

**Resolution Concerning the Conduct of Vestry Meetings  
Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
Richmond, Virginia**

**Whereas, the canons of the Episcopal Church USA (I.14.3) and the canons of the Diocese of Virginia (canon 11, section 10) state that “the Rector or such other member of the Vestry designated by the Rector shall preside in all meetings of the Vestry”;**

**And whereas, the canons of the Diocese of Virginia (canon 11, section 10) state that “all meetings of the Vestry shall be subject to the Rector’s call, but in case he fails to call a meeting when requested to do so by two Vestry members, such Vestry members may themselves call a meeting giving at least three days’ notice to the Rector and to each Vestry member”;**

**And whereas, in accordance with the canons of the Diocese of Virginia (canon 11, section 12), the Church Vestry shall meet as a whole at least quarterly;**

**And whereas, a “majority of the Vestry members who have qualified, exclusive of the Rector, shall constitute a quorum; but any Vestry may by resolution fix a smaller number to act as a quorum at future meetings” (canon 11, section 10);**

**And whereas, as the canons of the Diocese of Virginia (canon 11, section 10) state, the “Vestry may adopt by-laws not inconsistent with Diocesan or National canons”;**

**Let it therefore be resolved, that the Vestry of Grace and Holy Trinity Church affirms the National and Diocesan canons;**

**Let it be further resolved, that invitations may be requested by and issued to parish members and to members of the larger community, to attend and to speak at Vestry meetings about items of importance to the Vestry and to the mission of the parish, with such invitations being made by the Rector and the Wardens on their own initiative, or upon recommendation to the Rector and Wardens by a majority of Vestry members;**

**And let it be further resolved, in order for the Vestry meetings of Grace and Holy Trinity Church to be run in an effective and orderly fashion, and so that all members of the parish can understand what is the policy of the Vestry regarding its meetings, that the Vestry affirms its right to determine who, other than the Rector and the elected members of the Vestry, may be present at its meetings, when they may be present, and who may speak during its meetings;**

**And be it further resolved, that the Vestry may, upon the call of the Rector and Wardens or a majority vote of the Vestry, enter into an “executive session”, which deliberations are to be held in strict confidence by the members of the Vestry, with the understanding that any resolutions passed by the Vestry in executive session be communicated by the Rector and Wardens to such persons (or class of persons) as may be named by the resolution adopted in the executive session, or such persons as the Rector and Wardens deem appropriate;**

**And finally, be it resolved, that the Rector, Wardens, and Vestry may include special invitees, such as employees or staff members, to take part in an executive session, but that the Rector and elected members of the Vestry may never be excluded from such a session.**

*Passed unanimously at the November 14, 2017 meeting of the Vestry of Grace and Holy Trinity Church*