



SAINT JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

St. John's Cathedral Vestry Retreat 2021

February 27th, 2021 (Held via Zoom due to Covid-19 gathering restrictions)

Attendees: Leigh Grinstead, Greg Movesian, Katie Pearson, Rebecca Richa, Broderick Greer, Ilana Poley, Jennifer Allen, Mike Koechner, Angelina Thomson, Helen Richards, Michael Vente, Kathleen Demars, Richard Lawson, William McMechen, Mark Wherry, Rodger Hara, Robin Paulson (substituting for Toya Nelson as clerk)

Absent: Meg Parish, Elizabeth Drummond

Guest: Pat Petrash, John McIntyre, Leah Hanke

Call to Order: 9:06am

Summary of Actions Taken:

- Approved spending authority up to \$38,000 for a new AV system in Dagwell Hall.
- Approved this year's parochial report.
- Appointed Tom Barbour for another term as Treasurer.
- Appointed Robin Paulson as interim clerk.
- Appointed Larry Kueter as Chancellor.

Welcoming: Richard opened with a prayer. Broderick gave a summary of a podcast organized by the national Episcopal Church that he and Evans joined. Members were asked to watch the podcast before the retreat. The topic of the podcast led into the question asked during breakout sessions.

Breakout for Questions:

Questions:

1. How do you see your role on vestry in light of St. John's mission being sacramental (baptisms, burials, marriages, Eucharists, etc.)?
 - a. E.G., if we think of ourselves as a parish and a cathedral for the diocese whose mission is primarily sacramental — how important is it that what we do can't be found anywhere else?

Members shared viewpoints shared during breakout session. Comments included:

- Vestry Role: Welcoming, open to everyone once we are back in-person.
- Leverage position at Cathedral with community, explore the engagement we can do that is not necessarily done by others, think of the role as a larger role, facilitating dialog with community healing.
- "St. John's takes care of the souls who have died, the souls who are here, and the souls to come."



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Introduction: Katie Pearson introduced Pat Petrash and the work she does in helping pastoral care and leading the centering prayer group in the library. The group has moved online and has gained members. She also discussed the involvement of the Anam Cara group.

Meditation: Pat Petrash introduced and explained the method of Contemplative Practice and the practice of 3 different ways of pausing; The face of God, Chant, Meditation (opportunity to return to God/Center).

Vestry and Expectations for Service (Richard Lawson):

Richard discussed the role that Vestry plays in the life of the Cathedral, specifically to be "stewards of people places and gifts." He explained that bylaws and canons describe this role. He also shared a document that described this for Vestry and encouraged everyone to review this as they progress in their service.

Tryba Architects Presentation (Richard Lawson, John McIntyre, Leah Hanke)

Introduction by Richard: Introduces to purpose of everyone at the meeting and purpose that we are here for the description and explanation of the project.

Richard introduced John and Leah from Tryba Architects to the Vestry. He again discussed the role of the Vestry to steward gifts and buildings. He broadly explained the issues with heating and cooling at St. John's and wrapped potential construction into the Cathedral's goal of enhancing our "greening" practices. He encouraged the Vestry to listen during this presentation to take in the details and important issues with this project. A decision on how to move forward will be made at the March 21st Vestry meeting.

Presentation summary of HVAC Upgrades St. John's:

John and Leah explained their backgrounds individually. Together, they have 30 years of experience in preservation and adaptive reuse of sacred spaces. They showed examples of projects they have worked on recently in the area. They believed it was important that they give back to the community as well as a design that serves St. John's needs. Tryba's focus would be to balance respect of existing building while also staying relevant to updated use. They showed the scope of project for St. John's with an overview diagram of the area including the Cathedral, Dagwell Hall, St. Martin's Chapel, the Nursery, and the Common Room. They noted that the current pipes are reaching age of potential failure and that these spaces have heat only and not cooling. The new design would work towards introducing fresh air into the spaces, especially the Cathedral.

John and Leah provided specifications of a potential VRF system for these spaces on the Cathedral's campus. Leigh asked of the new units kick off a lot of noise. John and Leah said there would be some humming, but efforts would be made to try to make the sound as minimal as possible. Leigh also asked about heat coming off the units. They said that low heat would



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come out vertically from the new units and would be safe. Kathleen asked whether the iron grates in St. Martin's will be hot. John and Leah said the iron gates would not be hot to the touch. William asked about whether it was forced convection and would this cause noise. John and Leah said that Tryba and the contractor would work to make sure it keeps any noise to a minimum if possible. Rodger asked for more details on how the system will specifically work. John and Leah walked through the specifications in detail and provided insight into considerations for each specific space. Rebecca asked if there were any additional obstacles to consider and if these upgrades would increase utility costs going forward. Richard said that everyone involved would continue to ensure that any additional sound from the new system would be minimal especially in sacred spaces. Regarding budget, he said that some areas may need to be delayed if costs are too high. He said that this was a scalable system, and it was easy to expand if the project needed to be chunked into smaller pieces. Leigh added that the Finance Committee looked in detail at the overall additional utility costs with this system over 5 years. Michael added that the addition of cooling may help the long-term life of stained-glass and the organ. Rodger asked if this project would trigger other work regarding the city/community/fire department. Several said that upgrades would likely be needed to the electric system under kitchen. Tryba has talked with city and fire department about the updates, and they did not have concerns overall. Tryba plans to replace parts with equal or better parts which will help not to trigger requirements of code negatively. William asked if a circulating liquid was used in the cooling system John and Leah said that the system circulated coolant and air, not water. William asked if the system could be circulating Freon. Tryba did not know the specific solution but would work to provide more information. They noted that a VRF system has less connection points which lessens the concerns for leakage in general.

Regarding the system in the Cathedral, John and Leah explained that the entire system would be placed under the wood floor of Cathedral and the floors would need to be removed temporarily. The system will have dedicated outside air units and will ideally use/work with existing ventilation set in in the early 20th century. The specific design was still in the works. Tryba will try to integrate designs that are elegant and decorative for radiator removal areas and in the iron grate area in chapel. Tryba hoped the overall design will open-up the side aisle areas. Kathleen asked if any stone would need updating. John and Leah said they will work with a stone restoration group which specializes in that work if needed. Tryba will also look to add exhaust fans in the bell towers to assist existing ventilation from the outside system in place.

John, Leah, and Richard provided more details on the timeline of all this work. They hoped the work in the Cathedral could be completed by end of October. However, permitting issues as well as the logistics of protecting organs and pews may affect the timeline. Rodger asked if shipping of materials from overseas will affect the timeline. John and Leah said they would get information. Mike asked about how future vestries will have to deal with upgrades or maintenance issues. John and Leah said that the new system should last about 20 years, but



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they will get the specifics of maintenance regimes. Richard emphasized that sound impacts are one the highest priorities.

Action items

New AV system in Dagwell Hall (Richard Lawson)

Richard asked the Vestry to approve new AV system for Dagwell Hall. He explained that this new system would allow for live streaming services/events in Dagwell Hall. He noted that this was needed due to services being relocated into Dagwell Hall due to the HVAC construction in the Cathedral. The Cathedral would use the same vendor that worked on the new system in the Cathedral. The design was approved by Audrey and the Arts and Architecture Committee Leigh explained that the Financial Committee approved up to \$30,000 for the AV system. Richard stated that since the Finance Committee meeting, the costs was updated to include additional items and totaled \$38,000. Michael made a motion to approve spending authority up to \$38,000 for the new AV system in Dagwell Hall. Mike seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Annual Parochial report (Richard Lawson)

Richard explained this year's parochial report and gave a very broad overview of the findings. Jennifer made a motion to accept this year's Parochial report. Kathleen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Appointment of Treasurer, Clerk, and Chancellor (Leigh Grinstead)

Leigh explained that Tom Barbour has agreed to serve another term as Treasurer. Rebecca made a motion to appoint Tom Barbour as Treasurer for another term. Mike seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Leigh explained that Toya would not be able to serve as clerk due to family needs. She said that Robin Paulson would serve as interim clerk. Helen made a motion to appoint Robin Paulson as interim clerk. Angie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Leigh and Richard explained that Larry Kueter agreed to serve as Chancellor. Kathleen made a motion to appoint Larry Kueter as Chancellor. William seconded the motion. Rebecca said that she would abstain from voting since Larry is her husband. The motion passed.

Closing:



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Leigh said that Angie Thomson would be moving to Iowa in the fall for law school. She will remain active through August and Mark Wherry will join Vestry after Angie leaves. Leigh said that Mark would join Vestry meetings as a non-voting member in the interim.

Adjourn: 12:00pm