

Christ Church Cathedral
Vestry Minutes – September 22, 2014
(With Stewardship Committee Members Present)

Vestry Members Present

Scott Hoffman (Senior Warden), Pete Stringer (Junior Warden), Don Dawson, Chris Hansen, Susan Hudson, Lawrence Blank-Cook, Donald McKenzie, Marian Ott, Dan Schafer, Jon Stanley, Monica Urness, Kristine LaLonde, Anna Grimes Noser (clerk) and Ellen Wright.

Vestry Members Absent

Paul Myers

Stewardship Committee Members Present

Sam Bessey, Trone Sawyer

Clergy Members Present

The Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, Dean; The Rev. Gene Manning, Sub-Dean; the Rev. Joshua Caler, Curate; and The Rev. Andy Trenier, Assistant Curate, Derby Cathedral

Cathedral Staff Present

Mark McQueen

The Meditation was provided by Monica Urness.

Adoption of August, 2014 Minutes

The minutes of the August meeting were approved (Stringer, McKenzie) with one correction.

Finance Committee Report

Mark McQueen reviewed the Balance Sheet report and Income and Expense statements, along with the Finance Committee report. There is a positive variance to budget of \$95,158. This is the result of a favorable \$68,861 variance in income being added to a \$26,297 positive variance in budgeted expenses. Significantly, there is an absolute year-to-date surplus of \$36,660. Next month, Mark will run a projection to year-end which will provide guidance as to whether the surplus will hold. The motion to approve the Finance Committee Report (Stringer, Cook) was approved.

Stewardship/Canvass Update

Stewardship chairman Trone Sawyer presented an update of the stewardship campaign, including a discussion of the 4 household meetings held to date. He urged all members of the vestry to complete their pledge before the October 5 parish wide meeting.

Dean Kimbrough expressed interest in continuing the household meetings for other seasons.

Deacon's Retirement Committee

Scott Hoffman gave an update for Deacon Dolores Nicholson's retirement celebration on Oct. 26. The Committee recommends we have a purse for the Deacon. A letter to parish members will be distributed and Cathedral Funds will be used to support the collections from that distribution. There is also a plan to seek out letters of recognition and make them part of the gift process as well.

As there is another deacon in the diocese retiring, there will be an additional solicitation at the Annual Convention to include both deacons. Our solicitation is part of a parish-wide recognition.

A motion to have the committee solicit contributions from the congregation for a purse for Dolores was made (Stringer, Dawson) and approved.

New Business

Planned Giving Policy Discussion

Sam Bessey presented an outline for a planned giving program. This is part of the Endowment Committee's work to have a planned giving program in place to address sustaining our Endowment. Bessey outlined planned giving, along with annual and special giving, as one part of a well-rounded stewardship program. He proposed a planned giving document be developed for inclusion on the Cathedral website. There was a lively discussion as to whether or not those who participate in the planned giving program should be recognized in any way.

Pete Stringer commended the stewardship committee for their work done on planned giving and the annual stewardship campaign. He placed a motion to accept the planned giving proposal, exclusive of the proposal for the creation of an 1829 recognition society and inclusive of the corrections and clarifications discussed.

Dan Schafer questioned how the Vestry should vote on the planned giving policy. He placed a motion for a simple majority vote. (Stringer, Schafer). However, on further discussion, the motion was withdrawn (Stringer) and a new motion was made to have a supermajority, or 75 percent of the Vestry voting, for the planned giving policy. (McKenzie, Dawson). The motion was approved. A supermajority vote on the planned giving policy will be required. The vote will be addressed at the October Vestry meeting.

Delegates to Annual Convention

The Vestry nominated 8 delegates to the Annual Diocesan Convention in January: Scott Hoffman, Anna Grimes, Caroline Rossini, Jessica Younger, Charlie Cook III, Sam Bessey, Trone Sawyer and Ed Burgess. The motion to close nominations was made and voting took place (Hoffman, Wright). Those elected as Convention delegates were: Scott Hoffman, Ed Burgess, Charlie Cook III, Caroline Rossini, Sam Bessey and Anna Grimes. Delegates were notified by email from the Vestry clerk Anna Grimes.

Report from the Sub Dean

Gene Manning gave an update on activities of the Pastoral Care Commission. The Stephen ministry has been sunsetted and will be replaced by a Parish Visitor ministry. Paul and Tracy Fulton, together with Steven Nelson will lead the new ministry. Melinda Balsler, with Father Jacoba Hurst taking a potential supporting role, will lead a separate Healing Prayer ministry. Jeff Rossini and Ted Dawson will direct a Helping Hands committee.

Mary Hance will lead a new initiative, Women's Fellowship. She will help schedule 4 fellowship activities annually for the women of the parish.

Report from the Curate

Joshua Caler gave a report on Youth Ministry. There is a new trip planned to kick off EYC in the fall and volunteers are needed to plan and implement larger formation events.

He also highlighted elements of outreach to Young Adults in the parish community. These include scheduled gatherings to encourage pledging to the annual Stewardship campaign and build the pattern of giving among this group.

Dean's Report

Dean Kimbrough discussed his recent visit to the Nashville Convention and Visitors Bureau as a means to encourage visitors and to the Cathedral. The notes from that meeting have been passed on to the head of the Evangelism Commission.

The website will be undergoing a copy revision to more clearly explain the new Cathedral Mission structure. The website currently has 5,000 unique visitors each month.

The Dean also made note of the arrival of seminarian Molly Short to the Cathedral, and the visit by Rev. Andy Trenier, Assistant Curate at Derby Cathedral in England.

The Tithe of Time survey will continue for one more week and results are expected to be collated one week from today. Those results will be distributed to Commission chairs for assistance with their relevant volunteer efforts and volunteer commitments.

The new Outreach Commission chair is Tyler Yarbrow, who replaces Timothy DiScenza. On October 15, the Dean, Joe Ingle, Ed Miller and others from the Death Row Visitation Committee will join Bishop John Bauerschmidt to confirm death row inmate Abu Ali. The Dean called the Vestry's attention to various other activities and developments in Cathedral life throughout the month of October.

The Dean's Sabbatical will commence in February and will possibly include time spent in Jerusalem as well as serving as theologian in residence at the **Lutheran** Church in Oslo, Norway. The final outline of his sabbatical will be submitted for Vestry consultation shortly.

There being no further business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned. The next vestry meeting is scheduled for October 27, 2014.