

Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral
Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry
Tuesday, December 17, 2019

Members Present: The Very Rev. Andy Keyse, Dean; Paula Henderson Connors, Senior Warden; Phyllis Biddle, Sharon Cheers, Jeff Johnson, Kristen Ellis Johnson (acting Secretary); Donna Knoell, Candy McDowell; Ron Michka, Richard Morse; Ryan Thomas;

Members Absent: Terri Curran, Junior Warden; Jonathan Sternberg, Clerk

Others present: David Telep, Treasurer; Steve Moore, Chancellor; David Barker (Building & Grounds Committee)

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. in the Common Room by Father Andy, who opened with the evening order of worship.

1. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Kristen Ellis Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2019 meeting, as presented. Donna Knoell seconded the motion. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. Financial Report

David Telep, Treasurer, presented the financial report. Though pledge and plate collections have been down from the budget, offsets in spending have helped resolve the year with only a \$17,000 deficit. Candy McDowell moved to approve the financial report and Donna Knoell seconded the motion. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

David noted his desire to preserve our attention related to several outstanding items which were previously tabled: (1) the Beale's Trust resolution; (2) the unrestricted bequest resolution; (3) the discussion regarding approval of TIF for LED lighting.

3. Budget Recommendation – David Telep, Treasurer

David Telep, Treasurer, presented a confidential handout regarding the work of the budget committee to provide context for the proposed budget. The budget committee consisted of twelve parishioners, including Canon Dorn, David Telep, and four members of the Vestry (Paula Connors, Terri Curran, Sharon Cheers, Ron Michka). The committee met four times in October and November to discuss and revise multiple versions of a "strawman" budget. Each committee member met with one or two ministry leaders to discuss the proposed budget requests.

The proposed budget was presented to the Vestry to include an approximate \$46,000 deficit. The proposed budget also anticipated \$45,000 in currently unfunded sources related to gifts and bequests. Several measures to create alternative funding were presented related to New Ministries, Property, Memorial Fund, Music Guild, and Vestry Discretionary fund, which required specific Vestry approval. There was discussion related to the Diocesan Assessment and Jackson County taxes related to the Streetcar assessment district. Jeff Johnson raised concern regarding the amount proposed to use from the endowment to balance the budget in addition to the

deficit. It was noted that even without an approved budget, the Cathedral will still continue operating, and would require a special resolution of the Vestry to do so.

Candy McDowell moved to approve the budget as presented. Donna Knoell seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the measure did not pass according to the following vote:

Yea – 3

Nay – 7

A follow up meeting will occur January 16th related to the budget, and Dean Keyse will take the lead to present a new budget. It was noted that the annual meeting is slated to occur January 26th (the fourth Sunday in January). A draft resolution for January operations will be circulated by e-mail for vote, and must be unanimously approved to carry forward.

4. Stewardship

Steve Moore, Stewardship Chair, presented his report. 121 Pledges have been received for 2020, at an overall increased amount compared to this time last year. 57 Pledges are the same as 2019, 34 have increased their pledges and 16 have decreased pledges. We have received 14 new pledges and 33 pledges have not been renewed totaling \$80,640. Steve estimates our total pledge amount will fall in the \$430-440 range. The Vestry is grateful for Steve's hard work during the Stewardship campaign.

5. Dean's Report – Andy

The installation service for Father Andy will occur January 9, 2020 at 7 p.m. with a reception to follow. The choir will be in attendance and it should be a very festive event. Father Andy has extended invitations to many clergy and ecumenical and civic leaders and requests that the Vestry also extend invitations.

The Dean discussed the desire to send attendees to the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes (CEEP) Conference in February 2020 in Louisville, Kentucky. He recommends we send at least three members, possibly the new Senior Warden, parish administrator, and others who would benefit from this helpful conference. This expense has historically been paid from the endowment. Discussion ensued and additional details are needed.

Finally, the Dean noted that there were large crowds at the many wonderful Advent events during December (Paul Mesner Puppets Nativity, City Come Again partnership with William Jewell College, William Baker Festival Singers concert, the Messiah Sing-a-Long, and Lessons & Carols. Sharon Cheers noted her thanks for the volunteers needed to make these events possible and successful and noted the continued need for a parish coordinator to ensure these outreach opportunities are not lost.

6. Canon's Report – Christy

7. Jr. Warden Report – Terri

The Junior Warden's report was submitted in writing outlining several community outreach events during the past month. 35 women attended the luncheon and assembled 58 treat bags for Crittendon residential children (plus 175 others Yvonne Telep had prepared for the foster children) and 275 treat bags for the BackSnack students. Many volunteers also helped assemble BackSnack bags on Sunday.

The Cathedral is donating lots of winter gear (boots, jackets, vests, sweatshirts, and socks) to the free store this weekend. Ten Cathedral members are volunteering to help serve lunch to about 300 people. John Spicer will preside at the service before lunch in the Nave.

The Cathedral has donated 168 pounds of food for the pantry at St. Mary's. The Cathedral sponsored New American Students from Northeast Middle School to a field trip to Crown Center for skating.

January 2020 begins the first diaper drive for Happy Bottoms, the only diaper bank in Kansas City.

The Nominating Committee expressed concern for the deadline to apply for a Vestry position, which passed December 15. There are currently only three persons who meet the requirements who have been nominated, and we have four open spots. Please encourage applicants and nominations.

8. Sr. Warden Report – Paula

We welcomed our new Dean, Andrew Keyse on December 1 and are preparing for his Celebration of New Ministry on January 9, 2020 - followed by a festive reception in Founders Hall. Budget discussions have been held with the Budget and Executive Committees through the months of October, November and early part of December, the results of which were presented to the Vestry by David Telep as part of his Treasurer's report to the Vestry during our December meeting. The next regular Vestry meeting will occur January 16 at 5:30 (moved up from Jan. 23 due to Annual Meeting).

9. Old and New Business –

David Barker, of the Buildings and Grounds committee presented his report. The air conditioning in Founder's Hall needs a new chiller. They have received two very different bids and need to provide additional information to ensure they are comparing the same work.

The doors east of the font are not properly locking and need repair. They are to be locked during the service.

Richard Morse asked that the following resolution be included in the minutes:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Vestry of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City, Missouri, that the Vestry commends and thanks the Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral Dean Search Committee for its hard work, diligence, and prayerful success, which led to the selection of Father Andrew Keyse as the ninth Dean of the Cathedral.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.