

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Vestry Minutes
March 23, 2017

The following are the members of the 2017 Vestry. Names marked with an asterisk were present.

Vestry:

*Wallis Bond	Mary McKissock
*Walter Chastain	*Ryan Newton
*David Danforth, Senior Warden	*Peter Shand
*Susie Dibble	*Llewellyn Shealy
*Walter Edgar	*Andy Slaughter
Margie Heggie Estefano	*Judy Cotchett Smith, Clerk
Ben Grimsley	Jonathan Vipperman
*Phil Johnston, Junior Warden	Ray Weston
*Robert Key	*David Wolff
*Brian Kvam	Belton Zeigler
*Norah Grimball, Past Senior Warden	

Invited Representatives:

*Dan Fritze, Chancellor	*Scottie Frantz, Daughters of the Holy Cross
*David Sojourner, Trinity Foundation	Liz Summers, Treasurer
Ed Hickman, Still Hopes Representative	

Staff:

*The Very Rev. Timothy Jones, Dean	The Rev. Canon Patsy Malanuk
*The Rev. Canon Charles Davis	The Rev. Ira Houck
	*Donald Benson, Canon for Administration

I. Opening Prayer

Dean Jones opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30 p.m. He noted that 60-70 students from W.A. Perry school with which we have a robust ministry were just here for awards and recognition event.

II. Approve of February Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of February 25, 2017 were approved by acclamation.

III. Discussion

David Danforth introduced the topic for tonight's discussion of the notes and first chapter of the book Shift, Three Big Moves for the 21st Century Church by Mark Tidsworth. Among the significant points that were gleaned were the current distrust of institutions and the problems of communication that seem to undergird many of the issues. How can we get people engaged? Transparency is needed in communication. There are many inspiring things

going on here as exemplified by the children's programs, choirs and others. We need to continue to focus on those things we do very well and seek ways for moving from "attractual" to "missional" as we evolve. Tim said the new Canon for Parish Life will be working on getting small groups moving in that direction, and it was noted that ARK and the choir programs already are good examples.

There was a general consensus that the group is enthusiastic about the concept of "Shift" and will continue to read and discuss it chapter by chapter.

IV. Report of the Executive Committee

David invited David Sojourner to provide an update on the search for a development officer. David Sojourner reported that following several months of searching to fill the position, the search committee has concluded that perhaps it was asking too much from one individual working part-time. The committee is recommending that they search instead for a consultant/educator. This person would focus on 1) immediately assisting with stewardship, and 2) training and educating the Vestry and Foundation board toward creating a culture of giving. There has already been one person identified who may be a possibility.

The Senior Warden introduced Chancellor Dan Fritze who advised the Vestry that he has been working for some months on an issue surrounding the estate of N. Welch Morrisette, Jr., who died five years ago. A dispute arose between Mr. Morrisette's heirs and certain beneficiaries who had been identified in his last known will. At issue in the dispute was whether his will had been revoked, and thus who was entitled to receive the assets of his estate. Trinity Cathedral was one of the many identified beneficiaries in his last known will, but Trinity did not participate in the lengthy dispute. Dan described the complicated estate negotiations to the Vestry and said he believes a settlement is close at hand. A motion was made and seconded to approve the settlement as reported by the Chancellor, which will provide for a split of the estate between the two groups, with the identified beneficiaries receiving collectively 65 percent of Mr. Morrisette's estate, and the heirs receiving collectively 35 percent of the estate. This settlement will avoid further costly and protracted litigation and will ensure that Trinity receives a significant contribution from Mr. Morrisette's estate. The motion authorized the Senior Warden, the Canon for Administration and the Chancellor to negotiate any final terms of the settlement on behalf of the Cathedral. The gift when concluded will be accepted by the Trinity Foundation under the new gift acceptance policy. The motion was approved unanimously.

David continued his report from the Executive Committee.

1. The Columbia Star featured a large photograph of Andrella Brunson and volunteers in the Trinity kitchen.

2. The DHC and the Men of Trinity will co-host an oyster roast on April 21.
3. Search for two security officers continues.
4. A committee for advising and supporting Eleanor Smolen and the youth program has been reformed. Members requested that the names of those committee members be published as well as the names of other committees and members and the times of meetings so that the congregation may know they are invited and can be engaged. David used this suggestion as an opportunity to focus on the monthly ministry reports, requesting that Vestry members be engaged continuously with the ministry for which they are responsible and include in their report not just a summary of related statistics but also outline the challenges and opportunities that exist. Members should thoroughly read the reports and come prepared to more actively engage in conversations surrounding the reports. He noted that he has appointed Judy Cotchett Smith as a liaison for communications, and hopes to look at a broader scope of messaging not just the tools used. To that end, he would expect the reports be distributed more than just a week before the Vestry meeting.
5. Bathroom renovations near the Welcome Center begin tomorrow, March 24 and will continue for several weeks.
6. Trinity Center design work has begun and a contract for it should be signed soon.

Phil Johnson described the report on stewardship that was distributed earlier as an organizational document that provides for three-year continuity of leadership rather than a one-year campaign as in the past. It strives for year-round giving. The Stinnettes will remain as “emeritus” leaders in 2017 with a new chair and vice chairs to be appointed. Under the proposal, the vice chair during one year would be expected to become chair the following year.

V. Committee and Other Reports:

A. Finance Committee

David Wolff described the document on the 2017 pledges as a written explanation of the difference in the two versions. The top report consists of pledges for all parishioners and the bottom report notes the amount of pledges from members who have since died.

David reviewed the Treasurer’s Report in the absence of Liz Summers.

Balance Sheet

The large inflow of cash during December 2016 and January 2017 met cash requirements through February and left an operating cash checking account balance of \$35,923 on February 28, 2017. The Due From Bookstore has increased by \$8,298 between February 2016 and February 28, 2017. The Due From TLC has been reduced by \$4,553 by February 28, 2017. There have been no draws against the \$1 million line of credit

during 2017. The Due To Trinity Forward liability was \$234,077 at February 28, 2017, This Due To account will be reduced as Trinity Forward payments restricted to Debt Service are received, and it can be drawn again as it is needed for Trinity Forward projects.

Income Statement

Contribution revenues for February 2017 were \$209,412, and total revenues were \$216,771. Expenses for February 2017 were \$213,966, and year to date expenses remain below budget due to three unfilled positions that have saved \$35,965 of budgeted personnel expense. The net profit for the month was \$2,806, making net income through February \$42,733.

Restricted Accounts

During February, the restricted accounts declined by \$76,791. The largest outflows were related to the new boiler (\$57,350), the Kanuga weekend fees (\$7,969) and the Christmas Offering (\$5,834).

Trinity Forward Campaign

There was \$1,267,429 of cash in the Trinity Forward account on February 28, 2017. In addition, the Due From Operating has a balance of \$234,077, which may be drawn upon as needed for Trinity Forward projects. Contributions in February totaled \$8,360.

B. Homeless No More

Ryan Newton noted that he submitted the March 2016 report by mistake and will forward the correct copy later. He noted that St. Lawrence Place is at capacity and a waiting list continues. A successful Race for the Place was held recently.

C. Mission and Outreach

Jonathan Viperman is out of the country. His written report was noted.

VI. Dean's Report

Dean Jones reminded the Vestry of the reception honoring Canon Charles Davis to be held on April 2 at 10:15 in Satterlee Hall. He invited anyone to participate who wishes to roast or toast Charles. The Lenten series continues to be successful with the largest attendance this week of 200 at noon and 100 at dinner. The Welcome Center is working well. He has called a Canon for Parish Life to join Trinity on May 15. The name of the person will be announced on April 3 because of confidentiality with that person's parish. He continues to interview and hopes to hire one or more additional priests.

The meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 7:56 p.m.

The Vestry returned from Executive Session and immediately adjourned with prayer at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cotchett Smith
Clerk