

MINUTES
TRINITY VESTRY MEETING
August 20, 2018

A meeting of the 2018 Vestry was held in the Trinity Undercroft on August 20, 2018.

Present: The Rev. Dr. Luk De Volder; Charlotte Rea, Senior Warden; Leigh Cromey, Junior Warden; Carolyn Gould, Clerk; Fiona Boucher; Barbara Casey; Barbara Jongbloed; Charles Kaywood; Charles Lemert; Geri Mauhs; Bill Pagano; Andrew Smyth; Mary Ann Stroup; Patricia Thurston; Richard Walser.

Guest: Walden Moore, Director of Music

QUICK VIEW

Decisions made:

- **Approved Minutes of May 21, 2018, Meeting, as amended**
- **Approved donation of \$1,000 toward City Engineer's proposal for public toilet on the Upper Green near the bus stop**
- **Approved proposed Boys' Choir trip to Williamsburg, Charlottesville and Staunton, Virginia, June 25 to July 1, 2019**
- **Approved revision of Trinity investment policy to reflect weights within the equity portfolio of 40% international and 60% domestic equities**
- **Approved donation of \$1,000 toward June, 2019, World Refugee Day**
- **Approved 2017 audit report of T.M. Bixby and Company**
- **Ratified adoption of Rector's Housing Resolution as voted upon by the Vestry on June 23, 2018**

Tasks identified:

- **Presentation of Development Project and Vestry Leadership to September Vestry meeting**
- **Express gratitude to firefighters who assisted in crisis on New Haven Green**
- **Rector to write to Fire Chief and Police Chief regarding their part in dealing with the crisis**
- **Discussion of Music for Music events at September Vestry meeting**
- **Report on National Episcopal Historians and Archivists conference at September Vestry meeting**

The Rector opened the meeting at 5:45 PM. Leigh Cromey offered an opening prayer. Charlotte read the prologue and selection about creating a safe place for all to speak from the Vestry Covenant (attached). Charlotte also read the Bible Quote from Ephesians 5:15-20 (attached).

Approval of Minutes of May 21, 2018, Meeting (see attached):

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the minutes of the Vestry meeting held on April 16, 2018, be approved with a correction to reflect Mary Ann Stroup's attendance at the meeting. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Rector's Report:

Young Family Ministry: The Rector announced that Elise will assume (as described in the attached announcement) Trinity's Young Family Ministry, beginning on Sunday, September 16. This is an effort to respond to the needs of young families, with full clergy support. Kyle Picha will assume Elise's current responsibilities related to liturgy.

Development Project and Vestry Leadership: Postponed to September Vestry meeting.

Response to Issues on the New Haven Green: Those affected by last week's drug distribution on the Green numbers more than 100 people. There was a Saturday meeting held at Trinity to discuss the situation. One result is that the Yale Health Van will be parking at Trinity a couple of days per week from 8 AM to 1 PM to afford treatment and referrals. There is also an effort to coordinate services, and Trinity's resources are engaged in the effort to assist. A Community Mental Health Center meeting last Friday also included Trinity. James Thomas organized food service at Trinity last Saturday. There was discussion of possible contributions of Trinity to these efforts. It was suggested that Trinity express gratitude to the firefighters from the fire house at Grand and Olive for their efforts during the crisis. In addition, the Rector will write to the Fire Chief and Police Chief regarding the City's assistance. The Rector pointed out that the issue of security at the Church for parishioner is primary, especially for young parents.

Toilets on the Green: There is a proposal by William McMullen, the New Haven City Engineer, to provide a public toilet on the Upper Green (the first of 3 or 4), near the bus stop across from the Shake Shack. The cost will be \$93,000, and the Engineer requested financial assistance from Trinity for seed money. The Downtown Ambassadors will provide maintenance for the facility. It was MOVED and SECONDED that Trinity give \$1,000 toward the public toilet proposal. The motion PASSED unanimously. In consideration of the issues on the Green and the prospect of the new facility, Trinity's rest room will be closed except during services (including Chapel on the Green).

Endorsement of Benjamin Straley for Ordination: A document endorsing Benjamin Straley for ordination to the ministry as a sponsoring Church was circulated for signature by Vestry members and certification by the Clerk.

Parish Picnic: The Picnic this year will be held on September 9 at Lighthouse Point Park. There will be a 10 AM service for the parish at the Park (the 7:45 service will be held as usual at the Church.)

World War I Re-enactment: From October 12 to 14, there will be a re-enactment camp on the Lower Green. The Trinity choirs will participate on Sunday, and Luk will offer an invocation.

I.R.I.S.: Trinity plans to coordinate with the efforts on I.R.I.S. related to World Refugee Day. The event this year attracted 600 people, so it is contemplated that a tent will be rented in 2019 for the 4th Saturday in June. Donation of \$1,000 toward this project was authorized.

Wardens' Report:

Snacks and Coffee Hours: Leigh circulated sign-up sheets for contributions to coffee hours following services and snacks (including prayers) for Vestry meetings.

Vestry Retreat: The 2019 retreat in February will be held in 2 parts, Friday evening at Charlotte's home and Saturday at the New Haven Lawn Club.

Nominating Committee: Charlotte will soon convene the Nominating Committee, composed of retiring Vestry members.

Stewardship Committee: Charlotte reported that the first solicitation letter will be sent out after the Parish Picnic. A second letter will contain a pledge card. There will be testimonials, and the campaign will end on Giving Sunday, October 28.

Clean-up Day on the Green: A successful Clean the Green day was recently held.

Security Plan: Charlotte distributed a "Trinity Church on the Green Emergency Plan and Procedures June 2018" and attached "Emergency Plan for Trinity Church on the Green – June 2018." The handbook has been distributed to the church office, choir office and sextons.

Administrative Operations:

Episcopal Church at Yale: The Rector reported that Dwight Chapel at Yale reopened earlier than expected, so that the Episcopal Church at Yale will return there in the 2018 to 2019 academic year. The relationship will continue, with Yale students participating in the 11 AM service on two Sundays per month and will preach a couple of times per year. The possibility of joint pilgrimages will be explored.

Ministry Teams:

Welcoming Plans for Newcomers: Bags have been prepared for distribution to visitors.

Music: Walden Moore reported on a successful choir camp; there are 6 new members, of whom 5 attended the camp. Auditions continue, with new ways of reaching out to prospective choir members. Walden has been able to place in advance new service schedules indicating which choirs will sing at services. He is working on scheduling choir travel for the next 4 years. There will be a short trip in 2019 at the end of the 2018 to 2019 season for the Boys' Choir, and the Girls' Choir will have a short trip at the end

of the 2019 to 2020 season. There will be a trip to England for both Choirs in 2022. This schedule was discussed with Choir parents during the choir camp. There will be a Boys' Choir trip to Williamsburg, Charlottesville and Staunton, Virginia from June 25 to July 1, 2019. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Vestry authorize the Boys' Choir trip to Virginia June 25 to July 1, 2019. The motion PASSED unanimously. Walden reported that the Music for Music concert in September will not seek patrons; the concert on September 29 will ask for payment at the door, all income from which will go to Music for Music. It was suggested that the September Vestry Agenda include further discussion of Music for Music events.

Outreach and Chapel on the Green: Chapel on the Green will celebrate a 10th Anniversary on October 7, 2018. Jeff Curtis, a Priest in the Diocese of Newark engaged in urban ministry will lead a roundtable conversation about connecting with people to redesign programs for 2019.

History: There will be a report on the recent National Episcopal Historians and Archivists conference at Trinity at the September Vestry meeting.

Finance: Barbara Casey reported that Trinity had a clean audit, with no recommendations, and noted the auditor's high praise for the work of Linda Beconsall. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the report of T.M. Bixby and Company be approved. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Investment: The Investment Committee recommended to the Vestry, upon the suggestion of the Trinity advisors at Vanguard, that the Trinity investment policy be revised for improved diversification to reflect weights within the equity portfolio of 40% international and 60% domestic equities. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the policy be so revised. The motion PASSED, with Charles Kaywood and Charles Lemert abstaining.

Continuing Business and New Business:

Ratification of Housing Resolution: It was MOVED and SECONDED that the adoption of the Housing Resolution voted upon by the Vestry on June 23, 2018, be ratified. The motion PASSED unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: David commented on the "Trinity Church on the Green Financial Review" (copy attached). He noted that since the value of the endowment was high, the remaining 2018 distribution authorized by the spending policy was withdrawn from the endowment. Revenue is on track, and personnel expenses are under budget. The Program expense item will reflect restricted Outreach grants in November and December. The cost of the audit will likely be paid in September. The amount of \$117,00 from the State of Connecticut for repair of the steps has now been received. David is currently working on the 2019 budget.

Charles Lemert led a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Gould, Parish Clerk

Upcoming Dates:

September 17, 2018: Next Vestry Meeting

Prayers

Opening: Fiona Boucher

Closing: Patricia Thurston

Snacks for Vestry meeting

Fiona and Patricia

September 23, 2018: Coffee Hour Refreshments

9:00: Chuck Kaywood and Geri Mauhs

11:00: Barbara Jongbloed and Fiona Boucher

Vestry Meetings: September 17, October 15, November 19

Attachments:

Vestry Agenda

Vestry Covenant

Ephesians 5:15-20

Minutes of May 21, 2018

“Trinity Church on the Green Emergency Plan and Procedures” Handbook

“Emergency Plan for Trinity Church on the Green – June 2018”

Trinity Church on the Green Financial Review (through July)