

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA
March 23, 2022 AT 7:00pm**

VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:

Sonja McLendon, Senior Warden
Chaudron Gille, Junior Warden
Newsom Cummings (ZOOM)
Nate Early
Julia Greene
Daniel Grizzle
Vance Holifield
Beth Neidenbach
Sally Pittman (ZOOM)
Tom Rossi

ABSENT:

Barbara Batog
Christy Wagner

STAFF PRESENT:

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham
Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park
Rev. Mary Demmler (ZOOM)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Callie Flack, Treasurer
Jessica Voyles (ZOOM)
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry (ZOOM)

The meeting opened with a Collect from Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham.

ACTION ITEMS

Approved Treasurer's Report, Financials and February Minutes.
Motion to Approve: McLendon/Gille. Unanimous.

Approved Annual Parochial Report.
Motion to Approve: Early/ Neidenbach

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Finance Committee will review the building funds and determine/recommend if any funds should be moved to greater interest bearing accounts.
- Jessica Voyles updated the vestry on their duties and ROTA. Each vestry member should serve 2 to 3 days per quarter. The vestry representative is also the lead usher at the 8:15 service.

People should avoid vestry duty and chalice bearing responsibilities on the same day. Likewise, vestry readers need to confirm with the church if they have received a voice mail.

- The Doug Smith Fund: Vestry approved changing this account line from donor restricted to vestry restricted. The initial donor funds to establish this account have been dispersed in accordance with the donor. The account line is now used for Outreach needs reviewed by the Outreach Committee.
- Tom Rossi raised the issue of whether or not we need 4 ushers. He feels that 2 would be sufficient since most people give their pledges electronically. Cynthia suggested that we could use 4 on major feast days, but there was agreement that 2 would be the number at other times.
- There was discussion of the 4-page Annual Parochial Report. The data goes to the Diocese, which compiles a report to send to the Presiding Bishop's office. Regarding outreach, Grace has its own projects, e.g., clothing vouchers. Other projects support existing agencies. Stuart will ask Brenda Morgan to print out a list of parish outreach by year.
- Senior Warden Sonja McLendon outlined the approach to the 5-year Strategic Plan. Based on the data gathered by Chaudron Gille and Cheryl Kelley, the question is: "Where are we now and where would we like to be?" The clusters will assess what seem to be the most immediate goals.
- Barbara Batog is chairing the parish picnic on May 22. Drone pictures will be taken by the Bishop's office.
- Stuart announced that all vestry members will be required to do the three components of training, which includes Safeguarding God's Children. Presently, the diocese limits each training to 6 from each parish among 95 parishes. We would like to get as much possible online, but currently our bandwidth is too small. Further details will be forthcoming.
- There was discussion about the return to the common cup during Holy Communion. Currently there is a shortage of Taylor tawny port, which complicates the issue.

The meeting closed at 8:15PM with a prayer by Rev. Mary Demmler

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April, 27, at 7:00PM. This will be a combined meeting in the parish hall with Building & Grounds and the Bicentennial Planning committee.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry