



## Minutes of the Vestry

January 15, 2007

**Present:** Heather Albrecht, Dick Beadle, Mike DeFillipi, Hadley French, Stuart Grigg, Monte Jahnke, Theresa Muzzi, Pat O'Brien, Jeff Stallings, George Sutton, Kit Tennyson, John Van Osdol, Karyn Weir, Pat Wenzel, Brad Whitaker

**Absent:** Betsy Creedon, Susan Heinen

### I. Opening Prayer

Kit Tennyson said the opening prayer.

### II. Opening Matters

*Announcements:* Brad gave an update on the organist search. The committee met with their last candidate over the weekend. They will meet again on Thursday and they expect to make a decision. Brad would like to make an announcement at the Annual Meeting.

- Approximately 15 resumes have been received for the clergy position.
- Brad encouraged vestry to purchase tickets for the play *A Pebble In My Shoe* which will be performed February 1 and 2 at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

*Wardens' Comments:* Monte Jahnke mentioned the DeHaven celebration in May and if you can recall any favorite Fred stories, please drop them in Monte's box. Fred's last Sunday is in June.

*Pastoral Concerns:* Please keep Sharon DeHaven in your prayers; Sheri Conway had surgery this past week and is doing well; Richard Thomas fell through a sliding glass door and sliced his finger, there was no nerve or tendon damage; Anne Birgbauer had surgery and is recuperating at home.

*Correspondence:* No report.

### III. Approval of the Minutes of December 18, 2006

The minutes were approved as circulated.

### IV. Parish Ministries Reports

*Parish Resource Ministries:* No report

*Parish Education Ministries:* Jeff Stallings reported that the committee had an effective meeting in planning for 2007.

- CC is sponsoring the Trinity conference from NY City next week.

*Outreach Ministries:* No report.

*Parish Life Ministries:* Karyn Weir requested Vestry presence at the Mardi Gras celebration to help in the set-up, February 20.

- Karyn is taking over Parish Gatherings from Tim Whims who is retiring after 15 years.

Vestry was informed that Bishop Gibbs is conducting Miter Meetings throughout the Diocese and CC is hosting one on January 27, 11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

## V. New Business

*Antiques Show Ad* (added to agenda): Hadley French requested that vestry continue to show their support by purchasing an ad in the Antiques Show catalog.

*“A Pebble In My Shoe”*: Richard Beadle requested that vestry be patrons for “A Pebble In My Shoe” (\$100). Tickets for the performance are \$25 and the afterglow is \$12.50.

*Herman Shelton* will be speaking at CC on January 21. From 1:30-3 p.m. Herman will speak to adults in the Nave; at 3 p.m. there will be a reception in the Undercroft; the youth will meet with Herman from 4-6 p.m.

*Discussion: Vestry Person of the Day*: Brad expressed that his desires for the Vestry Person of the Day is knowing that on any given Sunday there is a vestry person who is supportive should a major incident occur.

Thoughts expressed by Vestry members:

- To attend all four services is a lot for one weekend.
- Important to have vestry presence at 5:30 and 8, but how are they viewed by the regular attendees? (Are they there just because they are Vestry Person of the Day?)
- VPOD attend strictly the 5:30 and 8 because there are always vestry members at the 9 and 11:15.
- VPOD should make their presence known, circulate with the parishioners, help in greeting.
- Maybe go to a sign-up for major weekends (holidays) break it up between vestry members.
- Rotating weekends may make it more complicated.
- Good for all vestry persons to experience all four worships.
- VPOD should be present between services in case something should require their assistance.
- Have one person assigned to the Saturday services and another assigned to the Sunday services.
- Clergy introduce VPOD during announcements.

## VI. Old Business

*DeHaven Endowment for Music*: A motion was made and seconded to adopt The DeHaven Endowment Fund for Music (Attachment A), effective today. Monte Jahnke then reviewed the proposed trust document which updates the version originally presented and discussed with the Vestry at its December 2006 meeting. This updated version was distributed in Vestry mailboxes last week.

He reported several enhancements made by him and as a result of input from Joe Maycock and Chancellor Kerry Krenshaw. Joe was asked to review the proposal because it is based on the 1987 Christ Church Conservation Trust Fund with which Joe is familiar. Joe suggested language to allow co-mingling the trust's funds for investment purposes with other Christ Church investments, provided that a separate accounting for the trust is maintained. This feature is missing from the Conservation Trust document but has been the practice observed since its inception. This and other formatting suggestions from Joe have now been made to the DeHaven document. Kerry recommended extra language to provide the trustees further specific discretion to invest in particular types of funds and holdings, and to relieve the trustees from certain narrow statutory restrictions that he has confronted in the interpretation of trust funds for his private clients. Although not specifically stated in the document, the overall management of the trust's investments will as a practical matter be handled by the Christ Church Investment Committee subject to the above requirements. This should promote efficiency and effectiveness.

These several enhancements are now reflected in the current DeHaven proposal, as are features Monte added to allow the trustees to reject gifts they regard as unreasonably restrictive or to negotiate with givers to modify or remove such conditions. Among other changes, a provision was also added to clarify that the existence of the Trust is not to be construed to limit or restrict other fund raising to support the music program, such as the Antiques Show which has for several years shared its net income with parish outreach.

Monte reminded the Vestry that the priority endowment of the Trust is to gradually fund the music budget developed each year and, generally, to preserve the presentation of the type of liturgical music currently offered at our principal Sunday services by the Choirs of Men and Girls and Men and Boys. The references to these choirs in the document is descriptive and is not intended by the wording of the trust to require their specific ongoing existence as a condition of the overall endowment. The trust's secondary priority will be funding alternative and non-traditional music offerings likely to occur at other services which may develop at the parish. The trust's annual income will be available to a degree set by the trustees to support the program while the trust principal is being gathered. The current target amount for the endowment principal is \$4.6MM.

Unlike the Conservation Trust, the DeHaven endowment would be amendable, and terminable, provided that it is no longer serving the needs of the parish. This was felt necessary because unlike the building conservation trust the DeHaven endowment will be a programmatic endowment. The process for amending or terminating the trust is specified in the document and ultimately relies on a vote of the full parish. Unspecified music gifts and commitments to this planned endowment now total just under \$1MM. He will propose a vestry resolution based on input from the parish administrator and treasurer to consolidate these funds and to formally dedicate them to the DeHaven Endowment. This could occur as early as February 2007. Proposals for the first appointed trustees of the fund will also be developed and brought forward.

Following further discussion, the Vestry unanimously approved the DeHaven Endowment Fund for Music effective January 15, 2006.

*Treasurer's Report:* Pat Wenzel reviewed the goals and priorities that were identified this year: 1) to hire a new clergy person; 2) to increase outreach; 3) support the new communications efforts. Pat reviewed the *2007 Budget Assumptions* (Attachment B). The Finance Committee met the goal of including a new clergy but fell short on what the Communications Committee requested and the goal to increase Outreach.

There are 85 families that pledged last year that have not pledged this year and the budget assumes that those people will pledge the same amount as they did in 2006.

The summary schedule (reverse of Attachment B) shows that 2006 will end with a surplus of approximately \$63,000. Current giving is about \$43,000 over original budget. We continue to experience lower costs related to the gas and electric bills. The budget actually has a deficit of \$32,000. The Finance Committee feels it is appropriate to carry forward some of the surplus this year to offset the deficit because included in the 2007 budget are two items that are considered non-reoccurring expenses – the relocation costs for the clergy and the choirmaster which is approximately \$23,000. There is also another non-reoccurring item related to the fact that we don't have any endowment draw coming off the columbarium fund in this budget which is about \$8,000 or \$9,000. The columbarium fund was used to fund the expansion and there was not enough expendable income to draw on that fund.

Pat reviewed the General Fund that was distributed at the meeting.

Karyn Weir moved that the Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe approve the 2007 budget with assumptions. The motion was seconded and approved by all.

The Vestry continued to discuss the budget basically staff compensation. Brad summarized that Vestry adopt this budget in the dollar amount with a 3% contingency to be decided upon at a later date. Pass the budget with an asterisk for the 3% salary increase and wait to hear from recommendations of the Personnel Committee within the next sixty days. The increase will be based on job performance reviews and not every employee will receive a full 3% increase.

Following lengthy discussion the Vestry unanimously approved the budget for 2007.

**VII. Vestry Reflections on Parish Programs, Ministries, etc.**

Off the record discussion.

**VIII. Closing Prayer**

Brad Whitaker said the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Yntema-Gruner  
Recording Secretary

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