns, 2:15 PM