

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VESTRY
APRIL 22, 2009**

In attendance: Fr. Charlie Dupree, Larry Taylor, Patrick Martin, Randy Lloyd, Christina Johns, Todd LaDow, Mary Jo Barker, Mary Ellen Brown, Deacon Connie Pepler, Gates Agnew, Mary Ann Keko, Kimberly Hurley, Norm Crampton, Mary Ann Hart, Murray Robinson; Janet Stavropoulos, Clerk.

The meeting of the Vestry was called to order by Fr. Charlie at 6:10 p.m.

Devotions were recited by Kimberly Hurley, dedicated to Earth Day with a reading from the Book of Genesis.

The following correction to the Minutes of the March meeting was moved, seconded, and adopted: The Easter CD was produced by Verlyn Stone & Richard Manson, who are Trinity parishioners, not by CATS.

The Minutes as corrected were approved unanimously. Randy moved and Kimberly seconded.

Rector's Report – Fr. Charlie

Easter was a blast! Holy Week & Easter were both very meaningful and beautiful.

From June 15-26, Charlie will attend the Church Development Institute in Seattle. According to the terms of his contract, he gets two weeks of continuing education activity per year, not to be confused with vacation. He will pay for his own airfare and lodging and will ask the Diocese for additional support. Charlie, Virginia, and Connie are working on vacation schedules.

Treasurer's Report – Murray Robinson

On the Statement of Operations, we are \$15,500 ahead of the budget. Income of \$11,000 was received on Easter Sunday, and \$10,000 the following Sunday. This income consisted of both donations and pledges.

We are \$2100 ahead as to Expenses for the first three months. Some of this deals with timing. Utilities exceed the budget because of the hard winter but that should even out.

We estimated that we would be in a deficit, underwater status by \$42,000 but, in fact, Trinity is only \$29,000 underwater. Our spending rate is still greater than income. How do we deal with retiring the debt, not just dealing with mortgage?

The Capital Campaign ends in May. We have received \$62,000 in the first three months, and hope receive close to \$80,000 by the end of May. The net Capital Campaign income is about \$36,000 for the first three months. Someday we will have to have cash to replace items that are depreciating.

We withdrew \$19,360 from the unrestricted General Fund to pay bills.

Murray met with Chase Bank, Indianapolis and obtained approval to change the construction loan to a full amortization loan if we wish. He and Randy will meet with local banks to try to get a lengthened amortization period. So far they have met with United Commerce Bank. The goal is to get a full amortization loan.

We still have in excess of \$100,000 in the bank that is full Capital Campaign money.

We hope to use the Centennial Celebration to have a discussion about funding the next 100 years. We need sizzle and pizzazz for the next campaign in order to retire the debt, so a link with meaningful theme such as the Centennial Celebration would be relevant..

Early in the quarter we moved some investments from Diocesan funds at Chase because of poor performance and invested instead through Bedel Financial and Hilliard Lyons.

Norm asked about sharing financial information with the congregation. Murray wants to share highlights so that people can get major information. Anyone can get extra details. Information will be inserted in "Topics" in a visual and numeric way. Jacque's cutoff for May "Topics" was April 20, so we need to devise a method to select out useful information for interim statements. We can't change the publication date of "Topics," as people want it at the first of the month.

Pat commented that frequency of information is important. It's possible to balance the budget this year. We should possibly use the weekly electronic newsletter also. Stewardship, planned giving, and monthly financial information are not on tops of parishioners' minds. Murray said that reports should not be overly complex. And we should not put out too much good news or people will think pressure is off. Pat responded that we need to get information out. At the retreat, we spoke of using a 3-4 sentence blurb regarding income and expenses. Randy stated that the Finance Committee can put out such information each month. Fr. Charlie said that it could be put on the website tomorrow.

Murray stated that the reporting situation as to finances has improved dramatically in a year. Pat wants people to leave money here before they leave for summer. It was agreed that Murray and Randy would find a way. Norm suggested use of the Sunday bulletin. Murray says we could print insert page for Jacque to insert in "Topics," for example. Pat acknowledged the good work of Mona Baker.

The Treasurer's Report was approved. Gates so moved and Pat seconded the motion.

Rector's Report, continued – Fr. Charlie

The Personnel Committee met on Tuesday night. Buildings & Grounds has developed a new job description for daytime sextons. They now work 7 hours per day cleaning the building. So that means two persons, four days a week for up to 30 hours. We presented them with the new job desc on Monday, and they met with Fr. Charlie. Some transition may be in the offing. We need to be fair, kind, and appreciative.

Gates commented that we should be thankful for what they have done.

Pat stated that Weezie wants to hold a Sexton Appreciation day. Fr. Charlie said it was fine to proceed with planning.

Warden's Report – Randy Lloyd

He is working with Murray on ideas for the new campaign, stewardship, and moving to a more comprehensive and long-term approach to giving. He is meeting tomorrow with George Bledsoe to generate ideas.

People's Warden – Kimberly Hurley

Easter was great!

Fr. Charlie commented that the Breakfast was awesome. Thanks to Chris Johns and Debbie Satterfield.

Deac. Connie Pepler

She is taking an online continuing education class with Church Divinity School of the Pacific.

Centennial Celebration – Christina Johns

The History Committee, Buildings & Grounds, Parish Life, Youth Education., Worship, and Communications have participated in the planning so far. Actually the Sanctuary is 100 years old. Labor Day weekend 2009 will mark 100 years from the laying of the cornerstone. The Celebration will be stretched to Trinity Sunday, May 30, 2010. Events will include music, community events, and fundraisers. We will sell bottled water at the 4th Street Festival on Labor Day Weekend. Marilyn Keiser has offered to put on a big music event for All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2009. We might send out a fundraising letter for that occasion.

Personnel – Mary Ellen Brown

Regarding the Personnel Handbook, a suggestion that exit interview be added. Norm Crampton suggested we needed to add something on cause for termination. So language was added there.

A motion was moved by Gates and seconded by Mary Jo to accept the Handbook and was approved unanimously.

Fr. Charlie thanked Todd May, Todd LaDow, Elizabeth Johnson, Mary Ellen Brown, Judy Granbois, and Randy Lloyd for their work on this project.

Currently Trinity has 14 people on the payroll.

New Business – Fr. Charlie

A breakfast will be held on May 16 about the Winter Shelter. Virginia Hall is organizing it, and local religious leaders will attend. We sent out a questionnaire to the faith community on

what they are doing. We had a breakfast at the end of the Shelter so the transition was seamless when it actually closed.

Pat stated that one of the Shelter guests, Scott, spoke at the closing breakfast. He had been dry for 3-4 days and is still dry. So over a 3- month period, the guests had a chance for consistency of sleep and the presence of caring people. Scott began to wonder if they could stay sober. Fr. Charlie talks to Scott on the corner at Pete Ellis Drive corner and he says he is dry. So emotional support is very important.

The issue of daycare for 12-step groups was raised. Since the running of the Shelter and the realization of the prevalence of alcoholism, Fr. Charlie has reconsidered and wants to provide childcare for one particular AA 12-step group. The insurance company will attach a rider to our current policy. We will hire staff. A gift received from one person may cover year of paying staff. Meetings last 2 hours. This is for Vestry information at this point.

Mary Ann commented that an AA group had sidewalk blocked last night on Grant St. when her committee was due to meet.

Some people have commented we have lot of fundraisers. As we are in deficits, what are your thoughts? Heifer Project, creating awareness around certain issues, \$1000/person, raise money for Shelter, music, Homeward Bound. Is this taking away from core chunk of money? We're in a deficit, so what do you think?

Randy commented that some formality needed regarding what we do but we still need to make case to support church.

Chris commented that a fundraiser is fun as everyone gets together.

Pat commented that you don't want to feel pressed for money whenever you walk in the door, but we're a long way off from that.

Gates stated that people have been getting their money's worth.

Fr. Charlie wants to help people be more specific. Keep your eyes and ears open. It's good energy to have events here.

Mary Ellen asked about the fundraiser for the Recorder Concert held in our space. Is this appropriate?

Fr. Charlie commented that as to building use, for a one- time use , the Rector decides. For continuous use, the Vestry decides. From May 4-6, Stages (children's local theater group) will use the building. The fee is \$65 per usage (2 hour slot) per week for non-parishioners and \$35 for parishioners.

As to Vestry reports, how are the committees working?

Finance Committee – Randy Lloyd

This is a top notch group. We have better financial reporting and more timely investment decision strategies. We will work on getting financial reporting to congregation.

We will consult with George Bledsoe on getting long-term estate and bequest planning information to parishioners. The goal is to have a program in place in this year.

Education – Kimberly Hurley

We have 10-12 active members on the commission, a huge increase from past. We also see an increase in numbers of participants in programs. Danica D'Onofrio is the head of this effort. She works 10-12 hours/week. The work consists of spiritual formation, social formation, and service formation, so the commission may break into 3 subparts. Kim and Danica want the commission to integrate with other commissions. We need to think of children as vital pieces of congregation, and we need to further the concept of inclusion. Kim wants to challenge us to participate in one children/youth event in the coming year. For example, take over Children's Chapel one Sunday, or serve the snack for some Sundays.

Special thanks go to Jane Martin who is continuing to work with the Youth Group through December.

The last Sunday of Sunday School is May 17. We will switch to 7:45 and 10 a.m. services on May 24th.

Fr. Charlie asked the group: Is there anything in May we need to know about?

Gates spoke for Virginia Hall who is Vestry liaison for Pastoral Care. Beth Oldstrom needs to step down from the commission because she has been unwell. The next meeting will take place on May 3 at 1:00. How should we reorganize Pastoral Care?

Fr. Charlie: The Capital Campaign Finale will take place on May 30, and invitations will go out.

Connie: Vacation Bible School starts May 30 also.

Fr. Charlie requested that for the next meeting, please bring calendar events for summer and September. September events need to be planned now.

Fr. Charlie stated that he and the Wardens meet 2 weeks before a Vestry meeting to discuss items for the agenda.

The next meeting will take place on May 27. Connie will bring snacks and Todd will bring beverages. Chris will do devotions/storytelling. We will have liaison reports from stewardship and environmental stewardship.

The meeting was dismissed at 8:46 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

//s// Janet C. Stavropoulos, Clerk