

Vestry Meeting Minutes
Grace and Holy Trinity Church
Richmond, Virginia
August 11, 2020

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

Members Present: Thomas Ewers, Barbara Derry, David Hetherington, Lisa Dawson, Bill Perkins, Rosalie West, Glenn Moore, Todd Pawson, Elaine Quinn, Nancy Trego, Carl Blackwell, Bev Eggleston, Martin Erb, Jodie Pully, Kathleen Thomas, Bill Queen (Interim Rector), and David Lewis (non-voting Register)

Members Absent: Lara Wulff

Staff Present: Kim Reinholz

Guests: None

Opening Prayer – Lord’s Prayer

At 5:04 PM, Bill Queen called the meeting to order and a quorum was declared. The Vestry prayed the Lord’s Prayer in unison.

Amend & Adopt Agenda

The Vestry unanimously approved a motion by Kathleen Thomas, seconded by Nancy Trego, to adopt the agenda without amendment.

Adoption of 7/14/2020 Vestry Minutes

The Vestry unanimously approved a motion by Martin Erb, seconded by Jodie Pully, to adopt the minutes from the July meeting without amendment.

Discussion & Adoption of Financial Reports

Discussion of the financial reports included comparisons of the current period’s income and expenses with those from last year. The Vestry was encouraged by pledged income and applauded a salary increase—already approved by the Finance Committee—for the sexton.

The Vestry unanimously approved Elaine Quinn’s motion, seconded by Nancy Trego, to adopt the financial reports without amendment.

Children and Youth Report

See attached report from Aaron Davis. Bill Queen reported that Aaron’s committee is making phone calls to parents about the fall program. The complete plan will be available by 24 August.

IT Committee Report

See printed report. Martin Erb presented the IT Committee's report, the substance of which reviewed the parish's present IT infrastructure and usage and made recommendations for next steps, particularly in getting the most out of ShelbyNext, a church management software application.

Vestry discussion included the need to balance access to useful information in ShelbyNext with pastoral and privacy concerns and how best to keep the information complete and up to date.

The Vestry noted that parish IT resources are especially critical in fostering engagement in these challenging times and commended the committee for diligent work.

Interim Rector's Report

See attached report. Bill Queen additionally drew Vestry attention to the hiring of the assistant organist, the Zoom coffee hour planned for Sunday, an update on the UDC plaque, wedding preparations amidst COVID-19, the cancellation of the 2020 Shrine Mont retreat, and the parish's plan for resuming in-person worship.

Vestry discussion focused on the plan for reopening. Discussion was wide-ranging and included explanations for the many changes to our usual worship detailed in the plan, the Vestry's expectation that a virtual or livestreaming option would continue for people unable to attend face-to-face services, and the need to inform parishioners of the changes put in place.

The Vestry was satisfied both that the plan was thorough and that it should be sent onwards to the diocese.

Associate Rector's Report

See printed report. Kim Reinholz additionally updated the Vestry on the t-shirt fundraiser for the Red Door Ministry and changes to Campus Ministry at VCU, where classes resume next week. Mo. Kim asked the Vestry's prayers for VCU.

Vestry discussion included questions about the numbers of VCU students involved ECM and other parish ministries and how to maintain contact with them in substantially changed circumstances.

Senior Warden's Report

As liaison with the Discernment Committee, the senior warden reported that the committee was extremely pleased with the applications in response to the parish's posting for a new rector on the diocesan website. Applications exceeded expectations.

The contract with the assistant organist has been signed.

Upcoming Dates

6 September—Diocesan-wide Virtual Worship to be led by the bishops.

8 September, 5 PM—Vestry meeting

Vestry member to video summarize

David Lewis volunteered to give this month's video summary.

Adjourn with a Prayer

Bill Queen led the Vestry in a closing prayer, Joan Chittister's "Prayer for Conscience and Courage."

After the prayer, the Vestry went into executive session at 6:18 PM. The executive session ended, and the meeting was adjourned, at 6:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Lewis, Register