

## **Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Minutes September 28, 2015**

### **Vestry Members Present**

Scott Hoffman (Senior Warden), Pete Stringer (Junior Warden), Donald McKenzie, Monica Urness, Don Dawson, Anna Grimes Noser, Marian Ott, Michael Hasty and Ellen Wright, Chris Hansen, Arnold Malcolm, Jon Stanley, David Berndt

### **Vestry Members Absent**

Trey Caroland

### **Clergy Members Present**

The Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, The Rev. Canon Gene Manning, Sub Dean

### **Clergy Sabbatical**

Canon Joshua Caler

### **Other Members Present**

Mark McQueen, Ed Burgess, Sam Bessey

### **Opening Prayer and Meditation**

Rev. Timothy Kimbrough led the opening prayer and Monica Urness led the meditation.

### **Adoption of August, 2015 Minutes**

The minutes of the August meeting were approved with one change. (Stringer, Hasty)

### **Finance Committee Report**

Ed Burgess presented the Finance Committee report. The Cathedral has a positive variance to budget of \$88,371. This is the result of a favorable \$26,917 variance in income being added to a \$61,454 positive variance in budgeted expenses. Cash levels remain at approximately 23 percent of budgeted expenses. In the absence of a surplus, this will continue. It is the spirit of the Finance Committee that if a surplus were to occur, that some of it be designated to restoring the reserve. The Finance Committee report (Stringer, Wright) and income and expense and balance sheets (Stringer, Malcolm) were approved.

Ed noted that there was some discussion around how we handle bids. The bidding process will be incorporated into the summary of accounts and policies manual he is preparing. It is still the Finance Committee's goal to have the manual ready for Vestry consideration before end of year.

## **Old Business**

### **Update on strategic planning process**

Dean Kimbrough indicated that Scott Viebranz will be providing an update on strategic planning at the October meeting. He will give us an idea of what is substantively rising to the top from the parish via the small group discussions held thus far. These discussions, called visioning meetings, kicked off Sept. 20 with a high level of enthusiasm. The next session is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 4.

Senior Warden Scott Hoffman gave an update on logistics surrounding future visioning meetings.

### **Preview of 2016 Every Member Canvass**

The initial mailing for the Every Member Canvass will go out this week. The website is already receiving pledges. Dean Kimbrough reminded us that last year our goal was to raise \$2 million of a \$2.4 million budget. This year, we have set a stretch goal of raising \$2.1million. Timothy added that he met with Canvass chairs Trone Sawyer and Trey Tally as assistant chair. Honorary chairs are Charlie Cook Senior and David Graves.

## **New Business**

### **Episcopal School of Nashville**

Dean Kimbrough asked the Vestry for their view on the emerging Episcopal School of Nashville. Headmaster Harrison Stuart has been invited to address the Dean's Forum on Oct. 11 so that the parish can move into a more communal conversation about the school. He also commented that the school would be making some sort of financial "ask" to all Nashville churches in the diocese.

Michael Hasty asked about the relationship of the school to the Diocese and what the word "Episcopal" means in the sense of the school being called the Episcopal School of Nashville. Timothy offered that the diocesan canons in TN address issues of affiliation, but there are no national canons. It's been a loosely defined question. The school board

needs to clarify the direction it seeks with the Diocese. There was some discussion about interest at the Diocesan level.

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

Senior warden Scott Hoffman reminded Vestry members again to sign up for a slot as a facilitator for future visioning sessions as part of strategic planning.

### **Dean's Report**

Dean Kimbrough announced the formation of the Vestry nominating committee, which begins by selecting two names from our outgoing class for the nominating committee. The two elected are Chris Hansen and Scott Hoffman. The Dean appoints one and the Senior Warden appoint two individuals. The committee will meet by the end of next month, just prior to the October Vestry meeting and will have a slate for the parish by mid-December.

The Dean also included some discussion of possible staff transitions. He will have a more comprehensive report in October.

Other announcements from the Dean:

Three individuals will pursue vocation to holy orders: Charles Hall, military chaplain – vocational discernment committee; Megan Gwaltney, being called to the priesthood; and Melinda Balsler, seminarian, who will pursue a diaconate. At some time in the near future, the Vestry will be asked to hear their call to ministry and be asked for the Vestry's endorsement.

The Unity Build with Habitat for Humanity was a great success, with an onsite Eucharist celebrated on Sunday. There were 10-20 in attendance at the recent newcomer brunch. David Berndt, as a result of the brunch and citing other newcomer activities, recommended we include parking information in our regular communication materials.

The updated Cathedral website is one month closer to going live, which will be Nov. 1. We will move from a model of the site as a "closet" for storing data to one that serves as more of a "foyer", whereby links to further information will be posted. There will be a 3-month trial phase to work out the kinks. There was some discussion about how parishioners access the site in order to update their information and how they can access one another in parish life.

This Wednesday, Gene Manning and Timothy will gather with Bishop Bauerschmidt at St. Paul's, Murfreesboro to discuss the marriage canons and trial use rites. Timothy stressed that this is a listening time. The Bishop's direction will be made known at Advent 1. Dean Kimbrough stressed that there will be conversations to have as a

community and we will begin to make preparations for what they may look like. He asked for prayers for the Bishop, clergy and all those involved.

Timothy also mentioned the new service beginning on Oct. 18. Marion Ott asked what the language around the new services was supposed to convey. The Dean stressed that it is another liturgical option that is not intended to take away attendance at the morning services. It is another matter to commit to prayer.

The Vicar for the City position, intended to be filled as a quarter time position this year, will be moved for consideration in the new year.

### **Adjourn**

With no further business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned.

### **Addendum – Vestry Meditation Schedule**

- Monday, October 26 – Anna Grimes
- Monday, November 16 – David Berndt
- Monday, December 14 – Sam Bessey
- Monday, January 25 – Michael Hasty