TRINITY VESTRY MEETING

February 27, 2024 | Guild Hall, Trinity

Minutes

Present: Jean Davis, Paul Delaney, David Gartrell, Mark Ismond, Sarah McCarter, Georgia Noble, Max Rorty, Stephen Singleton; Elizabeth Molitors, Keith Cobell

Absent: Will Barring, Sky Beard-Armbruster, Nollie Lei Dawson, Fred Williams, Susan Zink; Sarah Thomas

Vestry meeting began following dinner and a devotional reading shared by Max, with reflections following.

Normally the vestry reviews and approves financials at each meeting, but there is not usually a February meeting. Cami has not completed current financial statements because at the beginning of each year, this involves layering in the numbers from the budget that was passed at the annual meeting, which must then be reviewed by the Finance Committee. A draft of the current budget shows nothing of note.

In November, Elizabeth applied for funding from the national church to expand youth ministry with a focus on parishioners in their late teens through early thirties. The application was successful, and funding was awarded to Trinity in the amount of $30,000, to be paid over two years. (A total of $140,000 was awarded to 19 different organizations.) These funds will lead to increased hours for Trinity's Director of Children and Youth, as well as new programming, likely to begin in late summer.

Stephen submitted a request for funding of capital improvement projects in 2024 on behalf of the Buildings & Grounds Committee. He also circulated a proposed resolution and support document, a resolution being required to fund these special projects. B&G has been working since last June on compiling a thoughtful list of potential capital improvement projects at the request of the treasurer and Finance Committee. B&G has prioritized them, and is presenting the projects it would like to begin this quarter. The funds available for these projects are Looking Beyond Ourselves and Brackenbury, the former being specifically created during the capital campaign of 2007-2012 for maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds, including the rectory. Brackenbury fund use is at the discretion of the vestry, which has often used it for housing needs. Working with Mission Wealth, we invest these funds and can take a certain percentage out each year. In addition to the prioritized projects, there is also a more recently perceived need for waterproofing at the church school building, as well as the need to repay our operating funds for the ventilation system. Investment Committee and Mission Wealth agree that his year we can take out additional money from these funds, as 3.5% is a conservative withdrawal from these funds. Jean points out that this is literally "rainy day" spending.

After the clerk read the proposal submitted by the B&G committee, Max motioned to accept the proposals of the B&G committee and approve distributions from LBO and Brackenbury totaling $62,000 to fund the listed capital improvements and obligations. Motion seconded by Jean. All in favor, the motion passed.

David nominated Mark Ismond as the vestry's new junior warden, and Jean seconded. Max nominated David Gartrell as clerk of the vestry, Stephen seconded. All in favor of both motions, Mark and David were elected officers of the vestry.

The vestry then took the opportunity to thank and recognize outgoing junior warden Stephen Singleton with heartfelt appreciation for two very productive years in that role.

Georgia discussed the facilitator for the upcoming leadership retreat, Deborah Karoff. She and Elizabeth met with Deborah last week and are helping her design the retreat, with a theme of "Connection" to build on the work done in the Congregational Vitality Assessment. The hope is to leave the weekend with clear and achievable goals for the next 18 months.

Motion by Georgia Noble to approve minutes and receive reports; seconded by Sarah McCarter. All in favor, the motion passed.

Following a closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 7:27pm

Submitted by: David Gartrell, Clerk