

Grace Memorial Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2019

Members of the Vestry Present

Andrew Eshleman, Sr. Warden

Robin Gault

Cameron Denney

Charles McGee

Nora McLaughlin

Louise Tippens

David Waldow

Ben Snead, Youth Representative

Clergy

The Rev. Martin Elfert

The Rev. Jeanne Kaliszewski

Members of the Vestry Absent

Curt Germundson, Treasurer

Phillip Koop

Elyssa de la Cruz

Peyton Snead

1. Formation

1.1 Opening Prayers

- The meeting began at 6:00pm with an opening prayer from Martin.

2. Items

2.1 Consent Agenda Items

- The Consent Agenda Items were previously distributed via e-mail to the Vestry for review and consideration. These consisted of the October Vestry Minutes, the Rector's Report and the Jr. Warden's Report. Charles moved to accept the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Nora seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

2.2 Nominating Committee Report

- Louise discussed progress with the nominating committee and the search for potential Vestry members to replace the outgoing members. Various individuals were discussed as options and various individuals have been contacted about submitting their names for consideration. The Vestry members present

expressed satisfaction with the individuals who have been contacted. No further action was required at this time.

2.3 Moment of Grace

- Louise Tippens read Mary Oliver's "When Death Comes".

2.4 Treasurer's Report

- With Curt's absence, a treasurer's report was not filed or reviewed.

2.5 2020 Clergy Housing Allowance

- The Vestry was presented with a 2020 proposed Clergy Housing Allowance by Father Martin. Father Martin requested \$30,000 and Mother Jeanne requested \$18,000. Nora moved to accept the Clergy Housing Allowance amounts and Charles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2.6 Vestry site visit to Nave

- Father Martin led the Vestry to the Nave to view a lighting demonstration. A lighting deficiency has been identified in the back pews during darkened hours. A potential option is to mount stage lights similar to the Crossing lighting on walls. Father Martin had mounted a similar light fixture on top of a ladder against the wall to demonstrate a potential fixture and lighting simulation. Some Vestry members commented that it is indeed dark and hard to read text in back pews, however, the lights in demonstration were a tad strong/bright for some of the Vestry members.
- Cameron also mentioned at this time that there is a need for additional lighting at courtyard steps, since when the doors open, they block the wall mounted lights. No specific solution was presented or identified, but all agreed that a solution for safety is necessary. David will set up a line item in the Junior Warden report to follow up with step lighting problem.

2.7 Grace Ministry Liaisons

- Charles presented an option for organization of various ministries of Grace under Vestry Liaisons. He identified 6 separate commissions as an option, each headed by a designated Vestry Liaison who would act as a connection for the various ministries and the Vestry. Discussion involved questions about whether this created too much bureaucracy for the size of church we have versus the one that we see ourselves growing towards. We all agreed that better coordination was needed with the specific goal of supporting and encouraging new members. No additional action occurred but all agreed that additional discussion with the ministry heads was needed – i.e. What do they need from Vestry to be more successful?

2.8 Ratify the 2020 Grace Institute Contract

- Father Martin presented the Grace Institute Contract update, in which various language in the contract was updated and clarified. Louise moved to accept the Contract and Nora seconded. The Grace Institute MOA passed unanimously.

2.9 Other Business

- Louise brought up the Stewardship lunch/soup gathering on the prior Sunday following the 10am service. She felt that it was probably not publicized enough to generate enough participation. We should do a better job of publicizing this event next year and identifying attendance so that we do not end up with too much food left over as was the case this year.

2.10 Designating member for Vestry update to parish

- Robin accepted the task of updating the parish on Sunday.

2.11 Closing Prayer

- Martin offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Waldow, Junior Warden