

Vestry Meeting – December 13, 2016

5:30 PM, at the Home of Jennifer & Harrison McLeod

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

Special Guests: Frances Poe (Faith in Action Director) and new Vestry beginning terms in 2017: Bern Mebane (Senior Warden), Lauren Briles, Cotton Clarke, Jim Baumgardner and Kevin Mertens.

Absent: Dan Seaman (Assistant Treasurer), Wayne McDonald, Betty Teague

Women's Restoration Project Contract

Nelson introduced the contract, lease and information regarding the Women's Restoration Project. Frances Poe and Kathryn Norwood presented two changes – the check for earnest money will be made to Nelson Mullins, and the bank will not be exclusive to TD Bank in case the owner of the loan changes to another bank. She asked that the address on the contract should remain confidential. It is acceptable to say that it is in the Sterling Community. The lease is written to own in five years. Details are included in the attached documents. Frances asked for questions from the Vestry. Jim Baumgardner asked about the zoning code. Kathryn responded that as long as there are six or fewer women living in the home it is considered single family, but, although the previous tenant had been granted the zoning status, each new tenant must reapply. The zoning meeting will take place January 12. Dena asked about the makeup of the Women's Restoration house board. Kathryn responded that at the January meeting, seven additional board members will come on board. Christ Church will have two members, and partner Triune Mercy Center will have two as well.

Nelson Arrington moved that the Vestry approve the contract for the purchase of the house and the lease agreement between the church and Jasmine Road with one contingency, pending Diocesan approval if needed. (Information has been presented to the Diocesan Executive Committee today). Dena Benedict seconded. No discussion followed. All voted to approve, none were opposed.

November 15 and December 4 Minutes

The minutes from both the November Vestry Meeting and the revised December 4 Called Vestry Meeting during the Bishop's Scheduled Visit were distributed by email prior to the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Lizzy Sterling and seconded by Chuck Reichert. All voted in favor, none were opposed.

Rector's Report

Harrison asked for a motion to grant seats to the Vestry who will begin their terms in January 2017. Sam Erwin made the motion, which was seconded by Louise Oxner. All voted to approve, none were opposed.

Harrison thanked the Vestry for a great year.

Senior Warden's Report

Sam presented Harrison with a gift from the Vestry. He thanked Jennifer and Harrison for being such gracious hosts at their lovely home.

Junior Warden's Report

Bill thanked the Vestry who are finishing their terms this month and thanked Sam for his work as Senior Warden.

Treasurer's Report & 2017 Budget Summary

Chris Klasing presented the monthly financial report. Sam noted that it was the first year in several that we did not have to tap reserves from the "Christmas miracle." Why? Chris noted that we had \$90,000 in overpayments for pledges at the end of November. He also thanked the staff for keeping spending under control.

Greyrock, the outsource accounting firm, began December 1. The steering committee to oversee the transition is composed of the Treasurers and Business Office staff. Monica Eslick is our on-site accounting rep from Greyrock and she is currently in training with our staff.

Chris reported on the church and endowment audit reports. During the accounting transition, auditors were asked to make recommendations on practices and procedures. Chris and Dan are in the process of working on these recommendations. Bound copies are due to be delivered soon.

Chris sent a budget report via email in advance. Detailed copies are located in the room for anyone who would like more information. The budget is based on last year's actual rather than the target income. The final figures are between these two numbers. The 2017 Budget comes from the Finance Committee as a motion to adopt the 2017 Budget as presented. Coming from the committee, it does not need a second. Chris thanked Cotton Clarke for his service as chair on the Budget Committee this year.

Discussion followed with questions related to the Annual Giving campaign, so Nelson Arrington presented his report on Stewardship at this point. He noted that we have received 755 pledges toward the goal of 800, Increased pledges were significantly higher than the goal. Total pledged to date is \$2,384,000 – only \$16,000 behind our goal of 2.5 million. Nelson praised Lauren, the Vestry and the Annual Giving cabinet's work. Harrison reported that he is very thankful for such good results. We should still continue to encourage participation in pledging so we can reach the goal of 800 pledges.

Sam praised the work done by the staff, Vestry and Treasurers on improving processes that position us well for the future. Harrison noted the model of stewardship of staff, lay and leader efforts and the impact that this model may have for other areas of church life, such as youth ministry. He reminded the Vestry of their goals for stewardship at the Vestry Retreat and hopes this will apply to the other areas.

All voted in favor of the motion to accept the 2017 budget. None were opposed.

Departmental Reports

Tom Croft reported that he will continue on the Restoration Committee although he rotates off the Vestry. He said that three stained glass window companies have presented proposals, which will be compared. He anticipates presenting a motion at the next Vestry meeting to hire one of the companies to do the work. Nelson asked about the budget for this work and Tom's response was that the amount was expected to be in the ballpark of what's been budgeted. Ongoing maintenance will be included (typically scheduled every five years). Budgeting for the ongoing maintenance expense will be planned.

Beth Smith reported that the Faith Development department and the lay committee charged with the personnel search is happy to announce Hannah Flack's hiring for the position of Director of Youth Ministry. She asked the Vestry to support and pray for Hannah. She reminded the Vestry that our prayers for these blessings have been honored.

Other Business

2017 Vestry Retreat: The annual retreat is scheduled for January 27-28, 2017, at Kanuga Conference Center. We will arrive for dinner, spend time building community Friday evening and set our vision for the coming year on Saturday. The retreat concludes with the January Vestry meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Rose Cuddy, Recorder