

MINUTES
TRINITY VESTRY MEETING
November 16, 2015

A meeting of the 2016 Vestry was held in the Trinity Choir Room on November 16, 2015.

Present: The Rev. Dr. Luk De Volder; The Rev. Rowena Kemp; Jack Tebes, Senior Warden; Lisa Omark, Junior Warden; David Soper, Treasurer; Carolyn Gould, Clerk; Duo Dickinson; Marge Eichler; Barbara Hedberg; Karen Isaacs; David Jenkins; Peter Jongbloed; Charles Kaywood; Charlotte Rae; Mary Ellen Savage; Glen Segger.

QUICK VIEW

Decisions made;

- **Approved Minutes of October 19, 2015, meeting, as corrected**
- **Ratified electronic vote approving items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of “Proposed Revisions to the Trinity Church on the Green Bylaws 2015 (as of 11.10.15)” (attached)**
- **Approved the 2016 Budget (attached)**
- **Approved the 2016 Clergy Housing allowances resolutions (attached)**
- **Approved the recommendation of the Investment Committee to invest 30% of Trinity’s fixed income portfolio in international investments.**

Tasks identified:

- **Attendance of Heather Tookes, Investment Committee Chair, at January Vestry meeting**
- **Host ordination of Tuesday Rupp to the Diaconate on January 9, 2016**

The Rector opened the meeting at 5:30.

Chuck Kaywood offered an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes of October 19, 2015, Meeting (see attached):

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the minutes of the Vestry meeting held on October 19, 2015, be approved. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Bylaws Discussion: Charlotte Rae summarized the 8 amendments to the Trinity Church on the Green Bylaws, which had been proposed by the Bylaws Committee and voted upon by the Vestry electronically. Of the 8 amendments, 7 passed (item 2 per the attached “Vestry Voting on Proposed Revisions to the Trinity Church on the Green Bylaws 2015 (as of 11.10.15)”, circulated with the Vestry meeting Agenda, failed to pass; item 1 was passed as modified at the October 19, 2015, Vestry Meeting). There was further general discussion of the amendments to the Bylaws and their

implementation. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the vote on passage of items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 be ratified by the Vestry. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Rector's Report: The Rector reported that ordination of Tuesday Rupp, who was endorsed by Trinity for the Transitional Diaconate, will take place at Trinity on January 9, 2016. The Trinity Choir of Men and Girls will sing at the ordination. The Rector announced that the Church of the Ascension in New Haven was deconsecrated on October 30, 2015. That church was no longer an operating parish, so that certain endowment funds redound to Trinity's benefit. At the recent Diocesan Convention, Trinity's Assistant Rector, the Rev. Rowena Kemp, was elected to the Diocese Standing Committee.

Report on Diocesan Convention and Restructuring: The Assistant Rector reported to the Vestry on the renewal of the Diocesan structure, a process which has taken place over the past few years. She described the spirit of collaboration which had taken place in the Taskforce for Reimagining the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (TREC-CT). That group, which began in 2013, proposed to eliminate the deanery system, which had not been fully operational in recent years. Under the proposal, which passed at the Diocesan Convention, the state would be divided into 6 regions. Trinity will be in the South Central Region, consisting of around 25 to 30 churches. The new structure will allow for greater collaboration and exchange of ideas, so that parishes may work together and form "ministry networks" of 2 to 3 churches around particular concerns. Each region will have a Missionary to facilitate meetings and point to resources. There will be a Mission Council, replacing the Executive Council, with access to Missionary Society endowment funds for grants to the regions. It is felt that these changes will lead to opportunities for evangelism.

Ministry Teams:

Membership Care: The Senior Warden, Jack Tebes, reported that there will be a discussion on the topic of Trinity's welcoming initiatives and safety at the Forum between services on November 29, 2015. Charles Lemert will be the preacher on that Sunday. Following the service, there will be a Roundtable Outreach Meeting in the Undercroft to discuss outreach to those in need.

Outreach and Chapel on the Green:

Flu Clinic: Marge Eichler reported that a Flu Shot Clinic was held on the Green on Sunday, October 15, 2015. There were 3 RNs present, 2 who took blood pressures and 1 who performed glucose screening. Marge stated that all of those screened had high blood pressure and there were several with both high blood pressure and high blood glucose. Individuals were referred as appropriate. It was discovered that many had difficulty completing the forms presented to them, so that there will be additional assistance in this regard at next year's clinic. There were 15 flu shots administered, and it is anticipated that there will be increased numbers next year.

Administrative Operations:

Treasurer's Report: David Soper, Treasurer, reviewed the 2016 Budget and "Trinity Church on the Green 2016 Budget Review" (attached). Replacement of lights in the sanctuary with LED bulbs on December 5 will likely reduce that cost in 2016. There is a need for a new database system which

would provide administrative efficiencies and consistencies among various mailing lists. A committee consisting of Lisa Omark, Junior Warden, Glen Segger, Doris Manseau, the Rev. Kemp, Sarah Woodford, Murray Harrison, David Rivera and Eleanor Tignor is working on improving the parish data base.

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the 2016 Budget be approved. The motion PASSED unanimously. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Clergy Housing Resolutions for 2016 be approved (see attached). The motion PASSED unanimously.

Stewardship: To date, pledges of \$368,000 have been received, representing 71% of the goal, with the average pledge increased over last year. Jack Tebes and Mary Ellen Savage reported that there are 116 pledges and 13 partnerships which have been received, which is on track with previous years. A follow-up letter was sent out last week to those who had previously pledged but had not yet pledged this year. Mary Ellen expressed the Stewardship Committee's thanks to the Rector and David Jenkins for lending their digital publishing and printing skills to the stewardship materials.

Investment Committee: Chuck Kaywood presented the recommendation of Trinity's Vanguard representative, who discussed that with the Investment Committee. The Investment Committee agreed with the recommendation that Trinity "add an international component representing 30% of the fixed income portfolio" in order to further diversify fixed income exposure and recommended that the Vestry approve the suggestion from Vanguard regarding reallocation of assets. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Vestry approve the recommendation of the Investment Committee to invest 30% of Trinity's fixed income portfolio in international investments. The motion PASSED unanimously, with Chuck Kaywood abstaining. Heather Tookes, Chair of the Investment Committee, will attend the January Vestry meeting.

Nomination Team: The Nominating Committee, consisting of Peter Jongbloed, Duo Dickinson, Chuck Kaywood, Barb Hedberg, Cris Sigovich, and Jack Tebes (retiring Vestry Members and Warden), has followed up with 30 people. Of these, 2 have agreed to run for Vestry, 4 are still considering, 12 said "no", and 12 more are in process. The goal is to have at least 5 to fill the 5 open Vestry positions.

The next Vestry meeting will be held on December 14, 2015 (the 2nd Monday, rather than the usual 3rd Monday).

The Rector announced that Jane Kellogg will be celebrating her 90th birthday this month and offered birthday wishes.

All continue to keep the Jongbloed family in prayers following the passing of Donald Jongbloed. The funeral service for Donald Jongbloed will be held at Trinity on November 28, 2015, at 11 AM.

The Vestry joined in singing "Happy Birthday" to Lisa Omark.

The Rev. Rowena Kemp noted that today marked the one-year anniversary of her coming to Trinity Church and expressed her thanks for the blessing of being at Trinity.

Chuck Kaywood led a closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Gould, Parish Clerk

Upcoming Dates:

December 14, 2015: Next Vestry Meeting

Prayers, Chuck Kaywood

Snacks, Chuck Kaywood, Ellen Freiler, Karen Isaacs

December 20: Coffee Hour, Chuck Kaywood, Ellen Freiler, Karen Isaacs

Attachments:

Vestry Agenda

Minutes of October 19, 2015, Vestry Meeting

Trinity Church on the Green Financial Review

Trinity Church on the Green 2016 Budget Review

Vestry Voting on Proposed Revisions to the Trinity Church on the Green Bylaws 2015 (as of 11.10.15)