



## February Vestry Retreat Minutes

Saturday, February 6, 2021, 9:00am  
Zoom Video Conference

### **Vestry Members Present**

Kristen Austin  
Clara Berg  
Carmen Brady  
Jim Buskirk  
The Rev. Canon Arienne Davison, Bishop's Representative  
Karla Koon, Diocesan Member  
Scott Kovacs  
Micah Kurtz, Diocesan Member  
Peter McClung  
Emily Meeks  
Kathy Minsch  
Katie Prettyman, Diocesan Member  
Chris Rigos  
Marjorie Ringness  
Robert Stevens  
Walter Stuteville  
The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean

### **Officers Present**

Re Knack, Chancellor  
Phil Lloyd, Treasurer

### **Officers Absent**

Barbara Erickson, Clerk

### **Staff Members Present**

The Rev. Canon Jennifer King Daugherty, Canon for Congregational Life  
The Rev. Canon Nancy Ross, Canon for Cathedral Relations

### **Guests**

The Rev. Canon Walter Brownridge, Theologian-in-Residence  
John Hoerster, Chancellor Emeritus

### **Call to Order, Prayer, Review of Agenda**

Steve opened the meeting with prayer at 9:02 am. Peter McClung will take minutes.

### **Conflict of Interest Forms**

Discussion on necessary completion and signature of the conflict of interest forms. Please return to Erik by the next Vestry meeting.

### **Resolution on Vestry Size**

Resolution to increase Diocesan Members to three individuals. **Resolution #21-GO-02 approved unanimously.**

## **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION #1**

### **Reflection Exercise** The Rev. Canon Walter Brownridge, Theologian-in-Residence

- Opening Prayer "Open unto Us" by Dr. Howard Thurman read by Walter Stuteville
- Dr. Howard Thurman background review.
  - Mentor of Dr. Martin Luther King
  - 1st Black Dean of Boston University
  - King kept his writings in his briefcase
- John 8:31-32 Scripture Study Truth & Light
  - Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free
- Reflections and Thoughts of "What Truth Sounds Like" by Michael Eric Dyson
  - 1963, Almost 6 months to the day that JFK was assassinated
  - Background on the relationship between the Kennedy family and African Americans
  - Story of Martin Luther King moving from Republican to Democrat and voting for the Kennedys
  - Kennedy during presidency met James Baldwin, the famous writer. Baldwin's recommendation was to listen to a wider range of black voices. A meeting was arranged in New York with voices of the time.
  - Meeting progressed unexpectedly. Truth spoke to power. Bobby Kennedy has an awakening and champions BIPOC people
- How do we enter the conversation?
  - Some may be asking, "Why does it always come down race"
  - We are inheritors of a house that has foundational work to be done.
  - We need to have the hard conversation about race, just like that apartment in 1963
- An Ignatian Examen for Racial Awareness: 1-5 steps
- Litany for the Holy Spirit of Truth Brian Massingale
  - "Come, Spirit of Truth"

### **Review of Statement of Commitment and Action and 2020 Anti-racism covenant facilitated by Canon Daugherty and Canon Ross**

- Canon Daugherty gave background on the Statement of Commitment and Action and Antiracism document.
- Reviewed each statement in silence and individually.
- Broke into groups of 4. Two questions: What stands out in these documents as the most significant here and now? How do we integrate the Antiracism statement?
  - Have one person from each group share out.
- Conducted Sharing out discussions
- Micah, Kathy, Kristen, Peter, and Karla will meet with Jennifer and Nancy on a subcommittee to review the statements. Will work on the documents with a target of a presentation to the March meeting, but it could extend.

### **Discussion & Review of BIPOC Podcast Series logo**

Dean Thomason introduced the logo proposed to the Vestry as a motion from the Executive Committee. Discussion proceeded with mentions of the cultural history of the logo versions, the review of the Circle of Color ministry, and feelings of vestry members. Re confirmed that there were no known trademark issues. **Approval of the motion to adopt the branding logo for the BIPOC podcast series was unanimous.**

### **Discussion of upcoming events and sessions sponsored by the Parish**

Canon Daugherty and Canon Ross highlighted several events upcoming including:

- Class through the Absalom Jones Center in Atlanta
- Follow-up Q&A to the Doctrine of Discovery Session with The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton

### **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION #2**

#### **Creation Care and Carbon Reduction**

The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean Discussion on the subject of Creation Care and our alignment with ministry and parish goals, with references to the 2020 Mutual Ministry goal on Creation care

Steve prefaced the discussion with the current activities of Creation Care Ministry and the impact on budget and campus projects. Discussion continued on the alignment of creation care with ministry and parish goals.

#### **Mutual Ministry Goals**

The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean Review of 2020 goals was followed by a brainstorming session on proposed 2021 Mutual ministry goals. The discussion continued on hiring diverse candidates for the cathedral parish. The assignment and finalization of Mutual Ministry Goals was pended until the next meeting to coincide with some proposed changes to Ministry structure.

### **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION #3**

#### **St. Nicholas Property Memo of Understanding (MOU) with Developer**

The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean and John Hoerster

- A specific development partner has been identified for the next step of entering a due diligence process being proposed. 120 day process is described in the document to achieve a determination on scope and assessment of structure. Expenses for St. Mark's are capped at \$35,000.
- The committee is using the 120 days to develop and refine the perspective on appropriate use and next steps for the St. Nicholas meeting.
- Motion from the St. Nicholas Redevelopment committee on the table for discussion.
- **Unanimous passage of the motion to adopt the MOU with the recommended development partner.**
- Seattle Amistad School
  - Amistad has signed a lease to replace Bright Water Waldorf School.
  - **The lease with Seattle Amistad School was approved unanimously.**

#### **Election of Wardens**

Dean Thomason, on the recommendation of the vestry, appointed Peter McClung as the Senior Warden.

The vestry elected the following junior wardens:

**Junior Warden for Finance: Clara Berg**

**Junior Warden for Facilities: Walter Stuteville**

#### **Resolution for Authorized Check Signatures**

Motions approved unanimously for:

**Authorized check signers due to the new wardens**

**Phil Lloyd as Vestry Treasurer**

**Barbara Erickson as Vestry Clerk**

**Cathedral in a post-pandemic world**

Steve led a discussion on what the Cathedral services and structures could be in a post pandemic world including adjusting “in-person” meetings and services.

**Check Out and Closing Prayer**

Meeting adjourned at 3:10pm

Respectfully submitted,



Peter McClung  
Senior Warden

Erik Donner  
Executive Assistant

**Dates/Events of note**

2/7 Vestry Installation (Coffee Time)  
2/16 Shrove Tuesday  
2/17 Ash Wednesday