

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY via ZOOM
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA
FEBRUARY 27, 2023 AT 7:00pm**

VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:

Sonja McLendon, Senior Warden
Julia Greene, Junior Warden
Barbara Batog
Jim Brim
Stuart Deaderick
Daniel Grizzle
Vance Holifield
Beth Neidenbach
Sally Pittman
Frank Rinker
Helen Scovill
Anita Smith

STAFF PRESENT:

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

OTHERS PRESENT:

Amy Munn, Treasurer
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham opened the meeting with a prayer.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of Treasurer's Report and February 1, 2023 minutes. Grizzle/Neidenbach. Unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Julia Greene reported on the activities of the Finance and Building & Grounds Committees:
 1. Kevin Flack has agreed to be the point person for the upcoming construction.
 2. Currently they are getting quotes for a new fire alarm for approval by Finance and Building & Grounds committees. Note: if the fire alarm malfunctions before it can be replaced, a 24/7 Fire Watch will need to be implemented.
 3. Ongoing issues with the HVAC system are being addressed.
 4. An additional cooler for the Flower Guild has been approved and ordered.
 5. The parking lot lights are scheduled for replacement.
 6. The columbarium garden niche construction on the remaining two bays is scheduled to begin in March.
 7. Construction on the addition of artificial turf to the preschool playground is continuing.
 8. Jeremy Landers continues to work on the spreadsheet for ongoing maintenance.
- Sonja McLendon and Amy Munn gave an update on the Capital Campaign. The document has been revised for a deadline of 3 years for payments to the campaign. There is a line item in the budget for printing campaign materials off-site. Jennifer Williams maintains the in-house website for the campaign.

- Sally Pittman and Stuart Deaderick met on February 26 with the Circle of Parents, where the discussion centered on the job posting for a new staff member to work with children, youth and families. Four candidates applied and two were eliminated by the Bishop. There were no applicants from the laity. The job will remain posted until March 15. A visit with one candidate is scheduled for mid-March. He will attend the 10:45 service, have lunch with parents, meet with Stuart at 2:00pm and attend Evensong at 4:00pm.

- Enthusiastic discussion followed regarding the *Sound of the Genuine* retreat held at Grace on Saturday, February 25. Sponsored by the Center for Prayer and Spiritual Practice, the retreat attracted 200 participants. Everyone's feedback was very positive. The suggestion was made that we need to expand our hospitality efforts for future events with such a large number of people. Suggestions included purchasing larger percolators for coffee service. Vance Holifield was heralded for his heroic efforts to keep the coffee coming. Also suggested was a need for potential workers to familiarize themselves with the organization of the kitchen.

- Senior Warden Sonja McLendon reminded new vestry members to register for the training in Safeguarding God's Children and Safeguarding God's People. She also reminded them to obtain keys for the church. Reba Page is the contact person and Jeremy Landers will cut the keys. Stuart prefers a card-based system and is considering that as an option to keys.

- At the end of the meeting, the following Clusters for 2023-24 were determined. Stuart will email the people in each cluster with pertinent staff contacts:
 1. Administration: McLendon, Greene (B&G and Finance liaison) , Holifield, and Rinker(update lay personnel staff handbook)
 2. Liturgy: Holifield, Grizzle and Brim
 3. Compassion: Neidenbach, Scovill, Brim and Smith
 4. Formation: Pittman & Deaderick (Families), Neidenbach (Adult), Scovill (Godly Play and Women's Retreat) and Smith (Children & Adults)
 5. Participation (Parish Life & Hospitality): Pittman, Deaderick, Batog, Smith
 6. Creative Expression: Grizzle, Brim and Holifield.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 22 at 7:00pm

The meeting ended at 7:55 with a prayer by Vestry member Beth Neidenbach.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry.

