

January 26, 2023 - Vestry Minutes
Submitted by the Clerk of the Vestry

Members in Attendance

Fr. Perry Mullins
Guy Giersch, Sr. Warden
Jackie White, Treasurer
Daniel Barnes, Clerk
Katrinka Clark
Meg Cotter-Lynch
Karen Friedland
John Lavalette
Chris Mathew
Molly Mitchell
Tucker Thompson
Julia Shahid

Members Not in Attendance

Michelle Hutton
Paul Newton
Scott Patterson

Non-Members in Attendance

Mtr. Kathy Heitmann

Call to Order, Prayers, Consent Calendar

Fr. Perry opened the meeting at 7:09pm. Mtr Kathy asked for prayer requests for specific individuals and offered a prayer. The vestry read and discussed Acts 28:16-17; 23-31. Fr. Perry suggested that in the coming year, a vestry member should select a verse for study each month. Molly Mitchell was chosen for February. With no objections, the consent calendar was approved.

Discussion

The vestry discussed the McKinney Community Profile. Fr. Perry indicated it was from an eight-mile radius around the church. Molly noted the report showed an increase in 55+ and older adults, sparking conversation about how we can serve this age group. Jackie mentioned Newcomers, a group in McKinney that welcomes people to our city. Fr. Perry mentioned bible studies in senior centers as one possibility. The cost of living for young families in our area was discussed. John noticed that the income and education level is higher than average. Mtr. Kathy noted that distance is a significant limiting factor in the church's outreach, to which Fr. Perry suggested that satellite groups in Melissa, Princeton, and other nearby small cities could provide a local connection. Katrinka pointed out a high Asian and Indian population growth. Fr. Perry asked for ways to encourage multi-ethnic and multi-racial participation and the vestry discussed.

Information and Business

Financial Update – Jackie explained the surplus from 2022 was almost entirely due to understaffing, and will be allocated to 2023 expenses. The total roofing expenses are pending a dispute with the roofing company regarding a roof which was not completed. Jackie proceeded with the unbudgeted items review and said the remaining *Shaping our Future* funds would be spent during this calendar year.

Staff Update – Fr. Perry extended an offer to an individual for the position of Parish Administrator, to begin in mid-February if accepted. Marianna will continue her service as Finance Manager. Suzanne Carol will be in the office on Mondays, and the new Parish Administrator will work Tuesday through Thursday.

Mtr Kathy will post a job listing for a Director of Children's Ministry, and a committee has been formed to consider candidates. There will be a note in the bulletin notifying members to contact the committee for more information. A listening session is scheduled to understand the needs of families with small children.

Fr. Perry asked the vestry to consider adding a curacy in the future. John asked about the need for a third priest. Fr. Perry explained the church has grown a lot, has more activities, and has more outreach. Mtr. Kathy agreed the church is understaffed compared to other churches, that it is “a large church staffed like a small church.” No action is needed on this in the near future, but it will be a point of ongoing discussion.

Little Free Pantry – The proposal is to add a small pavilion near the parking lot adjacent to W. Lamar street, facing north, with an electric light and hedges. Fr. Perry mentioned Trinity Presbyterian and St. Andrew’s have similar constructions, which were Eagle Scout projects and suggested the church utilize a similar design.

Announcements & Adjournment

The Annual Parish meeting will be held on January 29, and the nominations committee will serve as the election committee.

Meg moved to adjourn at 8:55pm, with John seconding. The vote was unanimous and John closed in prayer.