

Christ Church Vestry Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2019

Earle Conference Room, Parish House

Attending: Ben Horne (Senior Warden), Anne Arrington, Lauren Briles, Cotton Clarke, Jordan Earle, Elizabeth Fletcher (Secretary of the Vestry), Mac Gentile, Norma Givens, George E. McCall, Kevin Mertens, Cecil Nelson (Chancellor), Penn Williams, Helen Wynkoop, and Rose Cuddy (Clerk of the Vestry).

Absent: Harrison McLeod (Rector), Ashley Reynolds (Junior Warden), Jim Baumgardner, Emily Davis, Dan Seaman (Treasurer), Chris Klasing (Assistant Treasurer), Wade Kolb (Assistant Chancellor).

Senior Warden Ben Horne opened the meeting with a prayer for Vestries at 5:00 PM.

Rector's Report

Harrison is attending the Southwest Seminary Board of Trustees Meeting in Austin, TX, this week. He asked Ben to pass along his thanks for the Vestry's support and prayers for him and his wife, Jennifer, upon the death of Jennifer's father, Jim Byers.

Senior Warden's Report

Ben Horne gave a presentation. He reviewed the parish and Episcopal Church Canons that have minimal description of the role of the Vestry. The Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina had more description of Vestry duties, which Ben reviewed. He said that really, according to this description, the Vestry's job is the physical plant and the wardens' job is to support clergy in worship.

Ben then showed slides of photos he had made of the church campus. He first showed a slide of the corner at East North with a banner about the daily communion during Lent. His slides gave a view of the street corners. He became interested in how welcoming we are when an attendee at the Men's Friday Morning Christmas party said "I always wondered what is behind those gates." Ben said that no one should be left wondering – we should appear as open and inviting. We see gates, fences and bricks, but few signs or names on buildings. Signs appear behind bars or partially blocked behind gates and fences or hidden by shrubbery. He posed the question, "Is this Inviting to All?" He said the Christ Church street view stinks – it needs improvement that should not wait until the next capital campaign. We are welcoming once visitors come in, but we want to appear more inviting. Signage does make a difference. Examples of people who've seen the banners and come in were given. Jordan discussed the option of permanent signage at where the least used gate at East North and Church is located. Banners are found to be effective and not expensive.

Ben said that Jay is departing next week and Charles begins June 2. Charles' ordination will be June 15 in Charleston and we are all invited to go. Ben hopes that some Vestry members will be able to attend.

Junior Warden's Report

Ashley Reynolds was away this month.

Treasurer's Report

Monthly Budget Report

George E. McCall referenced the report sent earlier in the week via email. George said that he met with Treasurer Dan Seaman yesterday to prepare for tonight's meeting. We have paid an additional \$70,000 toward the HIStory Lives loan. If all pledges stay on track, we should be able to pay down \$910,000 in debt.

Jasmine Road Inc. has paid off the balance of their loan ahead of schedule and we will have a resolution tonight to approve the transfer of that property from the church to Jasmine Road. Helen Wynkoop also reported that Jasmine Road has obtained a second property and that their enterprise project will be a soup and sandwich restaurant. She praised the community volunteers who've helped them succeed.

Approval of April Meeting Minutes

The April 16, 2019, Vestry meeting minutes were distributed prior to the meeting by email and were presented at the meeting by Elizabeth Fletcher, Secretary of the Vestry. She asked for a Vestry member to make a motion to accept the minutes. Anne noted one subject/verb on page 4 which was corrected.

George E. McCall made a motion to accept the April meeting minutes as corrected. Norma Givens seconded the motion. All Vestry members present voted in favor, none were opposed. The motion carried.

New Business

Resolution Honoring Jackie Williams' Work in Haiti

Ben Horne read the proposed resolution honoring Jackie Williams. Anne Arrington presented the resolution, attached to these minutes and sent to the Vestry via email prior to the meeting, to honor Jackie Williams' work in Haiti. Jackie's work will be recognized at the 10:30 AM Church service on Sunday, June 2. Ben seconded the resolution. All Vestry members present voted in favor, none were opposed. The motion carried. The resolution will be printed in presentation form and given to Jackie June 2.

Letter of Thanks to the Rt. Rev. Mary Adelia McLeod

Senior Warden Ben Horne asked the Vestry to approve drafting a formal letter of thanks to Rt. Rev. Mary Adelia McLeod, retired bishop of Vermont and Rector Harrison McLeod's mother, for her gift of the Creation series of needlepoint art she made and has donated for display at Christ Church in Earle Conference Room. A copy of the letter will be attached to these minutes. Norma Givens made the motion to draft a letter of thanks to the Rt. Rev. Mary Adelia McLeod. Cotton Clarke seconded. All Vestry members present voted in favor, none were opposed. The motion carried.

Nominations Committee Slate

The Vestry received the Rector, Senior Warden and Junior Warden nominees to fill the Nominations Committee open positions.

Nominated for a Two-Year Term (2019 & 2020)

- Worth Burns Nominated by Senior Warden
- Claudia Coleman Nominated by Junior Warden
- Brown Parkinson Nominated by Rector

Vestry Representatives – One Year Term (2019)

- Cotton Clarke Retiring Vestry
- Emily Davis Continuing Vestry

Mac Gentile made a motion to approve the slate of nominees. Norma Givens seconded the resolution. All Vestry members present voted in favor, none were opposed. The motion carried.

Vestry Retreat Date Change

The date of the Vestry Retreat has changed from January 24-25 to January 10-11, 2020, due to the scheduling of Bicentennial kickoff events for the last weekend in January. Attendance at the retreat is an expectation, so please be sure to note this change on your calendars. Ben commented that the benefit to meeting in town is obviously the cost, but that there is also benefit to being away when you may have an opportunity to get to know each other better.

Canterbury Counseling Center By-Laws Revision

Updates to the Canterbury Counseling Center By-Laws were presented by Kevin Mertens, are attached to these minutes and were sent for Vestry review prior to the meeting. Kevin reviewed the changes. He said that we approved by-law revisions two months ago, but since then they have realized that they required three changes:

- The board to have the ability to hire an executive director.
- The board chair's executive powers will be only in absence of an executive director.
- Treasurer will be in charge of overseeing and disbursing funds rather than in charge of personnel.

Kevin presented the motion that the By-Laws revisions be approved. Cotton Clarke seconded the resolution. All Vestry members present voted in favor, none were opposed. The motion carried.

Jenkins Housing Resolution

The Housing Resolution for Charles Jenkins, Director of Pastoral Care and Priest Candidate, was sent via email for Vestry review prior to today's meeting and is attached to these minutes. Cotton explained that the housing allowance is exempt from federal taxes according to an IRS formula and is a portion of the total salary package offered the candidate. George E. McCall moved to approve the resolution and Cotton Clarke seconded the resolution. All Vestry members present voted in favor, none were opposed. The motion carried. The document was signed by the Senior Warden and will be distributed to the appropriate parties.

Jasmine Road Resolution

Ben Horne read a resolution requesting Vestry approval to transfer the title of the Jasmine Road house property from Christ Church to Jasmine Road, Inc. upon confirmation of receipt of funds sufficient to

cover the balance of the loan. George McCall made a motion to approve the transfer of the property located in Greenville, SC, to Jasmine Road, Inc. pursuant to the terms and conditions of its Option to Purchase as set forth in the Lease Agreement between Christ Church and Jasmine Road, Inc. dated February 13, 2017, and that Senior Warden Ben Horne or Junior Warden Ashley Reynolds be authorized to sign any and all documents necessary to complete the transfer. Cotton Clarke seconded the motion. Following discussion, a vote was taken. All Vestry members present voted in favor, none were opposed. The resolution was passed unanimously. The document was signed by the Senior Warden and will be signed by the Rector and Junior Warden upon their return. It will then be sent to the Diocese and placed on the June 1 Diocesan Executive Council agenda.

Ministry Area Reports

Ministry Area Reports from department heads were distributed prior to the meeting via email.

Finances & Support: George provided a summary of the Endowment Committee April 29 meeting. He said we should feel comfortable with the proactive management of the committee and its head, Matt Cotner. We are seeing double digit returns on our investments, and we will purchase fund manager software, plus move forward with churchyard map digitization. George also noted that Chris Klasing had provided the board an update on the church's management of fund accounts for the Endowment, including some recommendations to consolidate funds and tighten up recordkeeping. Our insurance coverage is up to date and premiums paid.

Faith in Action: The Faith in Action Committee and the Empower Bicentennial Subcommittee have merged resources for the Bicentennial efforts. They met last week about the feasibility of converting some church properties for a community related project.

CCEP: Norma said that the preschool is reviewing their by-laws, and there was lengthy discussion at the board meeting.

Worship: Norma said that we had great Easter services and attendance! She said that there will be a July 2020 Parish Choir trip to Scotland and England. She plans to go.

CCES: Helen said that CCES is on the cusp of announcing the new headmaster, who will begin in 2020. Current Headmaster Leonard Kupersmith will continue to work through the 2019-2020 school year.

Building & Grounds: Jordan said that there are a number of items on the Grounds Committee's lists. Efforts to prepare for the Bicentennial are underway. After the walkaround the campus last month, he found the physical plant needs overwhelming. He said that It's imperative that we take care of our property both from a safety standpoint and as caretakers of our historic property.

Ben reminded the Vestry that it's fine to say something at Ministry Area Report time. He said he likes going around the table and hearing from everyone.

Old Business

Ben brought up the \$40,000 cost discussed last month for the discovery phase of the HIStory Lives II campaign. To refresh the Vestry, Elizabeth read the resolution that was passed last month. Ben asked George E. McCall to track down if this amount will be borrowed from the Hatch Fund or if a line of credit would be obtained.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Ben Horne at 6:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Rose Cuddy, Clerk of the Vestry