

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

January 30, 2011

Christ Episcopal Church
Corning, New York

The 170th Annual Meeting of Christ Episcopal Church was called to order at 11:45 a.m. on Sunday, January 30, 2011 in the lower Parish Hall by Warden, Adam Ellison. The opening prayer was offered by The Rev. Ella H. Breckenridge, Interim Rector. Andrea Bookbinder, Vestry, was appointed Secretary and Sharon Campbell, Delegate; Dan Cohen and Martha Tober, Vestry were appointed tellers.

A review of the Agenda followed with no additions or corrections.

Andrea Bookbinder, representative of the Nominating Committee, reported the following nominations: for Warden (one vacancy), Gene Saunders (two-year term); for Vestry (three vacancies) Patty Davis, Dan Minster, Amy Rogoski, and Hermine Shapiro (three-year term); and for Diocesan Delegate Elizabeth Jones (three-year term). There being no further nominations, a motion was made to close the nominations. Following an explanation of voting requirements per the By-Laws, ballots were distributed

The Nominating Committee recommended the following persons be nominated to the Stewart Park Board for election to three-year terms expiring in January 2014: Albert Johnson II and Joan Kirk. A motion to accept the nominations was moved and seconded. The motion carried.

Barbara Cook, Treasurer, reviewed the 2010 Operating Budget vs. Actual Income & Expense Report. She noted that the deficit of \$72,500 was slightly lower than \$77,000 anticipated due largely to everyone working very hard to keep costs under control. There was not a Youth Minister or Office Assistant hired therefore that amount was not spent. The Nursery Upgrades had not been budgeted for originally. There being no further questions, a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report with thanks and subject to audit was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.

Bob Bayer, Finance Committee, reviewed the proposed 2011 budget. It is \$412.3K with \$115.1K projected deficit. The Finance Committee is asking for better communication with the other committees so that they know what is coming and can plan accordingly. Between 2000 and 2010 we have budgeted for a deficit. Operating expenses have not increased much but pledges have declined. We did make use of the Endowment in the operating fund; this is routine practice.

Candice Hill brought up the need to invest in the youth in the church in order to grow. She made a general case for this as well as a specific case for supporting the attendance of 1-2 people to attend a seminar in NC. Her questions were well-received and offers for donations as well as suggestions how to support it (can anyone donate frequent flyer miles, etc). In addition, there was discussion about the role the new rector will play. New rector will be very important in this, but we are responsible for our destiny and need to be ready to step up and play a key role if we want it to happen.

A motion to accept, with thanks, the 2011 budget was made, seconded and carried.

Endowment Administrator, Steve Tomlinson, reviewed the 2010 Endowment Fund Report. In addition to reviewing the balance sheet provided in the packet he explained the strategy used to manage the funds. In 2010 we started with \$1,296,895.52 and ended with \$1,277,868.74 (down \$19,026) but we made \$168,013 in withdrawals. Over the last 6 years we have taken ~\$500 K from the fund and it is up from the level it was then. A motion was made to accept the report with thanks, seconded, and carried.

Bob Bayer reviewed the Financial Assets, Liabilities and Total Assets Report on behalf of the Finance Committee. The audit indicated the practices used are sound. A motion to accept (subject to audit), with thanks, the report by Bob Bayer was made, seconded, and carried.

2010 Committee reports were made available in the packets distributed ahead of time and were not discussed.

Election results were announced. Eugene Saunders was elected warden for a two-year term, and elected to three-year terms on the Vestry were Amy Rogoski, Dan Minster and Hermine Shapiro. Elizabeth Jones was elected Diocesan Delegate.

Search Process Update by John Peck – In late June the Visions Committee finished its work so that the Search Committee could begin theirs. The goal was to be ready to present 3 viable candidates to the Vestry by approximately end of year. By September 20 interested candidates had responded to our first inquiry. They were given 4 questions dealing with the community, laity, youth, and success in growth. They were asked to provide a written response. There were 14 replies. From this 8 were interviewed by phone. From the eight, four were selected for face-to-face interviews here in Corning in December. Three final candidates were identified from these interviews and the bishop(s) pulled one. Two candidates will be presented to the Vestry. Either candidate would likely be available soon. In the unlikely event somehow neither is selected though, the process will start over. The Search Committee did an excellent job.

Courtesy Resolutions by Adam Ellison – Eleven former clergy of Christ Church were recognized at this time. Also – Graig and Deb were recognized for their contributions to Christ Church.

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Bookbinder
Vestry