

Grace Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
April 11, 2023

Vestry Present: Jane Cenova, Kelly Eschenroeder, Rebecca Harrison (via Zoom), Mike Lilmars, Chris Ludbrook, Ann VanConia , Jim Wethington

Vestry Absent: John Adams, Mike Casey, Susie Reis

Clergy Present: The Rev. Thomas Skillings

Guests: Shari Bonham, Director of Development and Ministries Coordinator; Dick Entenmann, Personnel and Transition Team; Tim Engelbrecht, Treasurer ; Lyn Ballard, Transition Team; Sandy Adams, board member Horizons; Lakeisha Robinson, Director of Horizons

The meeting was called to order at 7:04.

The opening prayer was given by Kelly Eschenroeder. Mike Lilmars will give the prayer at the May Vestry meeting.

Ann VanConia moved, and Kelly Eschenroeder seconded, that the evening's agenda stand as presented. Motion passed.

Rebecca Harrison moved, and Jim Wethington seconded, that the minutes from the March 14, 2023 Vestry meeting be approved as drafted. Motion passed.

Five Marks of Mission: Respond to Human Need, Seek Peace and Justice: *Outreach:* Chris Ludbrook welcomed parishioner Sandy Adams, who serves on the board of Horizons, and Lakeisha Robinson, director of Horizons, to the Vestry meeting. Sandy provided the Vestry with a report which included Horizons' history and facts about Horizons that demonstrate that it is a transformational ministry. Lakeisha spoke to the Vestry about the needs of Horizons, how the summer camp works, and how contact with participants is maintained throughout the year. Lakeisha noted that the Kirkwood schools note a positive difference in children who are part of the Horizons program.

Report of the Transitional Pastor: Rev. Skillings noted that we are in an exciting new stage in the discernment process. The Vestry read a poem and a Bible reading, then reflected on how the readings relate to this stage of the search process.

Discernment Team: Lyn Ballard let the Vestry know that applications from candidates exhibiting the qualities listed in the parish profile have been received. The plan for conducting the Zoom interviews will be finalized on April 13. The entire transition team will meet on April 27 to review candidate evaluations in order to reduce the number of candidates who remain in the "active" file.

Lyn distributed to the Vestry the list of questions from the Office of Transition Ministry and from Grace that the candidates were asked to answer. Vestry members were asked to notate how they hoped our next rector would answer the questions, and to indicate the three questions they felt were most important.

The parish will be updated on progress on April 23.

Five Marks of Mission (continued): Ministries of Governance, Administration, Stewardship and Facility:

Financial Report: Tim Engelbrecht provided the financial report for the first quarter of 2023. Pledge Income for the quarter was \$132,022, which was \$8,322 above budget. Total Revenues for the quarter were \$204,360, which was \$7,341 above budget. Total Expenses for the quarter were \$162,589, which was \$8,385 below budget. YTD Net Revenue was \$41,771, which was \$15,726 above the budgeted amount of \$26,045. Our current cash reserves would cover an estimated 3.2 months of our 2023 budgeted expenses.

Kelly Eschenroeder moved, and Jane Cenova seconded, that the Vestry approve the financial report for the month ending March 31, 2023. Motion passed.

Grant for Parking Lot: The parking lot resurfacing/striping project will be postponed until June, which will allow Grace to apply for a matching grant from the Diocese. If the grant is received, Grace would need an additional \$4,800, which could be sourced via an appeal to the parish.

New Position: A job description has been developed for a part time bookkeeper – 15 hours per week paying between \$25 - \$30 per hour. An option for funding the position in 2023 would be to use a portion of the approximately \$35,000 tax credit Grace should receive for COVID related payroll credits. The salary would need to be added to the 2024 budget, and the stewardship chair needs to be alerted prior to the pledge campaign for 2024. Jim Wethington moved, and Ann VanConia seconded, that the Vestry approve allowing Dick Entenmann to seek a part time bookkeeper to work 15 hours per week at a rate of \$25 - \$30 per hour. Motion passed.

Parochial Report: The Vestry reviewed the 2022 Parochial Report. Kelly Eschenroeder moved, and Jane Cenova seconded, that the Vestry accept the Parochial Report for 2022. Motion passed.

Senior Warden Report: Chris Ludbrook asked the Vestry to sign the Letter of Support for Ordination to the Priesthood for Ryan Missel.

Thomas closed the meeting with a prayer.

Jane Cenova moved, and Mike Lilmars seconded, that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07.

Respectfully submitted

Sue Nixon
Secretary of the Vestry

Motions from the April 11, 2023 Vestry meeting

Ann Van Conia moved, and Kelly Eschenroeder seconded, that the evening's agenda stand as presented. Motion passed.

Rebecca Harrison moved, and Jim Wethington seconded, that the minutes from the March 14, 2023 Vestry meeting be approved as drafted. Motion passed.

Kelly Eschenroeder moved, and Jane Cenova seconded, that the Vestry approve the financial report for the month ending March 31, 2023. Motion passed.

Jim Wethington moved, and Ann VanConia seconded, that the Vestry approve allowing Dick Entenmann to seek a part time bookkeeper to work 15 hours per week at a rate to \$25 - \$30 per hour. Motion passed.

Kelly Eschenroeder moved, and Jane Cenova seconded, that the Vestry accept the Parochial Report for 2022. Motion passed.

Jane Cenova moved, and Mike Lilmars seconded, that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.