

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Vestry Minutes
November 17, 2016

The following are the members of the 2016 Vestry. Names marked with an asterisk were present.

Vestry:

*April Allen	*Robert Key
Wallis Bond	Bill Matthews
*Allison Cox	Ryan Newton
*David Danforth, Junior Warden	*Chris Ray
Emma Dean	Peter Shand
Susie Dibble	*Andy Slaughter
*Walter Edgar	*Judy Cotchett Smith, Clerk
Margie Heggie Estefano	*Jonathan Vipperman
*Norah Grimball, Senior Warden	*David Wolff
Rocky Hughey	Belton Zeigler

Ex-officio:

Curtis Ott, Chancellor	*Joie Ray, Daughters of the Holy Cross
*Jack Godbold, Past Senior Warden	*David Sojourner, Trinity Foundation
*Ed Hickman, Still Hopes Representative	Liz Summers, Treasurer

Staff:

The Very Rev. Timothy Jones, Dean	The Rev. Canon Patsy Malanuk
*The Rev. Canon Charles Davis	The Rev. Ira Houck
	*Donald Benson, Canon for Administration

I. Opening Prayer

In the absence of Dean Jones, Canon Charles Davis opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30 p.m.

II. Approval of the October Minutes

Two corrections were noted in the Finance Committee Report. The gift from the Friends of Music was made for five years not three; September totals should show a \$9,256 loss for the month. The October minutes were approved as amended.

III. Vernon Committee Report

Norah Grimball recognized Mason Hardy for his report on 2017 grants approved from the Vernon Fund. Mason distributed a document outlining the distribution of \$101,381 in three separate categories: Christian Formation, Mission/Outreach and Facilities. All applicants for Vernon Funds received funding this year though recipients may not have received the total amount requested. Christian Formation grants awarded were \$20,00 for Vernon Scholars, \$12,000 for speakers for the Lenten Series, and \$4,531 for Kanuga Parish Weekend Rejuvenation.

Mission/Outreach grants awarded were \$16,250 for a Kitchen in Haiti, \$10,000 for The Family Shelter, and \$8,000 for Epworth Children's Home Independent Living Program. Facilities grants awarded were \$26,000 for year 2 of the Bathroom Renovation in the Education Building, and \$5,000 for the Welcome Center Communications Relocation. The grant allocation was approved last night at the Finance Committee. The Vestry voted to approve the Vernon Committee recommendations.

IV. Discussion

A. Bishop Waldo's Sermon

Norah asked members to comment on their reaction to reading Bishop Waldo's sermon that had been distributed in advance. The Bishop was admired for being brave to admit his lapse into "hate" speech in his youth. His telling of the story was met with rapt attention. It was noted how humanizing the admission is because lay people hold priests to a high standard, when they are also human. It was acknowledged that all have likely represented hate and evil in one way or another. Charles Davis said the Canon staff discussed this during their meeting this week and recognized the division between "us" versus "them" and how we must all strive to be what God calls us to be, disciples.

B. Further Thoughts on Vestry Pledging

Vestry members engaged Donald Benson in discussion about the broad interpretation that "known to the Treasurer" presents contrasted with the need for greater awareness by Vestry and the congregation of the need for pledges to develop and maintain a sound budget for the cathedral. Norah read the language as written in the national Canons. Following additional conversation, the Vestry reached agreement to refer the question of language clarification to the Bylaws Committee for its consideration.

V. Report of the Executive Committee

A. Senior Warden's Report

- a. Norah reported the Employee Handbook rolled out last week and was well received by the staff. They have a week to review it and sign their disclaimer notice.
- b. The Dean and Senior Warden completed Letters of Agreement for Wayne Kinyon and Patsy Malanuk.
- c. Bob Riegel's health is improving and he has been working about 10 hours a week in pastoral care.
- d. Personnel searches continue.
- e. Suggestions for changes to the bylaws should be forwarded to Norah.

VI. Committee and Other Reports

A. Finance Committee Report

David Wolff reported that the Friends of Music has made its contribution to the organ maintenance endowment in one lump sum rather than waiting to spread the contribution across five years. The Budget Committee begins its meeting with Ministry heads who are asking for the same amounts as last year. Each was asked to suggest what can be cut if it were needed. The committee voted to make all Restricted Accounts to be Board Restricted unless they are specifically Donor

Restricted. The auditor agrees with the decision. The “board” in this case is the Finance Committee. Stewardship calls have been made to 230 people who usually pledge but have not pledged yet. Trinity Forward campaign contributions for October were approximately \$26,000.

1. Report of the Treasurer

In the absence of Liz Summers, David reported that October revenues were better than September’s, but there was still a net loss for the month. The year-to-date loss is (\$36,938).

Balance Sheet

Total cash at October 31, 2016 was \$91,747. The Restricted Funds continue to provide cash for operations as the Operating Cash account was in a negative position (\$254,726) at the end of October. The \$1,000,000 line of credit had a balance of \$0 at October 31, and the Due to Trinity Forward line item remained at \$279,220. This Due To account will be reduced as Trinity Forward payments earmarked for Debt Service are received.

Income Statement

Income for October was higher than what was collected in September. Total Revenues were \$61,243 behind same time last year. Lower Contribution Revenues contributed to \$52,533 of the decline. Expenditures for building maintenance and equipment to date are \$153,489. Much of this was spent to replace/repair various HVAC units, the floor in the sacristy and the damaged spire. Expenses through October were \$176,710 lower than same time last year. \$163,000 of this decline is due to lower Personnel Expenses, related mostly to position that remain unfilled or were unfilled for some portion of the year. The net loss through October is (\$36,938).

Restricted Funds

There was a positive inflow of Restricted Funds during October, primarily pledges paid in advance and donations to Friends of Music. Restricted Funds balances at October 31, 2016 were 28 percent lower than the January 1, 2016 balances.

B. Communications

In Bill Matthews’ absence, the written report was accepted as information.

C. Liturgy, Prayer & Music

The written Music Report provided a thorough overview of the extensive music activities. Charles noted that the church intends to acquire a full set of new white Vestments by Easter for the Cathedral which will cost about \$7,000-\$8,000. He was encouraged to communicate this to the congregation in case someone would like to make a memorial gift of them. There were many comments about the appropriateness of having a “memorial wish list” for ongoing reference.

VI. Closing Prayer

Charles closed the meeting with prayer at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cotchett Smith
Clerk