

September 28, 2010
Meeting of the Vestry of Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church
7:00 in the Chapel
Next meeting: October 26, 2010

Vestry members present:

Jessica Anderson, Elizabeth Boileau, Dan Crisafulli, Paul Fromberg,
Cheryl Hendrickson, Susan Sutton, Rick Storrs, Tim Yip,

Absent: Brian Protheroe,

Others Present: None

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The May 25, 2010 and July 27, 2010 Vestry Minutes were approved.

II. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dan Crisafulli announced the church that the audit by the Diocese, yearly procedure was successful and that our report was “clean” with one qualification regarding the timing of producing a letter when requested by the auditor.

The current financials reflect that gifts are up about 3% and expenses are staying on budget with one exception, the coffee expense. However, there have been savings in other expense categories that will cover that expense.

The church received an unexpected gift from the estate of Don Giberson. The church had received an initial bequest and was not expecting another but then the estate made another payment to the church of \$15,000. The gift will go into the Reserve Fund.

Moved, Seconded, and Approved: That Jessica Anderson, Paul Fromberg and Cheryl Hendrickson be signers on the bank account.

The budget planning cycle commences; Vestry members need to have items into Dan by October 15 and there will be draft budget at the next Vestry meeting on Oct 28. One line item in next year’s budget will be a regular payment on our outstanding building loan.

III. CLERGY REPORT

The weekend of October 16-17 launches Sacred Spaces in America tours in conjunction with the PBS broadcast, *God in America*, and the non-profit Sacred Spaces International. St Gregory's has been identified as one of 10 sacred spaces in the city of San Francisco. The church can expect to see a rise of visitors with guidebooks in hand surveying the space and art.

The Presiding Bishop, Katharine Schori has asked churches to deliberate within their communities on the wisdom of making the primates of the Anglican church the primary decision makers of the church. St Gregory's could form a study group around this proposal and be a part of making a recommendation to the General Convention in 2012. At which, the adoption of such a proposal would take 6 years under the present rules. There was general agreement that Otis Charles would be a good person to head up the study group. There is a study guide available.

Paul Fromberg made several announcements around Diocesan Convention held on October 16. Paul will be presenting a modified assessment plan at the Diocesan Convention. Churches within this Diocese pay a franchise tax based on a percentage of operating funds. Paul is part of a committee that has proposed a change to assessment formula in order to distribute the burden fairly among the smaller and larger communities of the Diocese.

The Diocese has announced in advance of the Diocesan Convention that the assessment this year for churches will lower by 10% which will lower our expense to \$63,000 for the year 2011.

Paul has put his name forward to be elected as a General Convention Deputy.

IV. STRATEGIC PRESENCE REPORT

A Yahoo group, SGN Sharing has had some negative comments on it lately. Although the group function has superseded by the social networking site NING it still continues to function as a forum. The general recommendation was that the moderator of the group needed to step in and remind contributors of norms or shut the group down. The latter suggestion was because of our present site is on NING.

V. LIFE-LONG LEARNING REPORT

Rick Storrs reported about the retreat, we have 97 registrants for the weekend. We also have more scholarship money than requests this year.

The Vestry will have a Q and A session at the retreat on Sunday morning after breakfast.

Paul and Sara will be returning early from the retreat in order to do church on Sunday.

VI. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Susan will be having a meeting with Tim Yip shortly about the membership prospects over the next couple of months.

VII. SACRED SPACE REPORT

Susan Sutton reported about the space and building. LPSI, the Italian Preschool has moved out, with the exception of some file boxes in the undercroft. The school has spackled some of the holes in the space they vacated. Church volunteers will spackle further and paint on Oct 3rd.

Susan has obtained a second quote for a gate to the parking/playarea for \$1800. Our present gate has the drawbacks of being unattractive and causing tire damage. There was discussion whether to include the gate replacement into and increasing the budget for the work that is planned as a result of the Italian School moving and remaking the space.

VIII. CONVENOR'S REPORT

Jessica Anderson gave the Convenor's report acknowledging the Don Giberson estate gift of \$15,000. Jessica proposed to use \$7,800 for refurbishment of the former school space including carpeting with other space improvements and in the parking lot/playarea by removing the old playhouse and making garden improvements. Part of the discussion of the money necessary included whether the LPSI would be returning any part of their security deposit and what might constitute normal tenant wear and tear by a preschool. There was a friendly amendment by Rick Storrs after the discussion of improvements that the amount be increased to \$10,000.

Moved, Seconded, Approved: That \$10,000 be available for expenses associated with the refurbishment of the former preschool space including carpet downstairs and the outdoor garden and lot improvements.

New Vestry members received notebooks with a record of all the motions passed since 2005, the most recent financial statements and contact information for all Vestry members. Cheryl Hendrickson suggested a fast and efficient way for folks to assemble their notebooks and add to their current binders.

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

Rick Storrs raised the Front Door project. He wanted assurance that the panels from the former repair project were still in existence so that it would not be necessary to make 14 foot temporary doors again. He was assured that the door panels were located in the undercroft. Further discussion concerned the "stay open" function and the cracks in the doors particularly the tops. One of the doors is out alignment because of the hinges and is difficult to lock. Susan Sutton raised the possibility of replacing the doors, keeping the panels with the art for display.

Jessica Anderson led a discussion of Capital Improvements and budget items for repair. Here are the items discussed:

Front doors	Repaint church interior	Piano
Rafter tails	Round tables	Stove
Dishwasher	Note debt reduction	Lectern
Fill in dip near Columbarium	Lighting fixtures/church	
Front step repair	PA/sound system	

Jessica made the strong suggestion that the front doors and note reduction were two line items for the 2011 budget.

Cheryl brought in a delicious home-made cake to celebrate the long service of Rick Storrs on the Vestry and Rick was toasted by all. Margaret Simpson will be filling out his term in order to work on the budget and work along with Sylvia Miller-Mutia, the new Children and Family Minister.

There were two announcements about upcoming events at the church, one is the District 10 Supervisor Forum on Oct 2 and the community market, opening on Nov. 27 with 35 vendors selling prepared foods.

With a recognition of jobs well done the

**** meeting adjourned ***

By E-Vote on October 12, 2010

WHEREAS the Reverend Sylvia Miller-Mutia, an ordained minister, has accepted an appointment to serve at St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church does not provide a residence for its appointed ministers:

THE VESTRY HEREBY RESOLVES that the housing allowance paid to the Reverend Sylvia Miller-Mutia for the period beginning September 1, 2010, and ending December 31, 2010, shall be set at an annual amount of \$20,000, and that it is designated as rental allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that, so long as the Reverend Sylvia Miller-Mutia remains a minister of St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, the housing allowance shall be paid in like amount each year after 2010 unless this resolution is superseded by a subsequent resolution of the Vestry; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED and affirmed by the Vestry that the Reverend Sylvia Miller-Mutia is not being paid to be a member of St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church.

And I so move...

The Rev. Paul D. Fromberg, Rector, St. Gregory of Nyssa

Passed 10/12/2010