

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2023
In Person

Present: Vestry Members Kate Avinger, John Barrett, Stacie Court, Gail Eilers, Anna Hiers, LeeAnne Krause, Lane Norton, Maggie Reinberger, Shelby Welch; Rector Nikki Mathis, Treasurer Les House, Clerk Anna Thornton

Absent: Vestry Members John Bray, Blaine Everson, Mark Richardson

Devotional: Lane Norton

Nikki opened with prayer; Lane shared thoughts from *The Lake of Beauty*, Edward Carpenter. Devotional was followed by meeting and praying with triads.

Approval of Minutes: Nikki Mathis

Nikki called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Minutes of the February meeting were sent to Vestry members via email prior. A motion was made and seconded to accept minutes as written; motion was approved and carried.

Financial Report: Les House

Les distributed financial reports prior to meeting via email. A revised form, updated on March 14, was distributed in person depicting pledge progress toward meeting the 2023 basic operating budget of \$441,705. As of the update, pledges had been received in the amount of \$418,003, reflecting \$27,450 additional revenue committed and/or received following the passing of the 2023 budget. It was again noted that St. Gregory's does not pledge in a timely manner to allow budgets to be prepared in advance of the calendar year. Discussion was had to that effect around passing a provisional budget at the annual meeting in January, with review in June. Operating Account Checking balance reported at \$90,355 with Revenues reported at \$39,106 reflecting \$5,711 over budget. February expenses were \$34,494 versus a budget of \$35,032.

Discussion was had concerning bids for audit. A full audit is budgeted at \$10,000. Three bids were discussed-Aldridge & Associates, Trinity Accounting Group, and Turner & Patat. Trinity Accounting is not accepting bids currently. Aldridge & Associates is familiar with St. Gregory's, but is not local. Turner & Patat is a local firm but is not familiar with an Episcopal audit. Motion was made and carried to pursue Aldridge & Associates.

Les reported that revisions are in process to the Financial Policies document. Page 8-insert ACS reference; Page 11-changes to writing checks; Page 13-journal entries policy included Page 17-update mileage for 2023. The Finance Committee hopes to complete revisions in March. Discussions on floor included guidelines for committees, credit card use, and when to write checks. The Finance Committee proposed to create a separate Endowment Committee to manage our endowment fund.

Nikki reported on the Capital Campaign. A list from 2022 will be dispersed via email. Liaisons and committees look over and prioritize projects for April's meeting, during which time key projects will be

chosen to move forward with. Mark Richardson and Stacie Court serve as co-chairs for the Capital Improvements Campaign.

Rector's Report: Nikki Mathis

Nikki reported \$500 from Rector's Discretionary Fund was used for utilities/rent, in reach and outreach. The Parochial Report was not quite completed as estimates were needed on outreach. Nikki explained sabbatical terms. She will take sabbatical May 1-August 1.

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Senior Warden Report: LeeAnne Krause

LeeAnne announced that the April Vestry meeting would be moved back one week to avoid meeting during Easter Week. The April Vestry meeting will be held Tuesday, April 18.

A request was brought to the Vestry's attention and discussion was had concerning regular or ongoing use and rental of church space by an outside group. Nikki pointed to the Diocesan policy and discussion was had on liability and property issues. Requests to use our space on an ongoing basis will usually be denied.

Time and Talent Stewardship information from the 2022 Stewardship drive was not distributed in a timely manner so Mark Richardson volunteered to help with an unusual situation. A *Parish Committees with Associated Ministries for 2023* list was dispersed to Vestry members. Mark is reaching out to committees to urge committees to communicate with those who expressed interest on their pledge forms.

The meeting closed with a benediction and was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Anna Thornton