Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry Thursday, November 21, 2019

Members Present: The Rev. Canon Christy Dorn, Priest-in-Charge; Paula Henderson Connors, Senior Warden; Terri Curran, Junior Warden; Jonathan Sternberg, Clerk; Phyllis Biddle; Sharon Cheers; Jeff Johnson; Kristen Ellis Johnson; Donna Knoell; Candy McDowell; Ron Michka; Richard Morse; Ryan Thomas.

Others present: David Telep, Treasurer; Steve Moore, Chancellor.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room by Canon Dorn, who opened in prayer.

1. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Jonathan Sternberg presented the minutes from the previous Vestry meeting on October 30, 2019; Candy made. Several amendments were suggested. Ron Michka moved to approve as amended; Candy McDowell seconded. Approved as amended by unanimous voice vote.

2. Financial Report

David Telep, Treasurer, presented the financial report. For pledge, we're \$73,000 behind budget, and with plate and others we're down \$118,000 from budget. But on the plus side, we're not spending as much money. We're offset greatly, which is partly by Mother Evelyn and Marco Serrano being gone, but also from property: \$56,000 savings, \$25,000 in repairs alone. This says a lot about staff and Dave Barker over the past years putting things in order. So, the total down from budget is only \$24,000 year-to-date. Parish Life spending is down because we had budgeted for a coordinator that did not occur.

We did get \$50,000 from the Crowell fund, which was toward the lower end of what was possible for us to receive.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, David proposed a resolution for the Beals Trust: that the wording for the plaque for the windows be, "The Cathedral stained glass windows renovation of 2018-2019 is in memory of David T. and Jeanne Beals and in thanks to Bank of America."

Candy McDowell proposed the wording be amended to be:

The Vestry and Parishioners of
Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral
are grateful for the industry, stewardship, and generosity of
David T. and Jeanne Beals

Which made possible the 2018-2019 renovation of the Stained-Glass Windows.

Candy stated reasons for why she believed Bank of America should not be mentioned on the plaque. A discussion ensued. Jonathan Sternberg moved to table this for the next meeting for the Finance Committee to study the wording. Ryan Thomas seconded. The motion to table passed by unanimous voice vote.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, David also proposed a resolution for unrestricted bequest distributions. The resolution proposed that for unrestricted bequests, they be distributed as follows: UMB Trust 2: 40%; the William T. Kemper Cathedral Memorial Fund Trust: 40%; the Vestry Discretionary MMK Holding: 20%. He gave reasons for this proposal, noting it always had been the unwritten policy and this was just memorializing it. But he acknowledged that it hadn't been done for everything.

Candy McDowell proposed that this be amended to be no less than 50% to the endowment, no less than 20% to the Vestry discretionary fund, and the remaining 30% to however the Vestry determines at the time the bequest is received. She presented reasons why she thought this was a good idea. Richard Morse moved to table this for future discussion. Phyllis Biddle seconded. The motion to table passed by unanimous voice vote.

David also discussed the ongoing budgeting process with the Budget Committee. He described the methods resulting in the budget proposals, noting that what's hitting us hard is the lack of pledges and plate, not talking about growing but just staying where we are. They're continuing to work and are putting together a third budget with more savings, but still resulting in a substantial deficit. These are quite some deficits to close.

3. Stewardship

Steve Moore, Stewardship Chair, presented the 2020 annual campaign report. The average pledge is the same as usual, but the total is considerably up from previous years, a 20% increase from last year. Some are nice new pledges, many are increased pledges. A discussion ensued.

4. Priest-in-Charge Report

Canon Dorn presented a letter from the Bishop thanking us for hosting the Diocesan Convention, as well as a resolution thanking us.

Sharon Cheers reported on Deacon Brian England's status in hospice and that he is comfortable, and requested that we keep him and his wife, Linda, in our prayers.

5. Junior Warden's Report

Terri Curran, Junior Warden, reported that we delivered 72 winter coats to Woodland. She also reported we received a \$1,000 grant that will be going to the Global Birthing Center in Haiti. She reported on other ongoing projects, including Backsnack and preparing treats for Crittenden Center. In November we collected 234 pounds of food for St. Mary's, which is down for the year, but we've added outreach to communications.

6. Senior Warden's Report

Paula Henderson Connors, Senior Warden, brought the Executive Committee's changes to the September 2019 minutes. Candy McDowell moved to strike the existing September 2019 minutes and replace them with these other minutes. Ryan Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Father Andy will be with us on December 1. Per his request the next Vestry meeting, which will include him, will be Tuesday, December 17.

7. Other Business

None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Vestry will be Tuesday, December 17.