

**Sunday, May 14, 2023**  
**Episcopal Church of the Atonement Vestry Meeting Minutes**

Final – Approved June 18, 2023

Time: Sunday, May 14, 2023, 1:03 p.m. to 2:47 p.m.  
Location: In-Person at Church of the Atonement and via Google Meet  
Present: Father Dan Puchalla (Interim Rector), Dave Beil (Warden), Amanda Kim (Warden), Jennifer Ash, Richard Benson (via Google Meet), Charles Bonilla, Ann Cassidy, Rufus Gonzales, Aaron Johnson, Amanda Patrick, Rick Velon, Mike Trumbold (Treasurer), Michael Waltz (Clerk)  
Absent: Natalie Archie

Next Meeting: Sunday, June 18, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – in-person at Church of the Atonement and via Google Meet.

Dave Beil (Warden) called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Father Puchalla asked each Vestryperson to share the largest question in their life right now. He then offered a prayer.

Review of April Meeting Minutes: **A motion was made** (Charles Bonilla) **and seconded** (Rufus Gonzales) to approve the minutes. With no discussion or questions **the motion passed** unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report:

*Statement of Financial Position*: Mike Trumbold noted that there were negative balances in the Music and Operating Accounts because of timing issues but that didn’t create any problems. The Endowment Fund had a positive market adjustment and \$7,000 was transferred from Reserves to Operating to pay for the basement flood remediation and cleaning. *A copy of the full report is attached to these minutes.*

*April Statement of Activity*: Mike reported that offerings were over budget for the month. He removed the remaining anticipated donations for the garden apartment from the annual budget because the residents are vacating the property. Parking revenue is gradually increasing as summer approaches. Expenses were over budget for the month in part because of the basement flood. We ended the month with a negative \$16,094 and a year-to-date negative of \$22,728. *A copy of the full report is attached to these minutes.*

In May Mike will review the 2023 budget to see where we stand at mid-year. Since the garden apartment is no longer occupied and several pledging members have died, this year’s budget will end with a deficit. He asked the Vestry to begin thinking of ways to make up that deficit.

**A motion was made** (Ann Cassidy) **and seconded** (Amanda Patrick) to receive the financials. With no further discussion or questions **the motion passed** unanimously.

Buildings and Property Guild/S4

The Guild’s report was submitted to the Vestry prior to the meeting. Members also received the plans and renderings for the possible relocation of the ramp to the south side of the church; Dave Beil said there are still a few questions to be answered, including if it’s appropriate to get a cost estimate now since the project is on hold. Dave explained that we will continue to work with the city to determine what projects to undertake with the Climate Infrastructure Fund grant we received but he suspects electrification of the radiators may be high on the list of options. The Guild is discussing roofing options for the sanctuary and reviewing preliminary designs for the columbarium expansion. The report updated the Vestry on insurance claims for the basement flood, and the possible composting project and funding. **A motion was made** (Charles Bonilla) **and seconded** (Ann Cassidy) to

receive the Guild's report. With no further discussion or questions **the motion passed** unanimously. *A copy of the full report is attached to these minutes.*

### Rector's Report

It was agreed to change the next Vestry meeting to June 18th because the regularly scheduled date of June 11th is the Feast of Corpus Christi followed by a reception.

Father said that the first meeting of Church as Transformation was very successful with approximately 40 people participating.

A new nursery attendant has been hired and will start on May 28th.

Father is developing a plan for the time between his departure and the arrival of the new Rector. He stressed that during that time the Wardens are in charge and he encouraged the Vestry not to make any changes in direction while awaiting the next Rector. More details will follow. He asked the Vestrypersons to tell him what they think the parish needs to hear from him before he departs.

Search Committee Update: Dave Beil reported that the committee is reviewing applications and doing online interviews and expects to have a list of finalists by mid-June; they feel we have viable candidates.

### Other Reports

*Outreach:* A written report was provided to the Vestry prior to the meeting. At the last meeting the Guild members discussed donations, deferring most until the next meeting, but approving a \$1,500 for Chiapas because that group needed to know our commitment for planning purposes. They are looking at new opportunities with Lighthouse Foundation, Rainbow Railroad and LiveFree Illinois. The Guild was invited to submit an application to Episcopal Charities Parish Partner Grants for funding for our possible composting project. At the meeting Dave Beil said they are working out what can be included.

*Block Party:* Rufus Gonzales distributed a list of what 6018|North, the arts organization we're partnering with, will provide to the block party and led a discussion of Atonement's anticipated contributions. Prior to the meeting he gave the Vestry a proposed budget for Atonement's contributions; at the meeting there was a discussion of how sponsorships will work to offset some costs. **A motion was made** (Rufus Gonzales) **and seconded** (Amanda Patrick) to approve the block party budget as submitted. With no further discussion or questions **the motion passed** unanimously.

*Fundraisers:* Amanda Kim updated the members on the status of the mini-fundraisers. The dinner at Linda Jo and Rodney Clough's home was successfully completed and invitations for the Pride mini-fundraiser at Jarvis Tavern on June 10th will be sent shortly. There are a few open dates for additional events.

*Parish Life Guild and Realm:* The parish directory, Picture Us at Atonement, is having a positive reception. Richard Benson reminded members that May 21st will be a second day when assistance will be available during coffee hours for those creating profiles. A potluck reception is being planned for Corpus Christi. Discussion of the Guild's charter was deferred until June because of time constraints.

### Other Business for Future

*Spiritual Questions and Prayers at Vestry:* Members were asked to lead the check-in questions and prayers that start meetings. Father asked them to use the form in Vestry documents to sign up for upcoming meetings.

Dates for Calendar: Church as Transformation – Tuesdays, May 9 – June 6  
ECRA Lunch – May 17  
Ascension Day at Ascension – May 18  
Q & A meeting – May 20  
Last day of Sunday School – May 21  
Last Choral Evensong of the season at Atonement – May 24  
Pentecost, Realm goes live parish wide – May 28  
Evensong at St. Luke's Dixon – June 4  
Pride Mini-Fundraiser – June 10  
Three masses for Corpus Christi – June 11  
Father Dan's last Sunday (planned) – July 2

The meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m. after the members joined in singing the Doxology.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michael Waltz*  
*Clerk of the Vestry*