

**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting  
January 12, 2009  
Trinity Church on the Green**

Present: The Rev. Andrew Fiddler, The Rev. Estelle Webb, The Rev. Alex Dyer, Joshua Hill, Seminarian, Diana Beardsley, Julia Bogardus, Ray Chappell, Jake Dell, Duo Dickinson, Joe Dzeda, Barbara Fennelly, Walter Foery, Ed Getlein, Barbara Hedberg, Karrie Hendrickson, Leigh Lindsay, Warner Marshall, Rose Pawlikowski, David Soper, Mary Ann Stroup, Eleanor Tignor, Jan Tredwell, Robert Windom. Ex Officio: Bob Sandine, Guest: Nancy Ahlstrom

The Rev. Andrew Fiddler opened the meeting at 5:40p.m. and Barbara Fennelly offered a prayer.

**Duo Dickinson** volunteered for prayer, and **Bob Windom, Barbara Fennelly and Kerrie Hendrickson** volunteered for refreshments for the **February 9, 2009** Vestry meeting.

The minutes of the December 15, 2008 Vestry meeting were **approved** as amended.

**Associate/Assistant Report:** The Rev. Dyer reported that the web site is about 4 to 6 weeks from launching. The Rev. Fiddler noted that the Rev. Dyer's picture was on the cover of the "Good News" and will soon be in the "New Haven Magazine".

**Rector's Report:**

- a. Thanks to the retiring Vestry members: Julia Bogardus, Walter Foery, Barbara Lamb, Warner Marshall, Mary Ann Stroup and Jack Tebes.
- b. The Vestry Retreat will be held on February 20 and 21<sup>st</sup>. Chris Weaver will lead the retreat.
- c. February is "Bring a Friend to Church Month".

**Columbarium Committee:** Barbara Fennelly reported on the bids and the upcoming letter to be sent asking for payment to be arranged by those who have reserved space. Construction is scheduled to start in June and finish in November.

**Properties Committee:** Duo Dickinson reported that the bids to repair the roofs on the two towers came in at \$7,000. He then said that we should consider some options and went on to detail three options. The three options were then handed out to the Vestry. After discussion a motion was made and seconded that the Vestry authorize \$54,000 to do option number three, as outlined in the memo dated January 8, 2009 from Chapel Construction Co. The motion was **approved**. Duo went on to say that the final construction contract will not be ready until the February Vestry meeting. He also reported that there will be a meeting scheduled in February with all committee chairs to explain the construction schedule.

**African American Read In:** Eleanor Tignor reported that the annual read in will be held on February 1 starting after the 9:00 am service.

**Holiday Bazaar:** Mary Ann Stroup reported on the outcome of the Bazaar, which made a record breaking \$33,000. She thanked everyone who had any part in making the Bazaar such a success.

It was announced that the play reading originally scheduled for Saturday, January 10, will now be held on Saturday, January 17.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Rev. Fiddler announced that this meeting would be David Soper's last one as Treasurer, as he is retiring. A cake was presented in thanks and was served as the meeting continued. David passed out the proposed budget for 2009. He went on to report on the condition of the Endowment and the process that the Executive Committee had gone through to come up with the budget. After extensive discussion, a motion was made and seconded that the Vestry authorize presenting an unbalanced budget to the Parish at the Annual Meeting with a discussion on how to balance the budget. The motion was **approved**.

At this point the Clergy left the meeting

The Treasurer then passed out the sheet containing the Clergy and Staff salaries. Discussion of the proposed salaries followed. On motion made and seconded, a 2% increase in the Clergy and Staff salaries was proposed. The motion was **defeated**. After further discussion, a motion was made and seconded, to authorize a 2% increase in the salaries of the Parish Secretary and the Sextons. The motion was **approved**. Discussion continued on how to handle all other salaries. A motion was made and seconded that all other salaries remain the same and will be reviewed within the next six months. The motion was **approved**.

"The Vestry feels it is important to include in these minutes that our decision to not increase clergy and staff salaries was made with regret and after lengthy discussion. This decision was based on our need to try to balance the budget and should not in any way be seen as a lack of appreciation for their dedication and hard work during the past year. "

At 8:05 p.m. the Senior Warden, Joe Dzeda, closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Chappell, Clerk