

Vestry Meeting – August 15, 2017

The meeting was convened at 5:00 PM in Earle Conference Room, Parish House, Christ Church.

Attending: Harrison McLeod (Rector), Bern Mebane (Senior Warden), Dena Benedict (Junior Warden), Lauren Briles, Cotton Clarke, Rose Cuddy (Recorder), McNeil Epps, Bill Kehl (Chancellor), Kevin Mertens, Ben Norwood, Louise Oxner, Chuck Reichert, Lizzy Sterling, Betty Teague, Brent Williams.

Guests: Lauren Sigmon, Monica Eslick, Mike Towery, Monica Walsh

Absent: Jim Baumgardner, Chris Klasing (Assistant Treasurer), Bryant Nixon, Dan Seaman (Treasurer)

The Rev. Dr. Harrison McLeod opened the meeting with prayer.

Ministry Area Visit: Resource Development and Business Office

Harrison welcomed the Ministry Area visitors to the meeting and introduced their departments to the Vestry. He complimented the Business Office staff on their hard work and their diligence in conducting the business of the church while often unseen.

Lauren Sigmon, Monica Eslick, Mike Towery, and Monica Walsh introduced themselves to the Vestry.

Mike Towery and his wife Debbie have been married for 37 years, they have three children. He spent the better part of his career with Duke Energy. He has a business degree from Clemson University, and enjoys the great outdoors. Mike listed the number of Business Office duties assigned to him. His wish list is a standardized hiring and termination procedure, staff's better adherence to deadlines, improved communication, and a new business administrator with appropriate qualifications who is a good fit with the rest of the staff.

Monica Eslick, Greyrock Accounting – Controller: Monica is originally from Wilkes-Barre, PA. She moved to South Carolina in 2000. She was with Erwin Penland for six years prior to going to work for Greyrock.

Monica Walsh is from Greenville. She and her husband, Ben, have two children. She came to Christ Church through Greyrock. She updates pledges, does accounts payable, works with Lauren in Resource Development and is getting ready to work with open enrollment.

Harrison, Dena and Rose complimented the Business Office staff's dedication through transition.

Lauren Sigmon, Resource Development Director, is the first person to be full-time in this position, which incorporates ways to give and participate additional to the Annual Giving campaign. Lauren has been at Christ Church for a little over a year. She is married to David, whose family has been members at Christ Church for many years. They have two children. She came to Christ Church from development work at the YMCA and the United Way. She loves a good yard sale and buying others' old junk! Her wish list is for additional personnel in Communication and support for the database to be used to capacity. She praised the Business Office staff for their commitment as well.

New Business

None.

July Minutes

The July 18, 2017, Vestry Meeting minutes were distributed prior to the meeting by email.

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Brent Williams and seconded by McNeil Epps.

All Vestry members voted in favor, none were opposed. The motion carried.

Rector's Report

Personnel & Training: Harrison reported that Donald Duncan's title and responsibilities have changed to Director of Liturgy and Music. He will be responsible for more details, in which he is quite gifted, in shaping our worship. Leslie Provence, as Liturgical Assistant, will report to Donald. She will still bring unusual questions regarding Baptism and Weddings directly to Harrison. Kyley Miller's title has changed to Director of Human Resources and her hours have increased. Kyley will assume duties such as staff training, running searches for open positions, staff professional development. The business oriented parts of this position, such as open enrollment, payroll, etc., will remain with the Business Office.

We continue to search for a Business Administrator or an interim during open enrollment, upcoming lease agreement questions, etc.

Cotton Clarke asked about human resource policies and procedures. Harrison responded that there is a personnel policy updated last some years ago.

Lizzy asked about Lauren's concerns regarding ACS database usage. Rose reported that ACS training documents have been recently updated and made available to the full staff. They will be used in training new employees and volunteers and to refresh current employees. Harrison said that he felt that the database is a powerful tool and can be used to greater capacity.

Restoration and Re-Connect Sunday: The turnover date for the church is approaching – this has changed as of necessity as in any construction project. We will need to rent aesthetically pleasing chairs for the November 4 initially due to stained glass window work which will not be complete at the time of turnover.

Re-Connect Sunday will be in the church August 27 and gives the parish a sneak peek at the restoration – this should be a real draw. The church is a beehive of activity as finish work is done.

The fall Rector's Forum will be about the history of Christ Church – where we've been and where we're going. Harrison brought up an example of Tom and Karen France's family's baptismal dress that has been used for 173 years through 25 baptisms. This class will also prepare the congregation for our bicentennial in 2020. Information compiled from discussion groups that will convene in 2018 will help us identify priorities and lead toward the next capital campaign in 2020 (for the Parish House) with work hopefully completed by 2025. Lauren asked if the Envision 2020 report will be used. This group, chaired by Judy Lineback and Dan Seaman, did a lot of focus interviews and other work a few years ago that is contained in the report. We are already living into a number of items that came out of that report.

Next Tuesday, the staff will receive training in dealing with our changing world as the congregation increases in diversity. He wants the staff and parishioners to greet everyone with respect

and sensitivity and to remember that we are all human beings. The words “humble” and “human” are from the same root. If we ever stop struggling in our faith, we have moved from humility to arrogance, and that is a dangerous place to be.

Senior Warden’s Report

Bern Mebane reported that Harrison provided a resource called *Shift*, by Mark Tidsworth, to the wardens. He realizes that Harrison was encouraging them to think about 2-5 years down the road, rather than 2-5 months down the road.

Back in December and January, we commented about change orders. He brought up a change order, an additional situation with grout around the openings around stained glass window. This is referenced in the report Bryant Nixon provided in his report sent to the Vestry earlier in the week. Harrison commented on the subcontractors that will still be active once Harper has walked away – Bryant will serve as Christ Church’s coordinator to conclude the outstanding projects such as stained glass windows and the audio/visual installation, etc.

Junior Warden’s Report

Dena Benedict said if you haven’t heard from your ministry staff representatives about Re-Connect Sunday, check with them or with Amy Malik regarding volunteer needs for August 27.

The pre Annual Giving kickoff is September 6, at 5:30 PM, at Nolley Sanchelli’s home. The staff, Vestry, Annual Giving Campaign committee and the Resource Development Committee and significant others are invited.

Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Dan Seaman and Assistant Treasurer Chris Klasing were away this month. Ben Norwood, Finance Committee Vestry representative, reported on the month’s finances. Ben said that we were about \$57,000 better than budget for the month of July. Some areas are underspent and this is a matter of timing, especially in Faith in Action, and understaffing. We are approximately \$85,000 better than budget for the year to date. The HIStory Lives line of credit, as expected, was tapped in July at this phase of the project.

Betty Teague asked for an update on the lighting contract discussed at last month’s Vestry meeting. The Endowment agreed to fund up to \$193,000 for the lighting proposal. They asked for multiple proposals other than NetZero. Chuck Reichert reported that he has met with Gunn Murphy, who owns a similar company. He plans to meet with Gunn and Facilities Director Jim Cothran August 16. There are a couple of other companies whose options could be considered as well. He has learned that the Duke Energy credits do not have a specific cutoff date.

Departmental Reports

Pre-submitted Ministry Area reports were sent via email to the Vestry in advance and are attached to these minutes.

Chuck said he is in need of volunteers, including the younger men in Men’s Ministries, to help Facilities staff move tables and prepare the Church for Re-Connect Sunday. The group will work beginning at 9:00 AM Saturday, August 26.

Cotton reminded the group about Annual Giving events. They will rely on the Vestry's support and leadership.

Lauren reported on the successful meet and greet for Kellie and Jay Saturday night. Brent commented on a great example of young women who planned and led this event, personally invited staff, and took the burden off the staff. It was a great way to get some young adults re-engaged with the church although parishioners of all ages attended! Communications were accomplished in multiple ways.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Rose Cuddy, Recorder