

Vestry Meeting Minutes — St. Gregory's of Nyssa — July 21, 2016

In Attendance: Amy, Bridget, Susan, Mark, Paul, Jen, & Greg

Not Present: Francie

- 1.) Mark convened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. with a prayer.
- 2.) Approval of Agenda for July Vestry Meeting
 - The Vestry unanimously approved tonight's proposed meeting Agenda, with the amendment that a report on F.O.G. Camp will be presented and discussed.
- 3.) Approval of April Minutes
 - The Vestry approved the April 2016 Minutes, as circulated by Jen, with a single amendment correcting Bridget's last name to McShea. Vestry members who voted on the motion initialed a single, printed copy of the April Minutes which were secured in the St. Gregory's binder of Vestry Minutes.
- 4.) AnnaMarie Hoos Letter of Support
 - Mark presented a letter from AnnaMarie's seminary in Virginia asking in what ways SGN would be financially supporting AnnaMarie's studies. Members of the Vestry all agreed that the Vestry did not wish to do anything to hinder or harm AnnaMarie's seminary program by withholding necessary or expected support. Greg asked whether any money has been given to seminary students from SGN previously. Amy noted that the Vestry's decision might set future precedent. Paul confirmed that SGN has not previously given money to SGN seminary students. Paul also confirmed AnnaMarie does not have any expectation that SGN give money toward her seminary studies. Amy **moved** to send \$500 toward a cassock for AnnaMarie. Greg **seconded** the motion. Motion **passed unanimously**.
- 5.) OVS Report
 - Paul reported that Frances Caldwell did seventeen (17) live interviews over the last week or so, and she will be collating the results of surveys sent to parish members. The interviews were with targeted members of the congregation. Greg suggested meeting to discuss the results prior to the next Vestry meeting to flesh out questions. Bridget and Amy expressed interest in hearing the OVS Committee's views on the report.

-Amy suggested checking with Frances to determine the percentage of survey responses received. Paul will check with Frances. Paul noted that there will be an announcement on Sunday reminding congregants to complete and mail the survey. Jen and others suggested having additional hardcopies available at the church on Sunday for anyone who wants to get an extra copy.

6.) Finance Report

-Amy noted that there has been no increase in SGN revenues since last year. Simultaneously, SGN program expenses are quite over budget, largely due to the hiring of a facilitator for F.O.G. Camp this year. SGN hoping for off-setting donations to cover the facilitator cost, but those donations have not come in yet. Paul noted that the reduction in Kerry's hours/pay should offset and balance any increased costs.

-Amy also noted that the Vestry's Stewardship Project needs to exist and continue concurrent with any work on a Capital Campaign since SGN operating expenses are entirely separate from money raised for the OVS Project. Amy suggested possibly using a "tag-team" approach by having one Vestry member have the "feel good" talk with a congregant, and then let a second Vestry member make the "ask" with that congregant.

-Amy also reported that she and Bridget will be meeting to coordinate Stewardship efforts with Membership goals and efforts. Amy will collate a stewardship "priority list" and then individually reach out to Vestry members for assistance. Amy will also be circulating bullet points to assist the Vestry in conducting the stewardship conversations.

-Leesy's one (1) page e-mail to the Vestry members and the three (3) pages of attachments included in that e-mail were incorporated into these Minutes by **unanimous approval** of the Vestry. A printed copy of the e-mail and the three (3) pages of attachments have been appended to these Minutes, again with **unanimous approval** of the Vestry. (*see attached*)

7.) F.O.G. Camp Report

-Paul and Amy both heard from a number of parents that having a facilitator this year was a challenge; the structure was very different from past years and parents felt that the (student) facilitator did not seem to have enough time to prepare adequately for Camp. Paul noted that the general feedback is that Camp was bad this year, and Paul feels disinclined to ever do it this way again. Paul will ask Kerry to submit a report to the Vestry on what did or didn't work.

8.) Vestry Meeting Time

-Susan noted that 6 p.m. on a weeknight is a challenge for a number of Vestry members. Paul suggested the Vestry could meet on a Sunday either between services, after the early service extending into the later service, or after the later service. After some discussion, Vestry agreed to try out meeting on the usual Thursday night, but from 6:30-8:00 p.m. from August through December.

-Susan also asked that Vestry members submit items for the Agenda, including desired reports, earlier in the month. There will no longer automatically be an "Other Reports" entry on the monthly Agenda.

9.) Rector's Report

****The Vestry came into Executive Session for the Rector's Report****

10.) Prayer and Adjournment

-Paul concluded the meeting with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:31 p.m.