

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2020

Present: Jack Armistead, Eddie Bennett, Kelly Black, Rhonda Hefner-Packer, Jane Hudson, Marge Massey, Nikki Mathis, Kathryn Musholt, Caley Ross, Beth Thornton, Lester House, and Chrissy Moffett

Devotion and Triad Time: Kelly Black and Nikki Mathis

Kelly led the vestry in the Daily Office and discussion followed on isolation and aloneness.

Call to Order and Approval of Meeting Minutes: Nikki Mathis

Nikki called the meeting to order. Copies of the July 14 vestry minutes were distributed in advance of the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Financial Report: Nikki Mathis and Les House

Les House provided the July and August Treasurer's reports in advance of the meeting since the vestry did not meet in August. For the month of August, revenues were \$4,804 under budget and expenses were \$4,433 under budget. Year to date, revenues are \$10,288 under budget and expenses are \$23,226 under budget. Discussion followed.

Les proposed that \$2,000 in the Youth Group budget be moved to Communication and Publications. Discussion followed. It was suggested that taking money from the youth budget would impact getting a paid youth minister. Les indicated that the money for youth would not carry over and that designated funds for youth would not be touched. Additional discussion was held. A motion was made to move \$2,000 from the Youth Group budget to the Publications budget. At the end of the fiscal year, December 31, if money is left, it will be moved to Nikki's Discretionary fund. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Les suggested that the budget line for Deacon Outreach be changed to Deacon Continuing Education since continuing education is required for the deacon. Discussion followed. A motion was made to change the line item for Deacon Outreach to Deacon's Continuing Education. If funds are needed for Deacon Outreach, it will come from Nikki's Discretionary funds. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Memorial Garden Discussion: Kathryn Musholt

Kathryn informed the vestry that Andrew gave an estimate and was asked for a complete picture and drawing. Mark Reinberger was asked to obtain two other bids. It was noted that the walkway is a safety issue. Les House informed the vestry that year to date, Buildings and Grounds budgets in total are \$10,000 under budget. The vestry thanked Les and he left the meeting. Discussion was held on what other parishes in the diocese have in place as far as pricing for memorial gardens. Prices vary and are up to \$2,000 depending on what is provided. Kathryn suggested charging something closer to the market price of a plaque plus \$1,000. Discussion followed. Kathryn will work on obtaining more information for the October meeting.

Rector's Report: Nikki Mathis

Nikki provided her report. Online attendance continues to be good. Nikki informed the vestry that she received a request for the use of St. Gregory's for day long childcare. Existing insurance won't cover day long childcare, falls, or COVID related risks and Nikki was told that all can be named in a lawsuit (vestry, rector, bishop, priest). This topic will be discussed further in October.

Toward Better Understanding: Kathryn Musholt

Kathryn reported that Ellen Richardson had organized two groups to read *The Warmth of Other Suns*. The groups will finish in a few more weeks and feedback has been good.

Report on Nourish, Grow, and Go: Rhonda Hefner-Packer

Rhonda indicated that the Oversight committee will meet September 13th and 20th and is working to finalize a plan to go to the editor by October 1. The goal is to get a plan to the vestry to review and provide feedback on in November. The final document will be presented at the annual meeting in January.

Rhonda discussed two areas outside of Nourish, Grow and Go: an external facilities study and a staffing study. The external facilities study will help inform the capital campaign. The staffing study will look at the possibility of adding a youth minister by looking at expected growth and at what point it makes sense to bring on a youth minister. A premature hire should be avoided so that the position, when added, has work to do and can be supported. It is important to have a budget that can be sustained over time to keep them employed. Discussion followed. Discussion was held on an associate rector. It was noted that if hired, an associate rector would need to do a variety of things.

Planning for Celebrations for Next Year:

Nikki would like to conduct a preacher series throughout the anniversary year of those who have played a big part in the life of the congregation such as Porter, Mike Freeman, Ryan, and Laura. The Bishop's visit has been moved to September 2021 to align with the feast day of St. Gregory and Joe Napoli is trying to get a commissioned piece of music to be played. Work is being started on a slide presentation of the history of the parish. Discussion followed.

Other Business: It was noted that names for potential vestry members should be shared with the Nominating committee. Four existing members are rolling off next year: Kathryn Musholt, Jack Armistead, Marge Massey, and Rhonda Hefner-Packer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32.

Respectfully submitted by Chrissy Moffett.