



**Minutes of Trinity Cathedral Vestry Meeting
May 14, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.**

Present: Vestry Members: Jeff Spiess, Sr. Warden; Kim DeNero-Ackroyd, Jr. Warden; Paul Herrgesell, Treasurer; Mark Biddlestone; Elizabeth Billings; Marie Curry; Diane Hexter; Audrey Hudak; Antoinette Ponzio; Cynthia Ries

Staff: The Very Rev. Bernard Owens, Dean; The Rev. Adrienne Koch, Priest Associate; Shiloh Roby, Director of Music

Absent: Darrell Lausche, Clerk of Vestry; Martin Hermes; Marilyn Valencia

- The Vestry meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.
- Kim DeNero-Ackroyd led the Vestry in the opening devotional.

Formation

- Dean's Report

Dean Owens presented his monthly report to the Vestry. He focused on:

- CREDO Conference – This is a renewal conference, sponsored by the Church Pension Fund, focusing on wellness in multiple dimensions, with particular attention to reconnecting with personal reasons for entering ordained ministry. Attendees also developed their own rule of life; Dean Owens will likely share more on this in the future.
- Social Justice One-on-Ones – 63 conversations have occurred; the GCC Core Team is narrowing down the suggested issues to discern those most appropriate for Trinity support. How the currently labeled GCC Core Team will develop, possibly into a wider-focused social justice core team with GCC as one of the emphases is also under active discernment.
- Staff Updates – Job descriptions for several staff will be revised, starting with that for the administrative assistant for M&A who is doing significant work for the Cathedral. Possible opportunities for clergy positions were discussed.
- Staff Retreat – A retreat for the Cathedral Staff, especially focusing on downtown ministries was held earlier today.

Fiduciary Work

- Cleveland Chamber Choir/Artist in Residency

Beth updated the Vestry on the activities focused on a possible Cleveland Chamber Choir (CCC) residency. The agreement is in virtual financial balance between the Cathedral and CCC. A proposed contract is available in the Dropbox. Several questions and concerns were raised. Vestry members were encouraged to review the document and forward comments to Beth, Dean Owens, or one of the Wardens, who will make the final contract decision.

- Donor-Funded Ministries

Dean Owens reviewed that much of the music budget comes from a very small number of donors, including a significant percentage of non-discretionary spending. Discussion was held regarding possible implications and encouraging mindful movement toward a more sustainable model.

- Adoption of Consent Agenda

- March Meeting Minutes

Toni Ponzio moved “to accept the consent agenda.” Beth Billings seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- Treasurer's Report

Paul Herrgesell reviewed the income statements, showing that Cathedral income is above and expenses below budget. Discussion surrounding the budget deficit in Performance/Artist Fees line occurred. A similar positive trend exists for the Commons. An additional draw from the endowment will not be required this month but will likely occur next month. A 3-year lease agreement with CSU for their space has been finalized and executed.

- Property & Sustainability Committee

Mark Biddlestone reviewed changes to the repair schedule and pricing of projects for this year and updated ongoing conversations and negotiations about other issues.

- Cathedral Ministries Committee

Kim DeNero-Ackroyd updated the Vestry with active issues being addressed by the CMC, including succession planning, leadership nominations, and promenade table assignments. Mission Team retreat will be the afternoon of Sunday September 15. Possible dates for the Annual Meeting and Vestry Retreat were discussed.

- Nominating Committee Charge

Jeff Spiess presented a proposed Position Description for Nominating Committee Members. Audrey Hudak volunteered to serve on this year's nominating committee. One more Vestry member is needed by June.

Strategic Work

- Capital & Capacity 2024-26
 - a. Scope – Dean Owens summarized the current outline of the Co-Creation campaign.
 - b. Gift Acceptance Policy – being reviewed by Cheryl and the Planned Giving committee.

Generative Work

- Considering Digital Ministry: Dean Owens led a general discussion about digital ministry. Ideas included:
 - Many people find digital presence valuable.
 - How many services and events should be streamed?
 - The livestream may not feel intimate for some.
 - Metrics and data would be helpful: numbers, value, and usage patterns.
 - Copyrighted music being broadcast requires obtaining permission.
 - What does it mean to be a Cathedral church in digital ministry?
 - Possibilities for non-live recorded content so replace or supplement current offerings.
 - Financial concerns.

Closing Prayer

Kim DeNero Ackroyd led the Vestry in a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Next Vestry Meeting: June 18, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey Spiess, Senior Warden

