

MINUTES
TRINITY VESTRY MEETING
January 18, 2016

A meeting of the 2016 Vestry was held in the Trinity Undercroft on January 18, 2016.

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; David Assis; Duo Dickinson; Ellen Freiler; Barbara Hedberg; Karen Isaacs; David Jenkins; Peter Jongbloed; Charles Kaywood; Richard Mammana; Robert Orr; Charlotte Rea; Mary Ellen Savage; Glen Segger.

QUICK VIEW

Decisions made;

- **Approved Minutes of December 14, 2016, meeting, as corrected**
- **Approved Agenda for Annual Parish Meeting on January 31, 2016**

Tasks identified:

- **Finance Committee to calculate costs in relation to models for the future in “Where is God Calling Us To Go”**

The Rector opened the meeting at 5:35.

Duo Dickinson offered an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes of December 14, 2015, Meeting (see attached):

The minutes of the December 14, 2015 meeting were corrected to reflect that the endowment value as of the end of November was just under \$11.3 million and the spelling of Vestry members' names. It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the minutes of the Vestry meeting held on December 14, 2015, be approved as corrected. The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Rector's Report: The Rector expressed thanks to all who supported the Interfaith Service on Sunday, January 17, especially Barbara Lamb and Caren Carpenter. He reported on the collaboration with Columbus House, which has resulted in assignment of caseworkers who will be present at Trinity on Sundays and available at other times. He announced the appointment of Samantha Butler as the new Chapel on the Green Coordinator.

The Rector circulated a document entitled “Where is God Calling Us to Go?” (copy attached), which outlines models for future strategies for Trinity. He stated that Trinity is now ready to talk about program planning and its effect on the Trinity community. Four possible models for Trinity's future are set forth and were summarized by the Rector. The Vestry will discuss these further at the Vestry

Retreat in February and with the Parish in the coming year, to hear arguments for and against each. The Finance Committee will begin to calculate the costs of the alternatives. The entire Parish will be given the opportunity to participate in the conversation about the future.

Membership Care: Jack Tebes reported on the Outreach Ministry. There was a good turnout for the recent meeting, and there is a homeless outreach team of 21 volunteers. The two Columbus House caseworkers will act as professional resources to the team.

Properties: Duo Dickinson issued a reminder about the Bicentennial Evensong to be held on January 24, with four choirs participating. In February, a concert by Chelsea Berry will be held at Trinity. Also, on April 23, the Orchestra New England will make an entertaining and historically accurate presentation. Bids have been received from 4 sources for restoration of the steps in front of the church, three of which are within two to three percent of each other; the project will be on or near the budget. The spandrel trim project has been 90% covered by the sale of the Trinity artifacts. The Holiday Bazaar will dedicate its proceeds to the steps in order to cover the cost fully over the next few years.

Treasurer's Report: David Soper, Treasurer, reviewed the "Trinity Church on the Green Financial Review" (attached), representing figures through December, 2015. The 2016 budget shows an operating deficit of almost \$149,000. At year-end 2015, there will be a net cash surplus of over \$147,000, which includes \$54,000 in gifts and bequests and more than \$32,000 in choir activity funds. Revenue was strong in all categories in 2015, and the Holiday Bazaar raised over \$36,000. There were savings in personnel expenses, and programs were under budget, including items for the music program and paid singers. Utilities were under budget due to the mild winter and a dramatic decline in the electric bill on account of replacement of the light bulbs. Office expenses increased in 2015 because of the purchase of new computers and copier. A high cash balance at year-end will assist with anticipated expenses in 2016 and minimize the need to withdraw immediately from the endowment.

Stewardship: Mary Ellen Savage reported that follow-up letters and phone calls will go out to those who pledged last year but not yet for 2016. Pledges currently stand at \$446,000, with \$55,000 remaining to reach the goal. The number of pledges and partnerships is 8 under the total for 2015, and the average of pledges is up.

Nomination Team: Jack Tebes reported that the six nominees for Vestry constitute a strong group for the new class of Vestry members.

Annual Parish Meeting Agenda: The Clerk circulated a draft Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on January 31, 2016. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Agenda be approved. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Bylaws Amendments: The proposed Revisions to the Trinity Church on the Green Bylaws, incorporating the option selected by Vestry vote concerning Definition of Membership and Roll of

Voting Members (see attached) were reviewed. These will be circulated in the E-News and posted in the church before the Annual Parish Meeting.

Prayer and Snack Schedule: A schedule of Vestry Meetings for 2016 and a snack and prayer schedule will be circulated at the Vestry Retreat. There will be no regular Vestry meeting on the third Monday of February.

Decision of the Anglican Communion Primates: There was discussion of the recent decision taken by the Anglican Communion primates in relation to the Episcopal Church in the United States.

The Rector reported that the Christmas services at Trinity were very well-attended.

The Sunday School is currently in transition, with on-going discussion of how best to meet the needs of parents.

The Rector expressed thanks to retiring Vestry members and the Senior Warden: Duo Dickinson; Barbara Hedberg; Peter Jongbloed; Charles Kaywood; Cris Sigovitch; and Jack Tebes.

The Rector stated that Trinity program leaders will be involved in strengthening Trinity's resources in the future.

Duo Dickinson led a closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Gould, Parish Clerk

Upcoming Dates:

January 31: Annual Parish Meeting

February 7: Installation of new Vestry -- all services

February 10: Ash Wednesday

February 26-27: Vestry Retreat

Attachments:

Vestry Agenda

Minutes of December 14, 2015, Vestry Meeting

"Where is God Calling Us To Go?"

Trinity Church on the Green Financial Review

Agenda for Annual Parish Meeting