

Vestry Minutes
September 27, 2023
Submitted by the Clerk of the Vestry

Members in Attendance

Fr. Perry Mullins
Molly Mitchell, Sr. Warden
Karen Friedland, Jr. Warden
Jackie White, Treasurer
Daniel Barnes, Clerk
Julia Fox
EJ Nowak
Tye Stewart
Courtney Williams
Katrinka Clark
Chris Mathew
Scott Patterson
Julia Shahid

Members Not in Attendance

Tucker Thompson
Michelle Hutton

Non-Members in Attendance

Mtr. Kathy Heitmann

Call to Order, Prayers, Consent Calendar

Fr. Perry opened the meeting at 7:16pm, asked for prayer requests for specific individuals, then offered a prayer. EJ Nowak read and discussed Psalms 117 and 118:1. Hearing no objections to the consent calendar, it was approved unanimously.

Discussion

Collin County Homeless Population

Fr. Perry noted there has been an increase in homeless activity in and around the church property. He explained there were three recent problematic incidents, including two fights, and he acknowledged the difficulty of the solution and lack of simple answers. Fr. Perry met with the McKinney Police Department's Community Resource Unit and reported their recommendations to the vestry, which included increased lighting, cameras, and security measures. They also recommended not allowing loitering on the property at night. Fr. Perry asked the vestry for advice and discussion ensued. The members determined that after the meeting, they would walk the property to look for issues that need to be addressed.

Business

Access Control Project

Fr. Perry gave an update on the access control project, which is quickly approaching. Under the new system, most people will have a keyfob rather than a key. Access can be logged, and the locks can be remotely locked or unlocked. Fr. Perry indicated there were pending bids for cameras as well. Fr. Perry indicated that \$23,500 had already been restricted for this purpose, but that the total cost for cameras and locks is expected to approach \$30,000. Fr. Perry noted that possible funding sources for the project include the approximately \$72,000 in the capital improvement fund or the remaining Shaping Our Future funds of approximately \$23,800.

Building and Grounds

Karen indicated a new HVAC system will cost \$14,200. An estimate was received to sod the campus with bermuda grass for \$9,000. Fr. Perry indicated a design firm (MDC) had submitted a bid of \$3,000 to create a customized landscape design for the rectory. Courtney Williams asked about doing landscape designs for the whole campus, with the intent of using drought-tolerant and water-saving materials. Julia Shahid mentioned Austin College used Moonlight Nursery for their campus. Karen added that artificial turf of any significant amount is too expensive to be a consideration. The Vestry agreed that a comprehensive design for the campus was a necessary first step, and that a playground for small children should be part of the design. Fr. Perry noted that if the vestry has decided to wait for comprehensive plans, the ground cover repair will not be able to be completed until spring due to the coming winter months.

It was noted that there were three projects that needed to be funded:

1. Office HVAC - \$14,200
2. Access Control - Up to \$6,500 for cameras, in addition to the \$23,500 already restricted
3. Lighting and Safety Improvements - Up to \$10,000

EJ made a motion to approve all three expenses and to use, in order, the remaining shaping our future funds, followed by up to \$6,000 from the capital improvement fund, to complete the projects. Karen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Stewardship

Julia Fox reported on progress, indicating that the celebration would include food, a bounce house, face painting, and that the planning was complete.

Staff Update

Clair Petty, Director of Children's Ministries, and Rachel Rios, Parish Administrator, will transition out of their roles at the end of the year. Mtr Kathy indicated there is an opening for a full-time Youth and Children's Ministry position. The vestry discussed the various pipelines which might train individuals for such a position. Fr. Perry suggested the Parish Administrator position might be changed to a Director of Operations position.

Announcements & Adjournment

Fr. Perry announced a book for the Vestry to read, "Learning from London", noting that the Vestry can meet over lunch at some future date to discuss it.

Courtney moved to adjourn at 9:08pm, Karen seconded, and Molly Mitchell closed in prayer.

Prayerfully submitted,
Daniel Barnes

Approved:

Date: 10/23/23
Signed: Daniel Barnes
Daniel Barnes, Clerk