

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Vestry Minutes January 21, 2016

The following are the members of the 2015 Vestry. Names marked with an asterisk were present.

Vestry:

- *April Allen
- *Wallis Bond, Clerk
- *Allison Cox
- Bob Davis
- *Emma Dean
- *Karen Dukes
- *Walter Edgar
- *Jack Godbold, Senior Warden
- *Norah Grimbball, Junior Warden
- Rocky Hughey
- *Tommy Little
- Bill Matthews
- *Ryan Newton
- *Chris Ray
- *Peter Shand
- *Wade Stinnette
- Liz Summers
- *Rick Umbach
- *David Wolff
- *Belton Zeigler

Ex-Officio:

- *Dan Fritze, Past Senior Warden
- David Sojourner, Trinity Foundation
- *Kirsten Moorman, Daughters of the Holy Cross
- *Frank Kinard, Still Hopes Representative
- *Howard Duvall, Treasurer
- Curtis Ott, Chancellor

Staff:

- *The Very Reverend Timothy Jones, Dean
- *The Reverend Canon Charles M. Davis
- *The Reverend Canon Dane Boston
- The Reverend Canon Patsy C. Malanuk
- The Reverend Ira Houck
- *The Canon for Administration Donald Benson

I. Welcome and Opening Prayer

After a lovely supper provided by Andrella Brunson and her team, Dean Jones opened the meeting in prayer at 6:33 p.m..

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the December 2015 minutes. A second was received. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

III. Senior Warden's Report

Jack Godbold began his report by commending the Human Resource Committee for their outstanding work.

Jack next reported some good news. A family from Saratoga has donated a house on Lake Murray to Trinity. The family attended the most recent Thomas Baptism and was impressed by Trinity. They were looking for a local place to donate the house and decided Trinity would be a great beneficiary.

The Parish Meeting will be held Sunday at 10:15 a.m. in the Workshop.

The Vestry Retreat will be February 26-27 at Camp Gravatt. Vestry and Finance 101 will be held on Thursday, February 25th, for all new Vestry Members.

Jack closed his report with gracious thank yous to all. Jack commented that it has been a privilege to serve with you.

IV. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

David Wolff offered an overview of the Balance Sheet for the Operating Fund and the Analysis of Revenue and Expenses. The bank balance at end of December was \$369,202. The line of credit balance was \$295,813. We had a gain of \$204,635 for the month of December. At the end of December, Trinity had received revenue of \$3,079,594 and incurred expenses of \$2,992,899, leaving us with a positive balance for the year of \$86,695. This includes the reinstated diocesan payment of \$375,834. Please note that \$55,000 in salary expense was not paid due to the fact that two positions remained unfilled at year end.

David then presented the 2016 Budget. The Budget Committee members were Howard Duvall, Donald Benson, Tim Jones, Dan Fritze, Jack Godbold, Norah Grimball, Emma Dean, David Wolff and Liz Summers. This committee met with leaders of ministries to hear about their areas and their budget requests. Wardens and Dean worked on very limited Personnel dollars, budget committee worked on the rest of the dollars. Because the pledges for 2016 were coming in slowly, the committee decided to delay presenting the 2016 budget until January. The proposed budget was presented to Finance Committee on January 20 and approved unanimously.

Highlights of the Budget include

- The declining number of pledges each year is making budgeting extremely difficult. For the 2014 budget, individual expense cuts were made and, when the budget still was not balanced, proportional neutrality was enacted. In 2015, the estimated pledges used in the budget did not materialize as expected so, in January and February, we made \$122,000 of cuts to the budget. For the 2016 budget, we are assuming a slightly lower pledge number than we actually received in 2015, although it is still higher than the pledges we have documented for 2016. We used four-year averages to project non-pledge member donations, open offerings, paid on prior year pledges and new member pledges.
- Total revenues and total expenses for 2016 are budgeted close to the adjusted 2015 levels. If actual revenues are better than forecasted, we can adjust the budget during 2016.
- The Diocesan Pledge is currently budgeted at \$396,000, which is less than the ask, what we paid in 2014, and what we paid in 2015 (\$410,000). We would like to increase this if actual revenues allow.
- There is a extremely limited amount of money available for salary increases and most employees will not see a salary increase for 2016 unless revenues outpace the forecast. Salary savings were assumed for several open positions, related to the timing of hiring and the experience level of applicants. The Interim Associate for Pastoral Care, which is a part-time position, was added to the budget. The Youth Advocate position was removed, pending the hiring of a leader for the Youth program.
- We were able to meet most of the ministry area requests, although we are encouraging them to use restricted funds when they are available and it makes sense. This will allow ministries to spend more cash than the budget permits, with the differences covered by designated funds that currently exist on the balance sheet. The total amount of Restricted Funding used in the 2016 budget is \$54,000 (1.8%)

The Finance Committee Report was closed with many compliments to Howard Duval for his wonderful work as Treasurer. Many thanks to Liz Summers as she steps down as Finance Committee Chair moves into the position of Treasurer.

Education and Christian Formation

Belton Zeigler reported that Adult Formation is progressing very well in the 2016-2017 program year. The Committee is working on refinements to the Sunday Curriculum and exploring new, creative strategies for communicating that curriculum. They are redesigning the planning process. The Weekday Offerings are showing growth and new energy. There is also an effort underway to re-launch the All Trinity Read groups.

Kaki Zeigler has begun offering administrative help on a part-time, volunteer basis. She has already proven herself invaluable. Bibs Babson has begun work as Director of Children and Family Ministries.

Parish Life, Fellowship and Archives

The Men of Trinity have had a busy year. They kicked off the year with USC head baseball coach, Chad Holbook. They led disaster relief for parishioners and the wider community during the devastating flooding in October. They hosted a fall BBQ, the Advent Celebration, and an Advent Drop In. The MOT continued with several Bibles studies and provided manpower for flood relief, the Trinity Bazaar and several service projects at St. Lawrence Place.

The Archives have made progress with conservation. A preservation proposal was accepted and work is underway. The digitization of documents being conserved was included in this proposal. This will allow scanned documents to be uploaded to the Trinity Website, greatly enhancing access. The entire process should be completed within the next couple of months. The estimated cost is \$26,269 and is covered by a grant from the Vernon Fund and two private donations.

The Young Adults Married and Single (YAMS) will be re-launched during Lent of this year with meetings every Tuesday at the Kraken on Rosewood Drive.

Kanuga Weekend will be February 5-7 with the theme of "Closer to God...Closer together."

The Vernon Scholars program is now under the leadership of Susan Heath and Dane Boston.

The kitchen continues to be an epicenter of good work and energy. The kitchen staff of volunteers under the guidance of Andrella Brunson is fully scheduled with scheduled weekly and monthly meals. Often a group within the congregation will make a special request which Andrella and her volunteers are more than willing to undertake – however, sometimes the request is made with notice of a week or less. Also, groups often ask for special things such as real china, silver and wine glasses. These all have to be hand washed at a volunteer's home. The sponsoring groups often do not appear to be involved in clean up. There is a strong need for a kitchen committee to help coordinate all of these efforts.

Stewardship

The Trinity Forward Campaign will begin anew January 24th at the Parish Meeting. Please continue to pray the Trinity Forward Prayer as we restart this exciting campaign. The committee will resume planning beginning with a meeting on February 18th with Joel Mikell.

Still Hopes

Frank Kinard reported that thanks to Hazel Fitzsimons, we now have a list of the 47 members of Trinity who are in the “independent living” category. Frank reports that he has enjoyed his time representing Still Hopes on the Vestry.

V. Deans Report

Dean Jones began by reporting that the ASA (average Sunday attendance) for December was the same as 2014, however ASA for the year was down. The actual membership is 40 people higher due to new families. The goal for the new year is for ASA to go back up. The Dean thanked Allison Cox for making the 3,762 new nametags that will be distributed this month.

Bibs Babson began work on January 1st. Tim and Dane Boston sat down with her today and are excited about the gifts and skills she brings to the Children’s program. Stay tuned for new energy and ideas.

New Vision- A Vibrant Place to experience God and make Christ known.

Search Committee- Lee Ayers will chair the search committee for the new Youth Leader. Please let us know if you hear about any thriving youth ministries.

Outreach Futures Committee – A new group that will anticipate needs for future outreach. A group that will think boldly and sensitively, working parallel to the current outreach committee.

Lenten Speakers will be exciting. Please come share in experience:

February 17 – The Reverend Jay Gamelin

February 24 – The Right Reverend Eugene Sutton

March 2 – The Reverend William “Billy” Shand

March 9 – The Reverend Fleming Rutledge

March 16 – The Reverend Will Willimon

March 23 – The Right Reverend Andrew Waldo

The Dean closed his report by thanking Dan and Jack for their dedicated service to the Vestry.

VI. Closing Prayer

Dean Jones closed the meeting with prayer.

VII. Adjourn

Jack Godbold adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wallis C. Bond, Clerk