

MINUTES
TRINITY CHURCH ON THE GREEN PARISH MEETING
January 26, 2014

Present: The Rev. Dr. Luk De Volder, Rector, and the attached list of parishioners.

Opening Prayer:

The Rev. Luk De Volder led the opening prayer and called the meeting to order.

Annual Meeting Notices:

The Clerk verified that notices of the meeting had been published as required.

Roll of Members:

A list of members was circulated for signature to confirm those present, constituting a quorum of at least 68.

Committee to Approve Minutes of January 20, 2013, Meeting

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Vestry officers be appointed to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on January 26, 2014; the motion passed unanimously.

Election of Vestry Members:

Qualifications for Voting:

The Rector outlined the qualifications for voting, namely, persons sixteen years and above in age who have been attending Trinity Church on the Green for not less than six months and who contribute to the life of Trinity.

Nominating Committee Report:

The Clerk introduced the following candidates for nomination to the Vestry: Marjorie Eichler, Mary Greaney-Mead, Charles Lemert, Richard Mammana, Robert Orr, Sheila Owen, Charlotte Rea, Mary Ellen Savage, Sarah Woodford. Also introduced as candidates were Jack Tebes and Lisa Omark, Wardens; Allan Atherton, Treasurer; Carolyn Gould, Clerk; Murray Harrison and Michael Reynolds, Delegates to the Deanery and Diocesan Convention; and David Phelps and Deborah Johnson, Alternate Delegates to the Deanery and Diocesan Convention.

Election:

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Clerk cast one vote for the entire slate as nominated; the Motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of the Nominating Committee:

Pursuant to the Bylaws, Article VII, Section 4, ¶¶ 1 and 2, third-year Vestry members and the Senior Warden constitute the Nominating Committee for the Vestry Elections at the Annual Parish Meeting in January, 2015. It was MOVED and SECONDED that third-year Vestry members be appointed as the Nominating Committee; the Motion passed unanimously.

A recess was taken for lunch in the Undercroft.

Thanks to the Hospitality Committee:

The Rector expressed thanks to the Hospitality Committee, Liz Dickinson, Chair, for its work in presenting the luncheon, which was roundly applauded.

Treasurer's Presentation of the 2013 Financial Report and 2014 Budget:

Allan Atherton, Treasurer, reported anticipated expenditures of \$1,640,000 in 2014. Although pledges are expected to increase in 2014, it will be necessary to withdraw about 8% of the 7-year rolling average value of the endowment, in large part due to payment of a loan due in the amount of \$150,000 in 2014 and increased cost of health insurance for employees as mandated by the Diocese. He pointed to a systemic gap of about \$200,000 between income and expenses. Although the value of the endowment has increased from \$9.6 million at the end of 2011 to \$12 million at the end of 2013, the value has not increased in line with market conditions, leading to erosion in spending power. Al invited those with questions to contact him. The Rector expressed his thanks to Al for his work as Treasurer and in preparing Trinity's budget.

Wardens' Reports:

Warner Marshall, retiring Senior Warden, remarked on a new sense of direction and confidence at Trinity, as everyone has participated in a new start, with increased outreach, extraordinary music, and new ways of welcoming newcomers.

Jack Tebes, Junior Warden, give recognition to the Rector, an inspiring leader who is warm and caring and values all parts of the Trinity community, and to Warner, notable as a "decent, talented and humble" person. Jack looks forward to working with Lisa Omark as Warden in the coming year.

Report of the Grants Committee:

Bob Windom and Len Schiraldi reported on the institution of new methods for examining applications for grants. They expressed thanks to the congregation for enabling Trinity to support health care, housing and education in the community and abroad.

Rector's Report:

The Rector expressed general thanks to all Trinity members for their support. He looks for a team message of "come and see" as a plan in 2014 for "a balanced Christian life", focusing on the care of Trinity's community members and a wider outreach in the community. He stressed the importance of the Trinity community and personal communication by claiming the words, "come and see". The Rector thanked all the members of the staff who work behind the scenes and the outgoing Vestry for their service. He looks forward to working with the Vestry and Wardens in a "wonderful and joyful adventure", and commented on his gratitude for Jack's tact, understanding and leadership. As a thank you to Warner as he retires as Warden and for his work during four pivotal years for Trinity, the Rector offered a poem by Walt Whitman:

O Me! O Life!

Oh me! Oh life! Of the questions of these recurring,
Of the endless trains of the faithless, of cities fill'd with the foolish,
Of myself forever reproaching myself, (for who more foolish than I, and who more
faithless?)
Of eyes that vainly crave the light, of the objects mean, of the struggle ever
renew'd,
Of the poor results of all, of the plodding and sordid crowds I see around me,
Of the empty and useless years of the rest, with the rest me intertwined,
The question, O me! So sad, recurring – What good amid these, O me, O life?

Answer

That you are here – that life exists and identity,
That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse.

Resolutions:

- It was MOVED and SECONDED that the 2014 budget report be accepted; the Motion passed unanimously.
- It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Vestry be empowered (1) to set staff salaries; (2) to buy and sell real estate and/or securities; (3) to lend or borrow money; the Motion passed unanimously.

- It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Treasurer and Wardens be authorized to open and maintain accounts with banks and brokers, and to deal with them directly on behalf of the Parish of Trinity Church; the Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements:

The Rector announced the successful candidates for the 2015 Vestry, as follows: Marjorie Eichler, Richard Mammana, Robert Orr, Charlotte Rea, Mary Ellen Savage, and Sarah Woodford (who will serve a term of one year to replace Lisa Omark as she takes the position of Warden).

Closing Hymn:

Those present joined in singing the hymn, “My hope is built on nothing less”.

Closing Prayer:

The Rector led a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Gould, Parish Clerk

Attachments:

Annual Parish Meeting Agenda