

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2020

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

Absent: Jane Hudson

Devotion and Triad Time: Beth Thornton and Nikki Mathis

Beth Thornton led devotion and groups of three shared in triad time.

Call to Order and Financial Report: Nikki Mathis and Les House

Nikki called the meeting to order. Les House distributed the Treasurer's Report for February. For the month of February, revenues were \$6,515 under budget and expenses were \$1,146 under budget. Year to date, revenues are \$2,217 above budget and expenses are \$4,862 below budget.

Les informed the vestry that per the Diocese of Atlanta and the IRS, St. Gregory is not allowed to file or pay Mother Nikki's quarterly SECA tax. Therefore, the \$5,805 Rector-SECA budget for 2020 will need to be moved to the 2020 Rector Salary budget. A resolution for this budget amendment was distributed. A motion was made to adopt the proposed resolution. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Les provided an update on the IRS letter. Both Les and Richard Cooper believe it is time to get a registered IRS agent involved to get the payroll tax payments correctly applied. Les asked the vestry to authorize Richard Cooper to find someone. Les noted that there will be continued communication with the diocese on this issue. A motion was made for Richard Cooper to contact a registered IRS agent to resolve the payroll tax issue with the IRS and to continue to communicate with the Diocese on the status of the issue. The motion was made with the knowledge that the registered agent will be paid. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Finance Policies Committee: Kathryn Musholt and Les House

An update was provided on the committee. Financial policies are in progress and will be distributed for review. Les indicated that he would initiate the annual audit. The vestry thanked Les for his work and he left the meeting.

Note: *The shelter in place ordinance passed by Athens Clarke County after the March meeting impacted the initiation of the audit. The audit will not be initiated until it can be performed safely.*

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Nikki Mathis

Copies of the February 11 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.

Rector's Report: Nikki Mathis

Nikki provided her report. She noted that given the 175-200 range of attendance, St. Gregory is still a transitional church. Discussion followed. Discussion was held on the Covid-19 update from Bishop Wright. Information on the College for Congregational Development was shared. It was the consensus that this was not the time to participate.

Parochial Report: Nikki Mathis

Nikki indicated that the parochial report looks good and is consistent with other reports. It will be uploaded to the vestry files and will be turned in tomorrow.

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

Rhonda reported that there are 4-5 people on each of the committees and all committees have met. Initial feedback received is that St. Gregory has a branding problem, i.e. there isn't a specific thing that St. Gregory is known in the community for providing. Discussion followed. The desire for a standing partnership with Barnett Shoals Elementary school and reaching out to eastern Clarke and Oglethorpe counties was noted. Discussion followed. Rhonda indicated that Sarah Gordon has agreed to edit the strategic plan.

Vestry Communications and Bulletin Board: Jack Armistead

Jack met with Randall and Kendall on the vestry bulletin board. A new board will run \$150-\$250. It was noted that the vestry bulletin board is not maintained by the communications committee and would be another task for the vestry. Discussion was held on the long-range plan for maintaining the board. Rather than purchasing a new board, it was decided that the existing one would be used for the rest of the year. The board will be cleaned up and organized. It will remain near the kitchen and if there is increased interest, it will be moved near the chapel.

Capital Campaign and 50th Anniversary Update: Nikki Mathis

At the June meeting, Nikki would like to receive information and ideas from committees on the capital campaign and 50th anniversary celebration.

New Business:**Sustainability Committee:** Marge Massey

Discussion was held on a potential donation of additional solar panels. Marge shared information she gathered on power usage and solar panels. Additional discussion followed. A motion was made and seconded for Marge and Mark Tavernier to discuss options with the

potential donor. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Marge will report back on the result of the discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted by Chrissy Moffett.