

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2021

Members of the Vestry Present

Roosevelt Carter

Andrew (Andy) D'Antonio

Sammi Harvey

Daniel Jones

Charles McGee, Co-Sr. Warden

Bindhu Newell

Holly Puckett (Sr. Petra)

Kathryn (Katy) Unbehaun

David Waldow, Jr. Warden

Kevin Walsh

Clergy Present

The Rev. Martin Elfert

The Rev. Jeanne Kaliszewski

Others Present

Alicia Perkins Lehrle, Clerk

Members of the Vestry Absent

Curt Germundson, Treasurer

1. Formation

1.1 Opening Prayers

- The meeting began at 6:01pm with a reading from the third chapter of Ruth in an abbreviated form of lectio divina followed by an opening prayer from Martin.

2. Items

2.1 Consent Agenda

- No changes or further discussion was requested for any of the Consent Agenda items (minutes of January 2021 Vestry Meeting, minutes of Annual General Meeting, Rector's Report, and Jr. Warden's Report). Roosevelt moved to accept the Consent Agenda items as presented, and Sr. Petra seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

2.2 The Year to Come

- Martin noted tomorrow is the deadline for submission of a grant which will help with pre-development costs for the Grace Commons Project (GCP). He expects the deadline to be met.
- Proposed dates for Vestry meetings for the year as well as dates for the meeting with Grace Institute (GI) Board and the Mutual Ministry Review (MMR) were distributed to Vestry members prior to tonight's meeting. No objections were raised for the proposed dates. It was asked to have the Equity and Inclusion Committee, which is moving from being a Vestry-only committee, be included in the MMR.
- David commented that during the past year the church has had carpet and chair cleaning, some door repair done, with site drainage up next on the repair list.
- Kevin said he has contacted new Vestry members via e-mail and will assist new members with questions and concerns about Vestry. The goal is to have everyone feeling comfortable in their Vestry role as soon as possible.
- Martin said he will send out questions for the MMR ahead of the April 10 scheduled meeting. He asked Vestry members to review the questions in advance and allow those with the most concern to be the ones discussed during the MMR. When asked by a new Vestry member, Martin explained the MMR is a check-in to find out how well the clergy and Vestry are working together, and an MMR has occurred annually the last several years. He added the questions in the MMR are open to revision.
- Kevin discussed scheduling the Moments of Grace and explained anything a Vestry member finds moving may be shared for a Moment of Grace. He asked to have everyone let him know their preferred dates, if any, for presenting a Moment of Grace.
- The joint meeting of the GI Board and Vestry has been scheduled for March 2, and Martin explained the purpose is to wonder together on the partnership between the two especially as it concerns the GCP.
- In other matters, Kevin noted the by-laws were distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. There was some discussion as to whether the term of office for a Sr. Warden should be changed in the by-laws to allow for a term longer than 1 year. Martin added some churches do not require a Sr. Warden to be chosen from the Vestry, and many churches provide for terms of longer than 1 year. The advantages for retaining the expertise of an experienced Sr. Warden as well as a Jr. Warden for more than 1 year were discussed. Kevin and Martin will work on some revisions to the by-laws to allow greater flexibility and will share the result with the Vestry. Questions were also raised concerning the length of terms for

Vestry members, and the advantages for increased continuity of Vestry members, especially during the GCP, were discussed.

2.3 Moment of Grace

- Kevin, via Martin's computer, shared a recording of a favorite song of his, and which he produced, by Bernadette Farrell called "All That is Hidden".

2.4 Treasurer's Report

- Curt was absent this evening but reported through Martin there is nothing of significance to note in the budget report.

2.5 Grace Institute Report

- Charles noted the resume for a prospective new GI Board member, Peyton Snead, was distributed prior to the Vestry meeting. He added Peyton has a great deal of project experience, which will be very beneficial for the GI Board. Katy made a motion to approve the appointment of Peyton Snead to the GI Board, and Daniel seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Charles said plans for this summer's Art Camp were underway with registration opening soon and counselor applications being accepted. He said Kelly Wong is the new Development Director and thinks she will be great in the role.

2.6 Other Business

- The new Co-Sr. Wardens need to be ratified and the Jr. Warden elected by the Vestry. Katy moved to ratify Charles and Kevin as the Co-Sr. Wardens and elect David as the Jr. Warden. Roosevelt seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Jeanne noted a second round of Sacred Grounds will be starting soon and asked that those interested contact Martin or her. A mutually agreeable meeting time will be decided among the participants. The program has been highly recommended by past participants.
- Jeanne also said the Wednesday Lenten program will begin on February 24 and will be exploring grief, dying, death and joy.
- Martin added next Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday, and he needs more acts for the Talent Show. He asked that videos be sent to him this week.

2.7 New Business

- Daniel will be in touch with Kevin regarding testing for the Equity and Inclusion survey. Andy volunteered to help as well.

2.8 Closing Prayer

- Martin offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alicia Perkins Lehrle, Clerk