

**MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF TRINITY CATHEDRAL PARISH**  
**Vestry Minutes for May 25, 2023**

**Vestry (Names marked with an \* were present):**

*Thomas Anderson, Finance	*Pamela Lackey, Junior Warden
*Michael Beal, Senior Warden	*William Moorman
Rebecca Best	Emily Moses
*Missy Caughman	*Clarke Newton
*Gus Chapman, Senior Warden Emeritus	*Curtis Ott
*Elizabeth Clark	*Virginia Ravenel, Clerk
Emma Dean	*Rebecca Rhodes
*Elizabeth Dorn	*Rush Smith
*Elliott Epps	*West Summers
Cantey Haile	Doak Wolfe
Hayne Hodges	

**Invited Representatives in attendance:**

The Rt. Reverend Daniel P. Richards	Liz Summers, Treasurer
Jack Parrish, Still Hopes	

**Clergy/Staff in attendance:**

The Very Reverend Dane Boston	The Reverend Canon Jimmy Hartley
Donald Benson, Canon for Administration	Bridget Winston, Director of Communications

**I. Call to Order**

**D. Boston**

Dean Boston called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**II. New Business (part 1)**

**Dean Boston/Bishop Richards**

Dean Boston welcomed and recognized Bishop Daniel Richards to address the Vestry on matters pertaining to strategic visioning. Coming out of COVID, the Upper Diocese is watching giving trends as they are a reflection of the health of the church. He stressed that for the larger church to remain relevant and thrive for generations to come, it is incumbent on the churches of the Upper Diocese to get back to evangelism by sharing the message of the gospels and engaging in outreach in the community. He challenged the Vestry to figure out how to articulate Christ's message in public spaces in order to share who we are as Christians and stressed that such work is vital to ensure the survival of the church. Bishop Richards envisions the roles of Trinity, as the Upper Diocese's cathedral parish, to include the following: to offer inspirational liturgies that are traditional in nature; to serve as the host for Diocesan liturgies, including ordinations and confirmations; and to help facilitate the work of the Upper Diocese, such as piloting programs around racial reconciliation, serving as a resource for other churches of the Upper Diocese. Discussion followed.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**D. Boston**

A motion was made to approve the April 2023 minutes as submitted, which was seconded and approved unanimously with no abstentions.

**IV. Strategic Visioning**

**D. Boston**

No action was taken on the strategic plan documents in order to allow for additional comments for any who have not yet commented and to attempt to have all members of the Vestry present for the discussion and decision-making process. The Vestry will be asked to vote on the strategic plan in June.

**V. New Business (part 2)**

**D. Boston/Bridget Winston**

**Website Redevelopment:** Dean Boston recognized Bridget Winston, Director of Communications, to provide an update on the website redevelopment project, which was commenced several years ago by the Website Task Force of the Communications Committee and included various proposals that were solicited and received. A decision was made last year to table the proposal recommended to the Vestry until a new director of communications was hired.

The Director of Communications has reengaged the project and has been in communication with the leaders of that effort, as well as with Cyberwoven, the firm recommended by the Task Force and endorsed by the Communications Committee. The Director of Communications has prior experience working with Cyberwoven and highly recommends partnering with the company. Dean Boston concurs in the recommendation. The Director of Communications also discussed her vision of how the website and the Realm database would interface and the purpose of each technology tool.

The Finance Committee reviewed the proposal and supported moving forward with the project with the request that staff revisit the contract price outlined in the proposal. Under the leadership of the Director of Communications, the effort was successful as Cyberwoven has agreed to make a \$10,000 donation to Trinity at the conclusion of the website's development, effectively reducing the cost of the contract by that amount.

Dean Boston recognizes the expense is substantial but notes that this investment is well worth it as a state-of-the-art website is an essential resource to enable Trinity to fulfill its mission and strategic plans. Trinity Foundation was fully supportive of the earlier Cyberwoven proposal and indicated its interest in identifying funding for the redevelopment project and the service agreements for a period of years.

Pamela Lackey made a motion to approve the contract proposal and allow the website redevelopment project to begin. Clarke Newton seconded the motion. Discussion followed, after which the motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.

## **VI. Reports**

### **A. Committee Reports**

**D. Boston**

- Music & Liturgy: See report.
- Still Hopes: See report.
- Membership/Newcomers/Volunteers: See report.
- Trinity Learning Center: See report.

### **B. Senior Warden's Report**

**M. Beal**

The Senior Warden stated all his issues and concerns have been addressed during the course of the meeting.

**C. Dean's Report**

**D. Boston**

Following up on the well-attended farewell celebrations held for Jared Johnson and Jean Knowlton, Dean Boston disseminated drafts of resolutions to thank these individuals for their service to Trinity and asked for a motion to approve the resolutions. Missy Caughman made a motion, which was seconded by Clarke Newton and adopted unanimously with no abstentions.

**D. Finance & Treasurer's Report**

**L. Summers**

- As reflected in the Treasurer's Notes and Financial Statements, giving was significantly less in April than in the three first months of the year, in spite of the high Easter service attendance numbers. The shortfall was covered by a transfer from reserved funds.
- At the Treasurer's request, Dean Boston reminded the Vestry of the importance of remaining current on pledges during the summer months, a message to be delivered to the congregation as well, and urged the Vestry to lead by example, even if not in town for the summer.
- Trinity Learning Center broke even in April, and consequently did not require any transfer of the DSS grant funds.

**VII. Closing Prayer and adjournment**

**D. Boston**

Dean Boston closed the meeting with a prayer and adjourned the meeting at 7:27.