

**Christ Church Cathedral
Vestry Minutes
January 19, 2020**

Vestry Members Present

Gibson Prichard (Senior Warden), Catherine Clark (Junior Warden), John Bridges, Wyeth Burgess, Charlie Cook III, Becca Ingle, Mary Herbert Kelly, Ken King, Jill Meese, Trone Sawyer, Pete Stringer, Varina Willse, Ellen Wright

Vestry Member Absent

Win Bassett

Clergy Members Present

The Very Reverend Timothy Kimbrough, Dean and Rector; The Reverend Matthew Lewis, Assistant to the Rector; The Reverend Lissa Smith, Associate for Pastoral Care and Cathedral Life

Others Present

Mark McQueen, David Nichols (by teleconference), Jeff Rossini

Opening Prayer

Rev. Smith led those assembled in an opening prayer.

Meditation

Varina Willse delivered the meditation.

Approval of the December 2019 Minutes

The minutes of the December 16, 2019 Vestry meeting were approved. (Stringer, Bridges)

Finance Committee Report

Mark McQueen presented the Finance Committee Report. The Income and Expense Reports were approved (Stringer, Wright), and the Balance Sheet was approved, with a correction (Stringer, Clark). The Finance Committee is satisfied with the Cathedral's financial performance for 2019, inasmuch as it has recorded a slight negative variance to budget of \$9,366. This is a result of an unfavorable variance in income of \$60,301 being partially offset by a favorable variance in budgeted expenses of \$50,935. Cash reserves

remain at approximately 24.75% of budgeted expenses on a 12 month moving average, which is slightly below the target of 25%.

Income and Expenses. Pledges, offerings, and contributions as of December 31, 2019 are \$44,759 under budget compared to \$12,866 under budget as of November 30, 2019. Cash interest income and endowment income are both over budget, due largely to higher interest rates. Income from Christian Education, Lay Ministries, and Parking are all under budget. Expenses for Salaries and Benefits, Property, Christian Education, and Lay Ministries are all under budget, while expenses for Financial/Stewardship are over budget due to federal taxes and audit fees.

Capital Campaign. The Finance Committee reviewed the Capital Campaign expenses incurred through December 2019. The Campaign has spent \$406,443.69 to date, with \$16,166.31 still available to spend. At the end of March 2020, when the Campaign Coordinator's work will conclude, there should be no further expenses related to Campaign fundraising. All expenses thereafter should be attributable to the realization of the Campaign goal of real property improvements to the Cathedral Campus. The total amount pledged to the Campaign stands at \$8,947,370.66, of which, \$3,672,410.57 has been paid in. The Finance Committee is working on a plan to maximize investment return on Capital Campaign contributions received, while permitting sufficient cash on hand to meet construction and related expenses going forward, and it should have a resolution to present to the Vestry at its next meeting that will incorporate that plan. Each month, the Finance Committee will review the Capital Campaign funds received, and the expenditures incurred to carry out the objectives of the campaign, and report these data to the Vestry.

2020 Pledge Drive. As of January 17, 2020, the Cathedral has received \$2,072,249 in pledges. This is somewhat short of the pledge goal necessary to fund new and expanded initiatives, but additional pledges and contributions are continuing to come in, which could enable those initiatives to be partially or fully funded. As of January 17th, a total of 517 households have made pledges for 2020, 191 of which represent increases over last year, 47 represent decreases, and 230 remain the same. There are a total of 49 new pledging households. The 2020 pledge total as of January 17th marked a \$19,501 increase over the 2019 pledge total.

Balance the Budget Committee Report

The Balance the Budget Committee, composed of the Vestry officers, met on January 17th to consider adjustments to the 2020 Operating Budget for the Cathedral in light of the actual pledges made as of that date. The provisional budget furnished to the Vestry by the Finance Committee at its December meeting was reviewed, and downward adjustments were made in order to achieve a balanced budget for 2020. The major adjustment was a \$10,000 cut to the communications component of the budget, which can be accommodated largely by switching from hard copy to digital dissemination of

certain communications materials. Other adjustments were considered, but deferred in light of the continuing receipt of additional pledges and contributions from parishioners. The adjusted balanced budget was presented and disseminated to the members of the Vestry for review and comment.

Building Committee Report

Charlie Cook III reported on recent activities of the Building Committee. He began with a recitation of the history of the efforts by the Building Committee and its predecessor, the Campus Concerns Group, to undertake the task of seeing the Strategic Plan through to the realization of the construction phase of that Plan. The primary focus over the last few months has been working with EOA Architects to come up with a scheme that meets our primary objectives within finite budget constraints. That process is ongoing, and initial adjustments have been made to original schematic proposals by the architect in an attempt to achieve that goal. Charlie made a graphic presentation to the Vestry, walking through the plan drawings that he had exhibited previously, and presenting new elevation drawings that provided a clearer and more striking representation of what the completed project would look like, externally. We have not yet gotten to the point where our anticipated total funds available (approximately \$17 million) will cover the projected cost of the building project (\$19 million or more). The two most obvious solutions are to scale the project back and build something less desirable than what has been envisioned and suggested by the architect, or to dream bigger and try to find a way to raise the additional funds necessary to complete a project that we can all be proud of. The Building Committee recommends the latter option. After considerable discussion by the Vestry, a motion was duly made and seconded (Bridges, Meese), and unanimously approved by the Vestry, to adopt the following resolution:

Resolution No. 1

***Resolved*, that the Vestry of Christ Church Cathedral, gathered for its regularly scheduled January 2020 meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, hereby receives the report of then Christ Church Building Committee, and encourages the Building Committee to report in similar fashion to the parish at large at the Cathedral's Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 26, 2020, presenting a verbal and graphic representation of the proposed scheme for the building project (with the caveat that this scheme is still a work in progress and its final iteration may vary from what is shown), and to express the need for additional funding to accomplish that scheme. The Vestry further commends the members of the Building Committee and its Chairman for their untiring work and continuing dedication to this project thus far, and for their commitment to the work going forward.**

Vestry Officer Elections

Senior Warden Gibson Prichard presented the 2020 Vestry Officer slate recommended by the current Vestry officers, a memorandum of which had been previously furnished to all Vestry members by email. That slate was as follows:

- For the office of Treasurer -- Dale Maxfield
- For the office of Clerk of the Vestry -- Caroline Rossini
- For the office of Junior Warden -- Pete Stringer
- For the office of Senior Warden – Ken King

Thereafter, the floor was opened for additional nominations of individuals to serve in each of the foregoing positions. There being none, the above recommendations were treated as motions for the election of each of the respective candidates, and seconds to each motion were entertained.

- The motion to elect Dale Maxfield as Treasurer was duly seconded (Stringer) and Dale Maxfield was elected to the office of Treasurer by unanimous vote of the Vestry.
- The motion to elect Caroline Rossini as Clerk of the Vestry was duly seconded (Stringer) and Caroline Rossini was elected to the office of Clerk by unanimous vote of the Vestry.
- The motion to elect Pete Stringer as Junior Warden was duly seconded (Bridges) and Pete Stringer was elected to the office of Junior Warden by unanimous vote of the Vestry.
- The motion to elect Ken King as Senior Warden was duly seconded (Masi) and Ken King was elected to the office of Senior Warden by unanimous vote of the Vestry.

Interview of David Nichols for Vocational Discernment to the Priesthood

David Nichols, a postulant for the Priesthood, has been recommended favorably by his Discernment Committee to proceed to the next steps in his candidacy. He appeared (via videoconferencing) before the Vestry for an interview and colloquy, seeking the Vestry's formal endorsement of his candidacy for holy orders. In addition, Jeff Rossini, Chair of David's Discernment Committee, appeared before the Vestry in person, to provide introductory remarks and to offer his personal endorsement of David. After an extended period of personal presentation, questions, and commentary, a motion was duly made and seconded (Cook, Clark), and unanimously approved, to adopt the following resolution:

Resolution No.2

***Resolved*, that the Christ Church Vestry, meeting at Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville, Tennessee, at its regularly scheduled meeting of January 19, 2020,**

hereby endorses the application of David Nichols for Postulancy (Holy Orders, Priesthood).

Dean's Report

- Dean Kimbrough advised that the Vestry members needed to sign an additional document evidencing their prior endorsement of the candidacies of Mary McCarthy and Brooks Smith for the Diaconate, and the present candidacy of David Nichols for the Priesthood. All Vestry members present then signed the respective documentation evidencing endorsement of each candidate.
- The Dean thanked those Vestry members who had volunteered to staff the polls for new Vestry member elections, and advised that he would try to make himself available, when possible, to resolve any confusion about individual eligibility to vote, should it arise.
- The Dean reminded all present of the celebratory dinner for Vestry members and significant others tomorrow night at 5:30 pm at Saltine on West End.
- The Vestry Retreat, scheduled for January 31st and February 1st, will be held at Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park in Dawson Springs, Kentucky.

Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned, with a closing blessing by Dean Kimbrough.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken King, Clerk