

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA (Via Zoom & In Person)
May 30, 2024**

VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:

Stuart Deaderick, Senior Warden
Julia Greene, Junior Warden
Sue Bowron
Kimberley Boyd – ZOOM
Jim Brim – ZOOM
Steve Carlson - ZOOM
Cheryl Kelley
Sally Pittman – ZOOM
Frank Rinker - ZOOM
Helen Scovill
Anita Smith - ZOOM

ABSENT:

Beth Neidenbach

STAFF PRESENT:

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham
Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker

OTHERS PRESENT:

Amy Munn, Treasurer
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

OTHER BUSINESS:

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of April minutes and Approval of Treasurer's Report and Financial Report. Deaderick/Carlson. Unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Junior Warden Julia Greene gave an update on the construction. Highlights are: new shades in the youth room, Lynn Swanson's office (which is the oldest room in the building) and updates on progress of the newly created brides' suite. Lumber is arriving so that awnings can be installed.
- Jeremy Landers has created a list of maintenance projects, including costs and urgency. Next week, Sue Bowron, Frank Rinker and Rev. Dr. Higginbotham will meet to develop a 3-5 year plan to be rolled out in scheduled maintenance. Frank Rinker suggested there should be a sub-list of the 27 HVAC units. There is currently \$419,000 in the Building Reserve Fund to cover costs of needed maintenance in addition to the remainder of the Maintenance and Repair Operating Budget.

- The Children of Grace windows are fogged over. Jeremy also bundled other work on window repair that will be needed. The matter has been put before the Finance Committee and Father Stuart will send it via email to the vestry for a vote. (see Addendum)
- Because of the ongoing struggle with postage, it has been necessary to purchase more online. The vestry will need to vote on higher limits on church credit cards (we have several). This vote will be by email when the final figures are received.
- Rev. Dr. Nonnemaker reported on a full slate of summer plans for the youth of the parish. All parishioners are welcome to join them for: Bingo Night (June 12), Creation Camp (June 25-27), which will include visits to White Sulphur Farms, Limestone Valley Farm and the Grace campus, and a trip to see the Gwinnett Stripers on July 19. There is also the possibility of connecting adults in the parish to be mentors to the youth.
- The interim plan for Compassion/Pastoral Care/Worship from November until at least February is that Rev. Mary Demmler will assist with Sunday services and Sister Genevieve will devote herself to Pastoral Care. It was agreed that a full-time clergy person is the permanent solution and will spearhead a robust community outreach. A steering committee of Stuart Deaderick, Jason Voyles, Marsha Kump, Anita Smith, Donna Murray, Cheryl Kelley and Daniel Thompson will work with Fr. Stuart to see what options we have. Father Stuart will be putting forward a condensed version of our needs to send to the Bishop.
- An investigation into waiving liability for small jobs of \$5,000 or less will be led by Julia Greene, Cheryl Kelley and Jason Voyles once Rev. Dr. Higginbotham has determined what Grace's umbrella policy will cover. Our insurance is through a national church policy.
- Since no one in the last campaign mentioned memorial plaques, the Building & Grounds Committee has a plan to move the plaques to the historical section of the central corridor. The current space for the plaques will then feature artwork to celebrate the Bicentennial.
- Helen Scovill agreed to investigate options for new parish hall tables that will be more manageable.

The next vestry meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2024, at 6:30PM.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker at 7:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

Addendum:

The total figure is \$10,800 to replace the COG windows and repair other key areas that have had deferred maintenance. Buildings & Grounds and Finance both recommend that we proceed, and Vestry approved disbursement of the funds by electronic vote in June 2024. Approved via email on June 6, 2024.

Addendum #2:

Electronic vote to approve the replacement of the air-conditioning unit in the choir suite, est. \$27,000, in July 2024. Approved via email on July 7, 2024