

Christ Church Vestry Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2019

Earle Conference Room, Parish House

Attending: Harrison McLeod (Rector), Ben Horne (Senior Warden), Ashley Reynolds (Junior Warden), Anne Arrington, Lauren Briles, Emily Davis, Jordan Earle, Elizabeth Fletcher (Secretary of the Vestry), Mac Gentile, Norma Givens, Chris Klasing (Assistant Treasurer), George E. McCall, Kevin Mertens, Dan Seaman (Treasurer), Penn Williams, Helen Wynkoop, and Rose Cuddy (Clerk of the Vestry).

Absent: Cotton Clarke, Jim Baumgardner

Rector Harrison McLeod opened the meeting with prayer at 4:59 PM.

Rector's Report

Harrison welcomed the Vestry and began the meeting by showing a proposed logo for our 2020 Bicentennial celebration using our Christ Church logo adapted for the 1820-2020 Let Your Light Shine tagline that complements our mission, vision and values. He said that the Bicentennial Executive Committee will meet this Wednesday and the full Bicentennial Steering Committee (BSC) will meet February 27. He asked the Vestry to provide their feedback to him or to Marie and Spence Taylor, chairs of the Bicentennial Committee. Vestry input at tonight's meeting was positive. Harrison said in regards to conversation about light and lights on campus, the Bolton windows will be installed by the end of the week in the west wall of the church and will be lit. They will be much more visible since the hazard trees in front of the church have been removed. He said the windows, pre-Civil War American made ones, are glorious as well as historically significant.

Organizational Chart

Harrison presented the organizational chart emailed to the group earlier in the week.

Harrison recalled the Envision 2020 work done several years ago in anticipation of the 2020 bicentennial and laid out a plan for the future.

Envision 2020

He described how the Envision 2020 work led to

- Restoration of the Church and Paying Down Debt
- Next Projects through Faith in Action
- Third Century Commission chaired by Dena Benedict and Penn Williams

Realign Ministry

The Vestry, Ministry Areas and Leadership Staff will take the mission, vision, values and purpose as we **realign ministry**. An example is Men's Ministry is currently under Parish Life and Women's Ministry is under Faith in Action. Why? How can we improve? How will this affect our ministry goals, our Bicentennial (a natural outgrowth of our work as a church), etc.?

Bicentennial

During 2020, we will plan

- Celebration weekend

- Embrace – Outreach Project
- Equip – Faith Dev Project
- Empower – Personal Contact
- Joyful Garden Tour
- Communications
- History

History Lives II

Harrison said that he and Resource Development Director Lauren Sigmon have met with capital campaign consultants. The Vestry as well as the Resource Development Committee (RDC) will receive the two proposals. The RDC will recommend a proposal to the Vestry. Consultants could also be asked to meet with the Vestry. We would need to be able to articulate to the parish why we would undertake a capital campaign prior to committing to any project. Kevin asked about the status of the Broadus House. Harrison said that Bern Mebane is exploring limited options under a current tax credit plan.

Bicentennial Structure

The Vestry, Bicentennial Committee and the ELT/Staff will lead our Bicentennial efforts.

The initiatives are Embrace, Equip and Empower, Celebration, Joyful Garden Tour, Church History and Communications. The collaborative framework to accomplish this exists with current committees, staff and volunteer efforts.

Questions & Comments

George said he's most often seen a gap between the end of one campaign and the beginning of the next. Harrison said if we decide it's wise to explore a capital campaign, the consultant would be able to help us ascertain if there's capacity for the campaign. Penn and Harrison commented that the consultant's observation that 80 percent of the money comes from 20 percent of the people is accurate. Harrison said he feels that we are playing catch up with other philanthropic organizations which have learned to fundraise constantly rather than have only annual campaigns. He said that we will always be involved in some sort of resource development, whether a quiet, targeted phase or a full-fledged campaign.

Helen brought a copy of the 1968 rededication program and other historical materials that she found while going through documents at home. She generously offered them for Rector's Office records.

Harrison told the Vestry that a renovation of the Stephenson Courtyard, with a repository for cremains, has been considered as part of the next capital campaign. He said that we have a half million dollar pledge for this courtyard or for restoration of Markley Chapel, which feels encouraging as we consider a campaign.

Staff Update

Harrison said that Jessica St. Clair Smith joined the staff as Strategic Marketing and Communications Director and Sarah Marczynski joined the staff as Music and Liturgy Program Coordinator. Both new staff members are well qualified and make great additions to our staff. We are still interviewing for the Faith in Action priest position. He reported on conversations held at Discovery Weekend and the

Rector's Forum that dealt with sensitive issues. As we participate in discernment about the most qualified person for the priest position, how do we deal with these questions and be faithful, wise, compassionate, open and follow where God is leading us?

Senior Warden's Report

Ben Horne said that we always need to be open to the Holy Spirit to speak to us in a way we didn't expect. Ben encouraged the Vestry members to meet with the committees to which they've been assigned. If you can't meet with them on a regular basis, discuss with them times that you can meet. Ben has been attending as many committee meetings as he can – including Pastoral Care, Parish Life and Faith Development. He wants the Vestry to be able to articulate what their teams are excited about, etc.

He encouraged everyone to read the Monday Memo from Lei Offerle to learn what's going on. The Monday Memo and the two weeks calendar are just packed with information!

Ben said that he met with the two new staff members Harrison referenced and was very impressed with their qualifications.

Ben commented that Lent is coming up very soon! He asked the Vestry to plan now for what they're going to do during Lent. He asked the Vestry to challenge themselves and come to more of the programs offered at the church during this liturgical season.

Last Wednesday, Ben said that all of our priests were out of the office for various reasons, and that Annette Cook was willing to stand in for two worship services. He would like the Vestry to recognize her and the staff for the important things that they do.

Junior Warden's Report

Ashley Reynolds said she is reporting for Lauren Sigmon and Resource Development tonight by handing out packets of thank you notes and lists of parishioners for Vestry members to write notes of thanks to those who've pledged. She asked the Vestry to please write these notes and send them by March 1. If you can't do this, please let Lauren know.

She said that you would have received an invitation from Lauren to sign up for a website and branding input workshop on February 28. There are two options – a morning workshop and an evening workshop. Share your input if you can't attend.

Treasurer's Report

Monthly Budget Report

Treasurer Dan Seaman referenced the report sent earlier via email. He said that we were under on revenue since we didn't have as many pre-paid pledges, which sometimes varies, but were under on expenses about the same amount due to unfilled positions and clergy benefits. We ended up right on the money.

The HIStory Lives project to date has spent \$7.7 million and taken in \$7.4 million. The results are looking pretty good.

2019 Corporate Resolution

Dan said that the Vestry approves each year a new Corporate Resolution with the current signatories. The Vestry received this via email prior to the meeting. George E. McCall made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Norma Givens seconded the motion. No discussion was held. The Vestry voted unanimously to approve and the motion carried.

Endowment Presentation

Chris Klasing gave a presentation about the Endowment that explained the history, structure and current status. His presentation will be forwarded electronically to the Vestry.

He provided a handout of the current status of the endowment funds.

Ben asked about undesignated gifts. Chris said that they go into the perpetual giving fund for general purposes. Gifts to the school now go to the school's separate endowment. Kevin noted that the 2018 year-end totals with the drop in the stock market have rebounded in 2019. George said that he had the impression that legacy or estate gifts are made to the endowment, not to the church. Harrison reported that this is correct unless stipulated otherwise by the decedent. Jordan asked if the 4.5% annual draw was based only on the church's portion of the endowment. Chris responded that this was the case – the church can draw 4.5% on available church funds and CCES may draw 4.5% on available school funds.

January Vestry Meeting Minutes

The January 12, 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. Anne noted three corrections, which Rose made. A motion to accept the minutes as submitted as corrected was made by Jordan and seconded by George. All Vestry members voted in favor of accepting the minutes as corrected. The motion carried. The corrected minutes were distributed.

New Business

2019 Diocesan Pledge

Harrison presented the 2019 Diocesan Pledge that the Vestry approved with the 2019 Budget. George submitted the proposal as a motion and Kevin seconded. Discussion followed. Ben asked if we approved this amount when we approved the budget. Harrison reported that it was important to make a visible acknowledgment of the amount we send to the Diocese.

Harrison was asked to explain to the Vestry why there was a difference between the amount the Diocese of Upper South Carolina asks and the amount that Christ Church pledges. Harrison provided the explanation and history of the difference between the ask and the pledge over the last sixteen years. Vestry discussion included interest in addressing this discrepancy over time.

The Vestry voted unanimously to approve the 2019 Diocesan Pledge. The motion carried.

CCEP 2019 Budget

Harrison presented the 2019 CCEP Budget, on behalf of the CCEP board, for Vestry approval. The budget was sent to the Vestry for their review via email prior to the meeting. Lauren made a motion to approve

the budget as presented. Ashley seconded. All Vestry members voted unanimously to approve. The budget was approved.

Ministry Area Reports

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

New Chancellor

Cecil Nelson has accepted the ex officio role as Chancellor. Harrison has asked another person to serve as Assistant Chancellor since Cecil is partially retired. The other candidate is checking to see if there are conflicts of interest prior to accepting the position. We will also want to acknowledge and express appreciation to Bill Kehl for his 22 years of service as Chancellor.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Rose Cuddy, Clerk of the Vestry