

## **Meeting Minutes: October 13, 2009**

**Present:** T. J. Ferrantella (Sr. Warden), Mary Jo Barton, Paul Harbage, The Rev. David Stanford, Phil Debush, Duncan Moore, Cathe McEnerney, Gary Norcross, The Very Rev. Joy Rogers (Dean), Ann Meuse (Jr. Warden), Bill Cosper

Also Present: Bruce Barber (Director of Cathedral Music), George Culver (Asst. Treasurer), Elsa Vanitzettel (Treasurer), The Rev. Jackie Lynn, The Rev. Kevin Goodman (Associate Dean), Amanda Guthrie (Seminary Intern).

Absent: John McNeil Anderson, Mary Downie, Noah Gartner, The Rev. Larry Green, Frank Hicks, Amy Young

### **Opening Comments – T. J. Ferrantella**

- Tonight there will be a lot of discussion about money. We have to clarify the values that are important to us. What is our vision for ministry in 2010?
- Attendance statistics aren't completely reliable yet because we didn't track them carefully in years past. It is a concern to many Chapter Members that some activities go unreported because the sponsors don't see a need to report attendance or just don't want to cooperate. Therefore, meetings and events will not be advertised for those groups who do not report attendance to Lucia in the future.
- We welcomed Kevin Goodman to his first Chapter meeting since being hired at Associate Dean.

In a motion by Mary Jo Barton, seconded by Phil Debush, the Consent Agenda was accepted and, in a separate motion, action as noted on each item was authorized.

### **New Business**

175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Expenditures - In a motion approved unanimously by the Chapter \$4,000 was authorized as an increase to the current operating budget for 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Dean Rogers asked for a Chapter Member to work with Lucia Conrado to track these expenditures and Mary Jo Barton volunteered to do so.

Request for Expenditure from Everhard Bequest – in the amount of \$9,500 was approved for the following items: \$2,000 for a keyboard instrument to be used for children's ministry, \$3,400 for acolyte vestments, \$3,600 for choir robes, and \$500 for a wireless microphone. This motion passed with unanimous approval.

Consideration of Expenditure for Undercroft AV. The Chapter was presented with a proposal for audio/video feed to the undercroft at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. After careful consideration, the expenditure was authorized to be paid as a capital item, separate from the 2009 operating budget. The motion passed with one member voting in the negative and all others in the affirmative.

St. James Commons – Bishop Lee has authorized a revised system of governance and oversight for the Cathedral and Diocesan Center and the discussion began with a review of many of the incidents that led to this change. The primary impetus is that the Cathedral congregation needs community space for mission, for community building, yet the former system treated the Cathedral as if it were a mission parish. One comment made by a diocesan staff member was characterized the problem: “The diocese and the cathedral did much better when the cathedral was not doing anything”, which is an indicator of the kind of change and growth we’ve been able to achieve at the Cathedral.

The discussion highlighted such items as:

- A proposed Plaza redesigned gave more consideration to keeping people out than it did for opening the Plaza as a resource for ministry.
- While we recognize that our function as the cathedral is still important, we do not understand that this is an outreach activity that can flow more effectively as a mission of a congregation that first strives to be a healthy parish and this process will give us some clarity to that outreach mission.
- To the future: we want mission-based decisions.
- This process of change must start from some position of trust with the diocese. We don’t know how we’ll pay for some of the big dollar items. We won’t compromise the budget. But we need to determine our values first and be prepared to manage the properties accordingly and to pay the cost associated with doing so
- There will be a professional facilities manager and the idea of pursuing a grant for the start up phase was mentioned.
- This change will make cathedral staff lives easier since the council has responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the building and we will create task forces for future development

In a motion that passed with unanimous approval, the Chapter endorsed the St. James Commons concept for unified management of the properties.

#### Vision of Ministry for 2010

The discussion began with a quick review of the past year:

- Last year we intentionally budgeted more than expected income and the fact that we went through most of the year without an Associate Dean has our total expenditure much lower than anticipated.
- Over the past year, the staff has emerged as one of the best in anyone’s recollection and we must compensate accordingly. Also, we must continue to provide resources to do the job.

Then, the discussion turned to identifying priorities for 2010 so these priorities could be worked into the 2010 budget. The following priorities emerged with fairly clear consensus:

- Increased activities to draw neighborhood residents to the Cathedral. Such activities might include: Direct mail, signage, presence, people seeing the congregation being alive, people who work here can be ambassadors, more use of the café – music, advertising in TimeOut
- The desire for more outreach ministries. Survival is not a question but we need to thrive, which has been difficult in the past because there wasn't the organizational infrastructure in place to support these activities properly. New people value outreach. They also desire more adult formation – worship is not enough.
- We need to continue our work to develop formation opportunities that develop a shared understanding that we are pilgrims of the revelation of Jesus Christ. Must support this in presence and money.
- Discussed activities directed activities toward Social Justice Meeting, recognizing this Cathedral Community committee on Social Justice would be meeting soon to continue work in this area.

At 8 PM a move to adjourn by Elsa Vaintzettel, second by David Stanford, passed unanimously.