

# **Minutes of the Annual Meeting for 2006**

## **Trinity Episcopal Church – Lime Rock January 28, 2007**

The Rev. Dr. Robert P. Clements, Vicar of Trinity Church, called the meeting to order at 12:28 PM, following a lunch prepared by the parish and the hospitality teams. He opened the meeting with a prayer.

The Roll of Voting Members, as printed in the meeting bulletin, was presented. Jose Orraca noted that he should be on the list, and his name was duly added. Martha Baer moved that the list be adopted, and Danielle Gaherty seconded the motion. The roll, amended to add Jose Orraca was accepted unanimously. The Vicar determined that a quorum was present.

The next order of business was nomination and election of a Clerk of the Meeting. Alexis Dorf nominated the undersigned, and Martha Baer seconded the motion. Election of the Clerk of the Meeting was unanimous.

Danielle Gaherty moved that the minutes of the January 2006 Annual Meeting as printed in the bulletin be accepted. Martha Baer seconded the motion. The Minutes were accepted unanimously.

Election of Officers, Vestry and Delegates to Deanery and Convention was the next order of business. There were two corrections noted to the list printed in the bulletin, specifically that Jim Conzo's name erroneously had an asterisk next to it, and Mary Anne Carley's name was left off the Vestry Class of 2008 in error. Thus, the slate presented for election was as follows:

Senior Warden: Linda Lloyd

Junior Warden: Alexis Dorf

Clerk: Geoff Brown

Treasurer: Martha Nesbitt

Assistant Treasurers: Al Dorf and Bob Reid

Vestry Class of 2007: Jim Conzo and Cheryl Duntz

Vestry Class of 2008: Tom Schindler (replacing Jane Lipton, resigned) and Mary Anne Carley

Vestry Class of 2009: Martha Baer and Roy Bickley

Convention Delegate: Danielle Gaherty

Alternate Convention Delegate: Alexis Dorf  
Deanery Representatives: Danielle Gaherty and Mary Anne Carley  
Northwest Cluster Representative: Alexis Dorf

John Lloyd moved that a unanimous ballot be cast for this slate, and Al Dorf seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Martha Nesbitt then presented the Treasurer's report. While the entire report appears in the Annual Meeting bulletin, she noted in particular that we had ended the year with a small surplus although we had begun it with a budgeted deficit. Also of particular note were that we increased our pledge to the Diocese, and are budgeted to again increase it in 2007, that our endowment funds had grown substantially during the past year both through market appreciation and through the generous gift to the parish of the George and Jane Tuttle fund.

Martha particularly thanked her assistant treasurers, Al Dorf and Bob Reid, for their diligent work, and Al Dorf as well for his technical support of the PCs used for financial purposes and Geoff Brown for improving internet/e-mail access.

Fr. Clements noted that we might improve some of the dynamics of our financial picture if we included the previous week's plate total and the previous week's attendance in the Sunday bulletin going forward. Alexis Dorf encouraged the parish to pledge "off the top" rather than giving what remained after other expenses. Kitty Benedict, Stewardship Chair, distributed pledge cards to those present. Linda Lloyd thanked everyone for their help in making the year a financial success, and Kitty Benedict particularly thanked the Wardens for their part. A round of applause followed.

Linda Lloyd noted that volunteers had been scarce for the Art Show during the year past, and that it represented a substantial part of our revenues. She noted that she is posting a sign-up sheet for volunteers on the bulletin board, and that a substantial number of tasks will require people signing up for them before the show can move forward for this year. She noted that the willingness of people to step forward and help is critical – really, as critical as the finances – to our survival. Linda also asked all in attendance to promote rental of our facilities, as this represents an untapped source of funds at present.

Danielle Gaherty moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as printed in the bulletin, and Richard Stone seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

Old Business followed. Jacqueline Kuhn inquired whether there were still issues to be decided with regard to Lime Rock Park, which had occupied a significant portion of last year's meeting. No one present could identify any open issues remaining, and one parishioner noted that they had recently asked the same question of the Lakeville Journal and that they had been unaware of any open items here.

New Business included the following items:

Fr. Clements spoke of the appropriateness of holding a Celebration of a New Ministry here at Trinity, as such a service would be considered appropriate in view of his arrival. Fr. Clements stated that he would like this to be a celebration of OUR new ministry as a parish, rather than a celebration of his ministry with us. He suggested that this would be an appropriate time for Trinity to write our own liturgy, for Christine to debut any new compositions she might be interested in presenting, and that our young people should have a conspicuous role in the ceremony. A Bishop would appropriately attend such a ceremony, but we are not currently sure when one might be available to us. No motions or votes were held, but the feeling of the parish seemed to generally favor this approach.

Jose Orraca asked Fr. Clements how he thought we might work to improve things here at Trinity. Fr. Clements responded with several avenues he planned to follow:

- To follow the four-page "First year plan" he had previously distributed to the Vestry. This document will be put on the website.
- To be new. To leave behind the past, especially old views of how things ought to be done and of whether or not the ways they were done were satisfactory.
- To stretch Anglicanism as we know it.
- To improve our processes for integrating newcomers to Trinity
- To investigate Celtic Christianity as a means of building a new Trinity.
- For each of us to invite someone to church at Trinity.
- For every Trinity parishioner to speak POSITIVELY about Trinity; to never gripe. He noted that complaining to outsiders about Trinity was the same thing as saying "I do not want you to come to Trinity."

Jacqueline Kuhn spoke of her former parish in Washington, DC, and the way they had a Sunday forum between services. She asked whether we could do such a thing at Trinity. Fr. Clements noted that this had been his practice when he was with us as an Interim, and that he hoped to resume it. He also proposed to the parish that we have three or four

noted visitors to Trinity each year who would conduct a session during the early part of the weekend, and, if they were ordained, would also preach on Sunday. He proposed that this be titled the "Robertson Alford Lecture Series". Linda Lloyd put this into the form of a motion, which Richard Stone seconded. Christine Gevert noted that Crescendo will be presenting a major program including music, dance, and visual arts around All Saints day in Robertson's memory as well. The motion passed unanimously.

Jane Canfield proposed that Trinity designate one Sunday as "Fireman/Paramedic/EMT" Sunday and invite all local departments. The proposal was favorably received by the parish, although no motion or vote was forthcoming.

Martha Baer noted that we need to plan for a fund-raiser in 2007 and agreed to act as Chair of such an event as long as a co-chair could be located. She will evaluate a dog show as one possibility. She also charged other parishioners to consider fundraising possibilities. The Wardens asked that the Clerk send particular greetings to the Tuttle and the Manderbachs, and the meeting concurred in this request.

At this time, with no further business to come before the meeting, Alexis Dorf moved that the meeting be adjourned, with the next annual meeting to be held on the last Sunday of January in 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

Fr. Clements closed the meeting with a benediction.