



# ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

## **Vestry Meeting Minutes**

April 29, 2019

Held at Saint John's Cathedral

**Attendees:** Tom Keyse, Amy Davis, Tom Barbour, Jennifer Allen, Leo Carosella, Kathleen De Mars, Elizabeth Drummond, Bill Finch, Leigh Grinstead, Meg Parish, David Rote, Michael Vente, Mark Wherry, Don Wood, Richard Lawson, Broderick Greer, Katie Pearson, Audrey Chapman

**Absent:** Jack Denman, Bryant Harris

**Call to Order:** 6:00pm

Richard provided the opening prayer.

### **Summary of action taken:**

- Approved the recommendation from the Finance Committee on leases to mineral rights owned by the Cathedral.
- Appointed Jordan Lawrence and David Loos to Investment Committee
- Approved minutes from the March 18, 2019 Vestry Meeting

### **Action Items**

#### **Oil & Gas Recommendation (Tom Keyse)**

Tom Keyse provided an overview of mineral rights owned by the Cathedral and the recommendation from the Finance Committee on leasing two of those properties. A working group with expertise in mineral rights provided feedback to the Finance Committee on the Cathedral's options regarding leasing or selling the properties. Tom said that Noble Energy leased the larger of the two properties for the past five years but did not explore or develop the property during that period. Accordingly, the lease expired April 30, 2019 and new companies (as well as Noble) came forward to bid on leasing the rights.

Meg asked if social and environmental impacts of owning and leasing mineral rights, as well as the bidders' environmental and workplace safety record, had been considered. Tom said that the assets have been owned by the Cathedral for many years (long before the new gift acceptance policy when into effect) and that in past years, the Vestry has discussed the impact of owning these types of assets vs. the income (leasing rights) and potential income (production royalties) they produce. He said the Vestry could renew those discussions at a later date but for now, the it needed to decide how to act on the Finance Committee's recommendation (which included a report that all prospective bidders are reputable oil and gas companies),



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Meg shared that several Cathedral parishioners work in the environmental/oil and gas regulation fields and suggested that in future, any mineral rights working group should include people with such expertise.

Tom asked for a motion to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Amy made the motion. Don seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

### **Cathedral Ridge ad hoc Group Letter (Richard Lawson/Jennifer Allen)**

Richard provided an overview to the Vestry on discussions regarding a gift to Cathedral Ridge in honor of retiring Bishop O'Neill. An ad hoc committee (made-up of Vestry members and other parishioners) discussed the proposal and drafted a letter responding to those who brought the proposal to the Vestry at the August 2018 meeting (Jay Swope and Chuck Thompson). The letter documented options where the Cathedral could support Cathedral Ridge and the committee's opinions on the needs of the Cathedral to make Cathedral Ridge a better location for various events/retreats.

The Vestry discussed their opinions on the future of Cathedral Ridge and ways the Cathedral can help those efforts (as current owner of the Cathedral Ridge property). Vestry members also discussed their experiences at Cathedral Ridge. Richard appreciated the feedback from the Vestry. More details on concerns about Cathedral Ridge's deficit, the marketing for the property, and the emotions felt by attendees to Cathedral Ridge would be added to the letter. Richard said that a group from the Cathedral would meet with Chuck and Jay before the letter is sent to the wider Cathedral Ridge committee.

Richard said that the letter would be revised, and the revised letter would be an action item at the May Vestry meeting.

### **Nomination of Jordan Lawrence and David Loos to Investment Committee (Tom Keyse)**

Tom Keyse said that two spots are open on the Investment Committee. Both Jordan and David expressed interest in joining the committee. The Vestry was provided with each person's resume in the Vestry packet for the meeting. Leigh made the motion. Leo seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Discussion**

#### **Kimberly Update (Tom Barbour)**

Tom Barbour provided a brief update on the future of the Kimberly property. Tom Keyse said ideas will continue to develop over the next 60 days and the Vestry will receive more information at its May meeting.

#### **Continuing the Conversation; Demographics (Michael Vente)**



Michael provided the group with information from the national Episcopal Church's Research and Statistics office and the ExecutiveInsite report. This report displays various data fields for areas around specific parishes. Michael pulled the data for the areas surrounding the Cathedral and discussed some of his takeaways from viewing the report. He noted the demographic shifts that are projected for Colorado and Denver and the impact that could have on the demographic breakdown for the area for the Cathedral. He also noted the younger average age for individuals living around the Cathedral compared to Colorado as a whole.

Vestry members discussed their takeaways from the report as well. Some Vestry members supported the creation of a sub-committee to discuss the report further. Richard said that a sub-committee might be helpful but encouraged more discussion among the Vestry before the establishment of a sub-committee.

## **Information**

### **DO and Treasurer's Reports (Audrey Chapman/Tom Barbour)**

Tom Barbour provided an overview of the Cathedral's financials. He thanked Audrey and Kris for their work to move to a new financial system. Audrey provided an update on the on-going audit. She said that the auditors did not have many questions and the work continues. The auditors will provide a preliminary audit report in May and will present the final report at the June Vestry meeting. Don asked if there were plans about new members of the Audit Committee. Tom Keyse welcomed thoughts on new members.

Audrey explained the new format for the financials in the Vestry packet. The new system allows her to pull information on different accounts, which she hopes will be easier to read for Vestry members.

### **Dean's Report (Richard Lawson)**

Richard said that he and Broderick are working on the consecration for Bishop-elect Lucas. Members of the Cathedral's convention delegation will be in attendance. He also provided a copy of the winter report from The Denver Foundation which showcases the Cathedral's work on the Saint Francis apartments.

Richard said that the interviews for the new Cathedral Administrator were on-going and Michael Boney (the new Director of Music) will likely be starting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Other Clergy Reports (Broderick Greer/Katie Pearson)**

Katie shared updates on events at the Cathedral in the past month including 41 baptisms at Great Vigil, 10 baptisms the Sunday after Easter, and 2 weddings (the Parret/Courter wedding and the Johnson/Branum wedding). Funerals for Michael Peterson, Ned Cosgriff, and the Rev Hal Lycett were also held at the Cathedral. Katie also said that more services of healing and wholeness will be held in the future.



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Katie shared an update on the work of the Care Advisory Board. She said that the group was putting together various events including sessions to help inform people of resources in Denver for those in need. She also discussed the development of the Community Without the Commute groups which allow Cathedral parishioners to find other parishioners in their own neighborhood. She said that the main work of running these groups would be managed and driven by parishioners and allow for people to connect beyond the Cathedral.

Broderick said that he and Richard continued their work on the consecration for Bishop-elect Lucas. He said that Bishop-elect Lucas will be seated at the Cathedral on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The young adult ministry continues to go well with more podcasts of Mile High Theology and a monthly brunch after church on Sundays. Vic Vela will be the final guest for Mile High Theology's spring season.

### **Senior Warden's Report (Tom Keyse)**

Tom encouraged the middle Vestry class start to think about nominations for next year's Vestry class. Amy said the committee will work on the new Vestry class and nominations for the diocesan convention. Tom also said that the Vestry will start the process of the annual Dean/Vestry mutual ministry review at the May Vestry meeting.

### **Junior Warden's Report (Amy Davis)**

Amy encouraged everyone to participate in Love Denver Day. She said the Personnel Committee will meet soon to continue their work. Amy also began a discussion about a recent discussion hosted by the Mustard Seed group on Initiative 300 on the upcoming Denver ballot. She said that some had concerns that the discussion did not provide a balanced approach since a representative from only one side was in attendance. Meg said that the Mustard Seed group was starting up again and provided some history about what the group has done in the past as well as the goals of the discussions. Tom appreciated the work of the Mustard Seed group and said that clearer communication may be needed regarding the intent of future events. Amy also said that she would work to link the plans of the Mustard Seed group with Faith In Action.

### **Consent:**

- Approval of Minutes from March 18, 2019 Vestry Meeting

The consent agenda was approved.

**Adjourn to Compline: 9:02pm**