

St. Gregory's of Nyssa Regular Vestry Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2021

Present by Phone: Joe Bolling, Margaret Simpson, Burton Edwards, Linda Hall, Tim Yip, Anne Symonds, Katherine Krebs, Keith Cobell, Paul Fromberg

Also present by phone: Bill Phillips, Andy Wells, Ben Cryer, Will Capps

1. Paul convened the January meeting of the SGN vestry with a prayer at 11:08am.
2. Approval of agenda
 - a. The agenda for the January meeting of the SGN vestry was unanimously adopted.
3. Approval of minutes
 - a. Minutes from the December meeting of the SGN vestry were unanimously adopted.
4. Regathering Survey
 - a. Anne shared the progress on the parish regathering survey draft. Linda pointed out that many people's answers to the survey question might be different before and after they were vaccinated. Anne and Paul said that the survey could add a question to measure this, or that the survey could be given at multiple points in time. The vestry continued to discuss other possible adjustments to the survey.
 - b. Anne said she would send an additional draft to Paul based on the feedback.
5. Finance Report
 - a. Keith reiterated some of the points from Leesy's finance report email. In particular, he highlighted that the personnel expenses projected for 2021 have put the 2021 budget at a \$70,000 shortfall, and that the church will be drawing from its rainy-day funds to help cover. The vestry emphasized that the church has been fortunate to build up cash reserves over the last few years that can cover the deficit.
 - b. Paul and the vestry thanked Keith for his service on the vestry.
6. Membership Report
 - a. Linda expressed her appreciation for the parishioners on the membership committee with her: Holly, Susannah, Libby, Rick and Betsy. She said that the committee had been meeting monthly, and that she was grateful for their help.
 - b. Linda said the membership committee would continue to be involved in the parish survey, as well as on Ash Wednesday planning. She said that they are thinking about ways to invite others into the Ash Wednesday service, and strengthen the community by involving people other than Paul in the distribution of communion. The committee has also considered ways to share the weekly sermons more broadly.
7. Nominating Committee
 - a. Tim said that the nominating committee had nominated Andy Wells for Finance Commissioner, Ben Cryer for Sacred Space Commissioner, Bill Phillips for Strategic Presence Commissioner, and Will Capps for Vestry Secretary. The

outgoing vestry members emphasized that they would be available over the coming months to help new vestry members ramp up.

8. Annual Parish Meeting
 - a. Tim and Paul discussed topics for the upcoming parish meeting: presentation of the budget, election of incoming vestry members, election of deanery reps, and the rector's report. Burton said that Paul and Anne might consider promoting the parish survey as well. Linda said she would be happy to give an update on membership.
 - b. Paul said that the parish meeting will be on January 31st after the zoom service at 11:00am.
9. Rector's Report
 - a. Paul said that SGN would have a February 17 Ash Wednesday service including communion and ashes. There would be a small group attending the service in-person, followed by communion delivery to parishioner's houses. Additionally, Paul said a few people would remain at the church to provide ashes and communion to people who wanted to stop by after the service.
 - b. Paul said that an additional idea he had had for remote activities is a "Craft Tea" meeting where people can work on crafts and drink tea together, as well as a "Writer's Dojo" for writers in the community and an "SGN 101" meeting.
 - c. Paul said that there were ideas floating around to have additional iconography on the church's upper walls. Paul said Rick Fabian had asked Paul to paint the Icons and that Rick would provide \$150,000 payment for the work. Paul said he would not be accepting payment beyond the cost of materials and would instead pay the money into the capital projects fund. Paul is hoping to start a matching campaign to encourage parishioners to match the donation. All of this will be in celebration of the anniversary of Rick's ordination. Paul said that eventually this money would go towards the completion of the church's columbarium project in the rear courtyard.
 - d. Paul said the food pantry board is meeting at 2:00pm today.
10. Vestry Retreat
 - a. Tim said that the vestry retreat would take place over Zoom on Saturday, February 6 at 10am. Paul said he would set up the Zoom room.
11. Recognition of outgoing vestry members
 - a. Tim, Paul and the vestry thanked Keith, Katherine, Burton, and Joe for their service to the vestry.
12. Paul closed the January meeting of the SGN vestry with a prayer at 12:38pm.



Joseph Bolling <josephcbolling@gmail.com>

Finance Report for year end 2020

Leesy Taggart <treasurer@saintgregorys.org>

Tue, Jan 12, 2021 at 3:11 PM

To: Timothy Yip <timyip@gmail.com>, anne symonds <anne52symonds@yahoo.com>, Keith Cobell <keithcobell@gmail.com>, Paul Fromberg <paulfromberg@saintgregorys.org>, Burton Edwards <bliniarch@gmail.com>, Joseph Bolling <josephcbolling@gmail.com>, Katherine Krebs <katherine.j.krebs@gmail.com>, Linda Hall <lindamarie318@gmail.com>, Peter Levenstrong <peterlevenstrong@saintgregorys.org>, Margaret Simpson <msmargaretsimpson@gmail.com>

Friends --


We finished the year with a small surplus, after having transferred \$2500 from the operating fund into the general capital fund to continue building undesignated reserves. The very short version is that we managed to keep our 2020 spending pared to the bone, recognizing that we would be living with much reduced income. We finished the year with the bills paid and healthy balances in all our funds.

You had the detailed budget conversation last month, so you know the challenges we will face in 2021. If we can hold to the approved budget, we have plenty of cushion in the operating fund to meet the projected deficit, from savings in our prior 'fat' years. When the time comes that we can see re-opening to rentals, there will likely be a long process of rebuilding our book of renters, as non-profit performance groups have been battered over the last year. In the meantime, we need to look to ourselves and our savings to get us through. I know there will be more than the usual opportunities for members to volunteer in the coming year, especially on administrative tasks.

One line item I want to note is insurance cost, which is the only one way over budget. (Assessment got mis-budgeted from the beginning, and given all the covid-related impacts, you decided that a small revision of the budget was not worth making.) Once it looked like we might have a surplus at year end, I accelerated our January premium payment of about \$4300, to relieve financial pressure on 2021 expenses. Had I not done that, we would have been on budget for insurance. The 2021 budget takes that prepayment into account.

If you have any questions, let me know. I'm thinking of a Finance 101 workshop after the new vestry members are on board, and would appreciate your input on what might be useful.

Gratefully
Leesy

 YTD December 2020.xlsx
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As of December 31, 2020

Assets			\$ 437,317
	Cash in Checking	\$	72,869
	Cash/CDs in Investment	\$	281,933
	PayPal	\$	32,175
	Assumed net value of fixed assets	\$	50,340 =loan balance
Liabilities			
	Loan balance	\$	50,340
Fund Balances			
	Operating Fund	\$	178,878 \$5K designated
	Capital Fund	\$	42,237 \$16K designated
	Capital Campaign Fund	\$	70,703
	Reserve Fund	\$	54,296
	Pastoral Emergency Fund	\$	3,658
	Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$	27,913
	Fall Retreat Fund	\$	4,200
	Youth Activity Fund	\$	272
	Music Fund	\$	938
	Outreach Passthrough Fund	\$	3,881
	Total Designated or Restricted Funds	\$	208,099
	Total Liabilities & Fund Balances		\$ 437,317