

## Vestry Meeting – April 19, 2016

**Attending:** Harrison McLeod (Rector), Sam Erwin (Sr. Warden), Bill Hardaway (Jr. Warden), Chris Klasing (Treasurer), Dan Seaman (Assistant Treasurer), Bill Kehl (Chancellor), Nelson Arrington, Dena Benedict, Tom Croft, Wayne McDonald, Bryant Nixon, Ben Norwood (via conference call), Louise Oxner, Chuck Reichert, Beth Smith, Lizzy Sterling, Betty Teague. Brent Williams, Rose Cuddy (Recorder)

**Absent:** None

### March Minutes

The March Vestry Meeting minutes were distributed by email prior to the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Nelson Arrington and seconded by Wayne McDonald. All voted in favor, none were opposed.

### Rector's Report

#### Restoration Plan Update

Harrison updated the group on plans for the new 40 seat chapel in the Church as part of the restoration project. He presented the blueprints for the chapel and the 120 unit columbarium and the plans to move windows and acquire one new window (St. Paul). Harrison discussed moving the Good Shepherd window, which may have been the original window in the East wall of the church, and other changes so both transepts match. Discussion and questions ensued. Columbarium note – two urns may be placed in one unit. The Stephenson Courtyard could also be enlarged with memorial options. The Endowment could be asked to fund the building of the Chapel, which is expected to cost up to \$175,000, since proceeds of sale of plots and niches go to the Endowment and they are charged with the upkeep. Columbarium units are expected to be \$5,000 or \$10,000 each, netting up to \$1.2 million. Options to center the altar and not add a window were discussed. The Chapel would be used for private internments, small weddings, small funerals, small Eucharists, renewal of wedding vows, possible children's church, overflow seating (with sound and visual) for large services, etc. Harrison asked for the Vestry's approval of the project with design details to be finalized later. Chris pointed out that the Endowment's funding of the project would theoretically diminish annual income from the Endowment by \$9,000. Presale of at least 20 niches would pay back the loan. Harrison asked if there was Vestry consensus. Approval was given.

Flower sacristy on the other side would have the same footprint as now, but a modification for better use of space with additional sink.

Architects were also asked about moving the choir back down to the front of the church. Shortening the length of the Sanctuary by moving the altar rail back two feet adds seats. Another proposal involves moving the modesty rails forward two feet, which also gains seats. The merits of each plan were discussed. Contingency plans for weddings and other large events would help accommodate these events. A supplemental organ console and false pipes would wed the sound between the front of the church to the main organ and could be used to play one or both organs. These plans would allow us to recover at least 75 seats in the balcony. The organ could be built and used in the ASC during restoration, rather than the church paying rent on a temporary one. Discussion followed, especially regarding the altar space. Would it be too crowded during large

events such as baptisms and confirmations? Consensus was to lay out the plans and try options and gauge the space. Harrison suggested the group travel to the church to look at the options at the next Vestry meeting.

#### Personnel Updates

Harrison called the Vestry's attention to the email sent late this afternoon that Kimberly Morgan has tendered her resignation, effective June 30. She has felt the call to return to the classroom. Ministry Architects (Nashville) has been hired (they were used in the past for Youth Ministry) to evaluate the program (3 day event costing \$3-4000 funded from unused salaries). They are also able to conduct the search for us or staff on an interim basis. Fourth Presbyterian is currently using Ministry Architects' services. Harrison reported on the recent meeting with parents to inform them of the church's support of a strong youth ministry and to use this situation as an opportunity to create a program based on our needs, wants and resources. The Vestry expressed support for this plan. Beth Smith urged the Vestry to tell youth parents that Christ Church is committed to a strong youth program, recruitment of volunteers and to please add this need to their personal prayer lists. Bryant Nixon suggested to also get that message directly to our youth. He asked Vestry to communicate to youth that they have the Vestry's support. Communication will be a priority. Harrison related that youth attendance numbers are down. He noted that Joel was exceptional in his long term leadership and that there have been 10 other youth ministry employees who've averaged around two years during Joel's nine years here.

Harrison emailed High School and Middle School youth parents with most recent developments.

#### Professional Development

Harrison thanked the Vestry for their attendance at last week's Staff/Vestry lunch. He noted a sheet being sent around the room for Vestry to sign up for opportunities to attend staff meetings once a month and discuss their ministry areas. Vestry commitment is deeply appreciated by the staff.

Harrison invited the Vestry to the Young Adult Luau Sunday night that he and Jennifer are hosting at their home.

#### **Senior Warden's Report**

None

#### **Junior Warden's Report**

None

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Chris brought Vestry's attention to the surplus in January and February and noted his warning that it would catch up. It did in March and departmental cuts proposed will be presented at next month's meeting.

The motion for Vestry approval of the Gilfillin Endowment Fund was presented. The motion was distributed via email last week and was read again by Chris Klasing. It is included in Vestry packet materials for the month of April. Wayne moved that the motion be accepted as presented and Betty Teague seconded. All approved, none were opposed.

## **Special Reports**

Tom Croft presented special reports regarding the chiller in the Church, which has failed. A rental chiller was obtained through Johnson Controls and will be in place throughout the summer.

107 Broadus: The Church has intended to have the proposal to have the building taken down ready for the May meeting. Investigation proved that more time and professional review of the condition of the house was required. The resulting report is approximately 40 pages long. The structural engineer determined that the building was used as a private home for only 10-20 years before becoming an apartment building, then various businesses. This seems to support the contention that the building does not have historic value as a single family home. The report showing the building is in dangerous condition will go before the design review board in June.

Architects have submitted a proposal for an attractive green landscaped parking lot. Thanks for Tom's work on this project was expressed.

Nelson asked about the budget for the church restoration project. This is \$6.1 million, which includes work on the Chapel and sacristy. The next step will be in choosing a contractor, possibly by the next meeting.

## **Departmental Reports**

Betty Teague reported that Denise Pearsall will retire from CCES at the end of the next school year after 29 years of service.

Nelson Arrington has been in discussion with Rusty Miller (Annual Giving Coordinator – Interim) about how to revamp Stewardship. Part of this includes putting together a standing committee to work year round and to focus on planned giving as well as Annual Giving (rather than the current Annual Giving Cabinet, which is active for a few months and is only focused on annual pledging). Another focus includes engagement in other ways (such as Fellowship at the Falls) to get people excited to be at church and interested in giving.

Chuck Reichert reported that the Transition Team will meet again tomorrow with a number of items on the agenda.

Wayne McDonald presented the Faith in Action Committee motion to approve Dr. Alex Garvey as a Vice President over Missions on the Sterling Hope Center Board. He is highly recommended. Dena Benedict seconded the motion. A vote was held. All approved, none were opposed.

Wayne also reminded the group of the follow up to the Next Project Presentations (which had a huge turnout last week) Wednesday at 5:30 PM. Nelson complimented Frances' excellent management of the meeting.

Harrison updated the Vestry regarding the Nominating Committee's schedule and desire to encourage more participation in nominating and voting. Electronic ballots are under study and could involve a by-law change since the current by-laws require a written ballot. Bishop Waldo is quite interested and the results of further study will be reported. The Senior and Junior Wardens and Rector will each nominate one person to replace those rotating off. The slate will be presented at the next month's meeting.

Louise expressed thanks and praise to Harrison for his excellent job updating on the restoration process in the Rector's Forum. The message will be continue to be spread through multiple other means and forums.

**New Business**

None

**Adjournment**

The meeting concluded with Compline. The business meeting was adjourned at 6:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Rose Cuddy, recorder