



# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Sacramento  
Vestry Minutes  
May 31, 2016

Roll Call: Present: Dean Brian Baker, Rod Thomas, Bill Shane, Nathan Daily, Linda Aston, Eileen Harvey, Doss Miller, Jason Lyons, Peter Perera, David Lindgren, Pat Ronne

Absent: Bill Mason, Bud Swank, Bishop Beisner

Guests: Nancy Tennyson, Kevin Sanders, Barbara Ore, Ted White, Paul Brosio

*Dean Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.*

Opening Prayer – Dean Baker

Review and discussion of the hiring of a consultant (Caroline McCall's firm Center for Church Vitality) for strategic planning for the Cathedral

Jason explained different processes in obtaining data from the congregation as per the discussion in the May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Clarification of strategic vision and planning was given by Eileen Harvey.

Kevin expressed concern about being "invited in", as he feels there is a gap with new comers not being invited into joining various church activities/committees.

Concern was also expressed about the declining congregation.

These concerns have been expressed for a while now, and now, through this process, we will be coming up with a plan of action.

Process of data collection is tentative for August.

## **REPORT OF REFFERAL CALLS:**

*"A Growing community making disciples who love and serve Christ and His world"*

Doss called a church in Santa Rosa who contracted with Caroline due to significant decline in membership. They reported that her help was extremely valuable, and the mood of the church had changed for the better.

Linda spoke with St. James Church in Fremont, who reported that Caroline is very talented and willing to work with congregations, but we need to give her concrete direction as to where we want to go.

### **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT:**

David raised a concern regarding the semantics of the wording of strategic plan or tactical plan, given time constraints. He stated the plan should address 3 issues: How can the Cathedral grow its congregation? How can the Cathedral become financially viable? How can we eliminate blockages to the first two?

Rod explained the difference between tactical and strategic plans, as a tactical plan is a by-product of a strategic plan.

Doss explained that he spoke with a few congregants who felt that this is another idea that will end up being tabled.

Dean Baker explained that we will be using the “Holy Cow” survey as initial data to be examined.

Doss made a motion to adopt the contract and Rod seconded. David made a motion to add “(1)” at the beginning of the first paragraph of the consultant’s proposal.

(2) As a consequence of the foregoing, prepare a draft one- to three-year Strategic Plan addressing three issues, among others: (1) how can the Cathedral grow its congregation, (2) how can the Cathedral grow its revenues, and (3) how can the Cathedral eliminate blockages to the first two issues.” Linda objected that this amendment assumed that growth was essential and would prematurely commit Trinity to such growth. David amended his motion to substitute “should” for “how can” in each of the three subdivisions.

Linda accepted this substitution, and as modified and after discussion, David’s amended motion passed unanimously.

David also recommended adding a bullet on the first page under the heading “Consultant Accountabilities” to make clear they related to preparation of the plan. The Vestry adopted this recommendation.

Then the Vestry unanimously approved Doss’s motion, as amended by David’s motion, to approve the consulting contract.

*“A Growing community making disciples who love and serve Christ and His world”*

Subsequently, at the very end of the meeting, David, with Dean Baker's agreement, made the following motion: "That the Dean and Senior Warden, acting together, be authorized to approve changes to the proposed contract consistent with the draft contract and the foregoing proposed changes approved by the Vestry." The Vestry approved this motion unanimously.

Vestry Meetings – Day and Time Change: Beginning June 28, 2016 Trinity Vestry Meetings will be held the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of the May 31<sup>st</sup> Minutes – to be conducted at next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Moulton, Vestry Clerk

**NOTABLE DATES:**

Executive Committee – June 8, 2016 7:00 p.m.

Governance Committee – June 12, 2016 1:00 p.m.

Stewardship Committee – June 14, 2016 7:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – June 21, 2016 6:30 p.m.

Facilities Committee – June 28, 2016 5:00 p.m.

**VESTRY MEETING – JUNE 28, 2016 7:00 P.M.**