

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2023

Members of the Vestry Present

Keri Beck (2025)

Roosevelt Carter (2026)

Myra Clark (2024)

Sally Fraser (2025)

Yetunde Laniran (2026)

Bindhu Newell (2024)

Calvin Richardson (2025)

David Waldow, Jr. Warden (2025)

Kevin Walsh (2025) Co-Sr. Warden, Rector's Advisor

Stephen Weeks (2024)

Jennifer Yeast (2026)

Clergy Present

The Rev. Martin Elfert

The Rev. Liz Klein

Others Present

Charles McGee, Co-Sr. Warden, Meeting Chair

Curt Germundson, Treasurer

Kris Doty, Parish Manager

Alicia Perkins Lehrle, Clerk

Members of the Vestry and Clergy Absent

Andrew (Andy) D'Antonio (2024)

1. Formation

1.1 Opening Prayers

- The meeting began at 6:00 pm with a reading of the twenty-fourth chapter of Job in an abbreviated form of lectio divina followed by an opening prayer from Martin.

2. Items

2.1 Consent Agenda

- The Consent Agenda contains the minutes from the August Vestry meeting, the Rector's report, and the Jr. Warden's report. There was one correction to the minutes, and Roosevelt moved to accept the Consent Agenda as corrected. Sally seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion was approved.
- A photo of the artwork offered by Concordia University was shared by Martin, who asked for the Vestry's approval to accept the offer. The piece was created by a Concordia professor and used wood harvested from the Concordia neighborhood. It should be able to be mounted in the Parish Hall under the clock. It comes with a plaque explaining the story of the piece. It was suggested to ask the artist about the best way to mount the piece and effect any necessary repairs. Sally moved to authorize Nancy Entrikin and Martin to accept the art from Concordia provided it is feasible to install at Grace. Stephen seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion was approved.

2.2 Treasurer's Report

- Curt noted pledges have slowed, which is not uncommon for this time of year. Some revenues related to gifts are down, but he expects these to pick up as the year progresses. Also, maintenance expenses are up due to unexpected repairs. Curt has transferred \$100,000 to the Grace checking account from the Schwab account to cover expenditures. He said the deficit was larger last year at this time and thinks the deficit may be made up by the end of the year as revenues pick up again. The Schwab account information has been added to the Treasurer's report, and Curt reviewed what is shown in the graph. He also said Anson is working on a pledge analysis so more accurate information is available for budget planning. There was some discussion about budget planning to avoid deficits in the future. The current stewardship plan was briefly summarized and discussed.
- Curt was warmly thanked by the Vestry for his many years as Grace's treasurer.
- Kris was welcomed to the meeting.

2.3 Finance Committee

- Roosevelt deferred to Curt to explain the financial resolutions presented to the Vestry. Curt noted Grace now has a money manager at Trillium, and Trillium requires Grace to

have an investment policy. A draft of the GMEC Investment Policy Resolution was presented to the Vestry and discussed. Environmental and social advocacy are guidelines for investments made by Trillium. Roosevelt noted the Resolution needs to have its drafted date of 19-19-2023 added to the title. Yetunde moved to accept the GMEC Investment Policy Resolution with the addition of the numerical name. Sally seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion was passed.

- Sally reported there were two additional resolutions for the Vestry to approve. The first one presented was GMEC Vestry – Spending Resolution No. 19-19-2023 B, which addresses repairing the leak in the gas oven in the kitchen and piping and effect other repairs as needed to the gas stove. \$3,709 is the estimated cost, and the repairs will hopefully be completed before the Gala in October. Stephen moved to accept GMEC Vestry – Spending Resolution No. 19-19-2023 B, and Roosevelt seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion, and the motion was passed.
- The other resolution, GMEC Vestry – Spending Resolution No. 19-19-2023 A, is to repair the hot water service to the main parish building, including the kitchen, which ceased to work on or about September 27, 2023. After research, an on-demand tankless system was determined to be the best option with the work to be completed before the Gala. Roosevelt moved to accept GMEC Vestry – Spending Resolution No. 19-19-2023 A, and Myra seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion, and the motion was passed.

2.4 Deacon’s Report

- Due to the incident last Sunday when a stranger came into the 10am service and began recording the service and those attending on his phone, Liz shared a draft of a resolution to address unwanted filming and recording. The resolution seeks to prohibit such occurrences and was discussed. It was suggested to include a more explicit explanation in the resolution, and Liz asked for written suggestions to be sent to her. The revised resolution will be discussed at next month’s Vestry meeting.

2.5 Vestry Retreat

- Kevin said Lisa sent notes from the Vestry Retreat to himself and Martin, and he will forward these notes to the Vestry in an e-mail.

2.6 Safe Church Online Training Update

- Kevin reminded everyone to complete the training, if not already done.

2.7 Grace Annual Gala Update

- Myra said the Gala kick-off was great, the website is up and running, and Grace’s website is being updated weekly regarding the Gala. There will be testimonials at the

Gala from some of Grace's partners. She also asked the Vestry to sponsor the Rose City Roller Derby package for the Gala, which is \$25 per Vestry member. Money should be sent to office noting it is for the Roller Derby package. Myra will send an e-mail with the specifics for contributing as a reminder. The Vestry was urged to attend the Gala and actively participate. Myra reviewed the current gifts received and anticipates an enjoyable Gala for all.

2.8 Moment of Grace

- Stephen shared a moving poem used by Anne Lamott as the prelude to her book Traveling Mercies.

2.12 Other Business

- None.

2.9 Closing Prayer

- Liz offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Perkins Lehrle, Clerk