

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral
Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry
Thursday, January 17, 2019

Members Present: The Very Rev. Evelyn Hornaday, Interim Dean; Paula Henderson Connors, Senior Warden; Terri Curran, Junior Warden; Jonathan Sternberg, Clerk; Phyllis Biddle; Jackye Finnie; Donna Knoell; Candy McDowell; Ron Michka; Milt Tootle.

Absent: Tara Bennett; Sharon Cheers; Ryan Thomas.

Others Present: Steve Moore, Chancellor; Chuck Ritter, Treasurer; Julie Toma, Cathedral Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. in the Common Room. Mother Evelyn opened in prayer.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Jonathan Sternberg presented the minutes from December 13, 2018. Chuck Ritter and Ron Michka offered small changes, which Jonathan made. Donna Knoell moved to approve the minutes with Chuck and Ron's changes. Terri Curran seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. Treasurer's Report

Chuck Ritter presented the December 2018 and year-end numbers. Pledges in December 2018 were \$91,000, only \$29,000 of which was pre-paying for 2019, though this did not drive the \$91,000. Chuck said this was the best monthly pledge number he could remember. Chuck said the \$29,000 part of the December 2018 pledge that was for 2019 only could affect the 2019 budget numbers if far less than that came in in December 2019.

Chuck said the Kroll Trust bailed us out in 2018, but not as much as usual. Endowment-to-operating was down from usual, which is good. We also pulled out money for Mother Evelyn's pension, which wasn't part of the 2018 budget because we didn't have her contract until April. In terms of expenses, clergy support (the pension) was up, property was light because repairs were low, education was low, and parish life was light because pastoral care and communications were lower due to lower printing costs.

While last month Chuck hoped we could keep the budget deficit to \$20,000, we actually wound up with a \$27,000 surplus for the year, which could be attributed to very good expense control by the staff. For the endowment, we use a three-year moving average to determine the draw. These year-end numbers don't affect 2019 but will affect 2020.

Chuck said that one last thing that came up with the Finance Committee is we didn't remember the Vestry ever approving expenses for the website. So, the Finance Committee paid it out of the property account. In talking with Mother Evelyn, it was suggested the Finance Committee ask the Vestry to approve up to \$15,000 for the new website. Terri Curran moved to approve up to \$15,000 for the website, and that the Finance Committee decide the source of the funds to be used. Donna Knoell seconded the motion. Chuck and Evelyn said the reason this did not come up to the Vestry before was the contract and terms hadn't yet been decided. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. Website presentation

Melissa Scheffler presented the in-progress new website. The Vestry thanked her for her hard work and asked many questions and voiced concerns about the content and usability of the website.

Ron Michka, Paula Henderson Connors, Candy McDowell, and Jonathan Sternberg agreed that they would get together as a website subcommittee to further the new website and hopefully have a site plan idea by February 1.

4. Annual Meeting

Mother Evelyn and Paula Henderson Connors presented the plan for the Annual Meeting. It already was decided only to have one service, at 10:15 a.m. The Annual Meeting will be held during the service in the Nave, at which we'll present the candidates, the vote will be held, and the Vestry will be presented, all in the Nave, after which the service then will continue, and a reception then will take place in Founders Hall.

Some Vestry members voiced concerns about this change in format, suggesting instead that the Annual Meeting simply should be done as it always has, with the meeting *after* the 10:15 a.m. service. Milt Tootle suggested that two hours in the Nave might be a lot of sitting and difficult for some people. Mother Evelyn said this was just a trial, and this was "a time to try stuff." If it doesn't work out, we can always not do it again.

Steve Moore, Ron Michka, and Milt Tootle also voiced concern that someone needs to be checking to make sure that everyone in the Nave, who will be voting, is a “communicant in good standing” (i.e., a pledging member), because those are the only people eligible to vote. Paula agreed she had not thought about the visitor angle. Chuck Ritter suggested this was not a big deal, because it can be announced at the beginning. Steve Moore just wanted to make sure controls were in place to comply with the bylaws. Candy, Paula, and Steve argued that the ballots should not be placed in the bulletins, for obvious reasons.

Jonathan Sternberg moved to try it the new way. Terri Curran seconded. The motion passed by voice vote with one vote in opposition.

Mother Evelyn said that the list of candidates for Vestry and their bios would go out to the congregation this week. The candidates are Sharon Cheers, Bill Colvin, Karen Kissinger, Jeff Johnson, Kristen Johnson, Richard Morse, Mattie Ransom, and Ric Sweeting.

5. Dean Search

Paula Henderson Connors presented the Dean Search update. The Search Committee is preparing the search portfolio to be submitted to the national Church. A great deal will be taken from the Cathedral Conversations that were held. The subcommittee working on it has finished that, and the whole search committee will vote on it, with it being completed by the end of this month. The Parish Profile will be completed in February. Getting nine people together for regular meetings is a challenge.

Mother Evelyn and Paula presented the proposed job description for the new Dean, which the Executive Committee met last week and put together. This was based on the one for Peter DeVeau’s search, though with many changes, especially to the “Skills, Abilities and Attributes” section.

Milt Tootle objected that this should have been given to the Vestry long before, not now for the first time at the meeting. Paula agreed that was a good point. Milt said he hoped the members of the Vestry would insist on being treated as a decision-making body and given the opportunity to decide this sort of matter in a timely fashion.

The Vestry discussed the draft job description. Ron Michka suggested something be included about the “partner” relationship desired between the new dean and the parishioners. Mother Evelyn proposed the idea of handling this at the

Vestry retreat coming up February 22-23, making these Dean search issues 90% of what will be handled and decided. A discussion ensued about when to hold the Vestry retreat, and if those dates work, and the consensus was to keep the retreat on those dates. Candy proposed that anyone who had proposed changes to the proposed Dean job description get them to everyone by Friday, February 15. Mother Evelyn agreed this needs work and study.

6. Other business

Mother Evelyn and Chuck Ritter announced that David Telep will be our new Treasurer.

Milt Tootle proposed a resolution to formally thank Chuck Ritter for his hard work as our treasurer all these years. Donna Knoell seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Adjourned with closing prayer at 7:31 p.m. The next meeting of the Vestry will be at the Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 27, 2019.