**Grace Church Vestry Minutes**

**NOVEMBER 28, 2023**

*Celebrating that Christ is all and in all by seeking, inviting, belonging, serving & reverencing God’s creation.*

**DEVOTIONAL** (Mariah leading us in Chapter 11, “A Vision,” of *Called to Community*)

*“What is Enough?”*

**PRAYER &** [**COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QE4iVkbd8LrNEXWmw3QjanSLV75ECGVh/view?usp=sharing) *(***Tracy on # 9***)*

*Say Ouch! - It’s an opportunity to speak up in a safe environment. Receiving an ouch is hard/humbling. We should be thankful to receive one as it will help us grow. Our Vestry has used this guideline well this year.*

**PASTORAL Check-in -** *Prayer requests for several members of Grace as well as family members of vestry.*

**Attendees: Barbara Rowe, Laura Armour, John Turley, Mariah Nehus, Mary Lockey, Kathie Johnson, Treasurers Gary and Walt, and Rev. Joslyn. Via Zoom, Suzie Leclaire and Tracy Baum.**

**Absent: Joyce Brooks and Deacon Carter.**

**Meeting called to order at 6:01 PM.**

**\*CONSENT AGENDA**

* Approve [October](https://docs.google.com/document/d/16RBd_C_HXxrPBqmwwmyHhp3BtEImuROM/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102889414343729666633&rtpof=true&sd=true) minutes
* Receive Treasurer’s reports for [September](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vjYxZXwC2XIoTtMetDnkDT04IcsheMaT?usp=sharing)

*Motorcycle sold - $16,000 was put into vestry reserve as a holding place. Admin. committee will discuss the best use of these funds next week and recommend to Vestry.*

*Motion to approve consent agenda made by Tracy, seconded by Mariah - unanimously approved.*

**STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORTS**

(Link reports for Vestry to read; list items needing discussion or requiring Vestry action)

* PARISH PROGRAMS Report [here](https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/1DYfHgswjJ9aGZLdy6rzZwW4LZ6yF6Lwx/edit)

*Dec. 17 - Greening of the Church. Jan. 6 - take down with Men of Grace assisting.*

* OUTREACH Report [here](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1UbrNBOf06r5cDM9AENGOZkoPNPqrRKVy)

*Celebrating the success of our Bethel House Thanksgiving Luncheon - 72 attendees!*

*Veterans Services of NC - committee voted to spend ‘leftover’ budget on purchasing items for bags of hope given to veterans. Assembly of the bags will be Jan. 14 at the Chili Cook-off.*

*The Marthas are making stockings for Bethel House.*

*For the next meeting, Outreach committee needs to recommend guidelines to vestry. Perhaps seeking individual responses via email and compiling them. Tracy will send the emails.*

* + Note approval of Cookie Walk in December abiding by current Parish Wide Appeal policy
* ADMINISTRATION Report [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qS6w1ZakB9Umzo_MT7zEbwcm5L_9ubBq/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102889414343729666633&rtpof=true&sd=true)
  + Recommendation from Admin Comm to Vestry to elect Michael Boss as our new Treasurer

*Motion to appoint Michael Boss as new Treasurer (replacing Walt) made by Barbara, seconded by Kathie and unanimously approved.*

* + Recommendation from Admin Comm to Vestry to adopt new Memorial Garden [Policy brochure](https://docs.google.com/document/d/19jy_6B5YRCODupWfs3LkWbVZLRVmZKBz/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102889414343729666633&rtpof=true&sd=true) and [application](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zW0MLZEtMJLs-zM0NK3Cc9K10DI-UExZ/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102889414343729666633&rtpof=true&sd=true)

*Motion to approve application for Memorial Garden made by Tracy, seconded by Barbara and unanimously approved.*

**WARDEN’S REPORT**

* **Dates / Deadlines**
  + Deadline for Annual Reports 1/7/2023 – about 500 words-ish; and some pics
  + Change date of Annual Meeting and Vestry Election to 1/21
* \*Donation offer of a 50” TV; use in Thatcher?

*Will gather additional information on TV before accepting donation. (i.e. - Smart TV?, number of ports?, etc.)*

* Stewardship Follow-Up -
  + How are we enrolling people in ministries for 2024?
  + Calling/Emailing/Texting
  + Vestry term goes through January, as do current Standing Committees

*Andrea is currently creating a spreadsheet with names/email addresses for communicating. How are we identifying folks for standing committees? Appointed by the Vestry.*

*\*Agreed - Beginning in January 2024 - Standing Committees will meet on the second Tuesday of the month and Vestry will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month.*

* \*Vestry vote on proposal for 2024 [Environmental Fair](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_QOfnhqr9xbnPIRVPfEbWDT0JiEQmNFx/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102889414343729666633&rtpof=true&sd=true)

*Motion to approve Environmental Fair made by Laura, seconded by Kathie and unanimously approved.*

* \*Safe Deposit Box: It’s empty! Need to vote on whether to keep paying an annual fee and put documents in it, or close it.

If we keep it, vestry needs to vote to remove Kent Clary and Jo Phelps from access; and choose two (or more) parishioners who are allowed access. Minutes need to reflect these changes, and minutes must be signed and delivered to the bank in order to make these changes.

*Motion to close safety deposit box made by Barbara, seconded by John and unanimously approved.*

* Vestry [Candidates for 2024](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oSxkS8DbouKni1YBbnybiYBL-oPNAUBw6sKbi-STiMs/edit?usp=sharing)

*At this time we have four candidates. Enews this week will open this to the congregation for applications. Candidates will be introduced to the congregation on January 7.*

What are next steps for their prayer partners? - *Be certain the candidates you recommended are ready!*

* VPOD Schedule for rest of [2023](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hKVirPzi0HSlFpSmDLvf_97I0ziYzocu/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102889414343729666633&rtpof=true&sd=true) and first third of [2024](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12LEigfAYHIibEKksLSpNmhUJYUwxBy6p/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102889414343729666633&rtpof=true&sd=true)
* December Vestry Meeting social
* Update on bequest from Jean Hodges Estate
* Record email vote electing Laura as senior warden and Barbara as junior warden for 2023

*Email vote taken Nov. 20, 2023 to name Laura Armour as Senior Warden and Barbara Rowe as Junior Warden for 2023. Both have been serving since January however a formal vote was not taken at that time.*

*Vote for Barbara Rowe to be Warden and Mary Lockey to be Junior Warden for 2024 was taken - motion made by Tracy, seconded by Mariah and unanimously approved.*

* \*Decide on where to put proceeds from motorcycle sale

*Motion to leave $16,000 in vestry reserve at this time made by Mariah, seconded by Barbara and unanimously approved.*

* Discuss revised “[Parish Wide Appeals” policy & application](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oLK1q-3ckAYaFk8cSLWdcUJI7MB09Ew76zbhMYwZQj0/edit?usp=sharing)

*Do we need a separate policy for appeals and events? We currently have a program/event checklist/guidelines. The policy will be edited to include a clarifying statement including the definition of a Parish Wide Appeal.*

*Motion to edit the policy made by Barbara, seconded by Tracy and unanimously approved.*

**RECTOR’S REPORT**

* [Mutual Ministry Review](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1n3hFL_gdfWxWRsXHEKs4P9pFlaf35pGu/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108415691483192148030&rtpof=true&sd=true) 
  + include questions about standing committees and prayer partners
  + questions to be sent in early December, due to Wardens by mid-Dec

*Questionnaire was reviewed and edited by Joslyn to be discussed on Jan. 23. Barbara will send out with replies due by Dec. 15.*

* Haywood End of Life Coalition - Non-Profit Incubator; Ministry of Birthing a new Partner Ministry; Cost

*Where to put the funds if indeed we decide to offer this while the “birthing” takes place. Joslyn will look into details.*

* \*Request for Financial Support for Lake Logan -
  + earlier request for Camp Henry scholarship money
  + recent request for financial support for rehabbing house for Executive Director

*Motion to donate $1400 for the purchase of a new hot water heater made by Mary, seconded by Mariah and unanimously approved.*

* Update on staff hiring/programming idea

*We currently have one candidate for the Music position who could also take the administrative position for a combined full-time employee.*

*Could we have a Parish Engagement position (perhaps 5 hours per week) and also a Congregational Care position (perhaps 5 hours per week). Would these be paid or volunteer? More discussion at our January vestry meeting.*

*Meeting closed at 8:16 PM*

**CLOSING PRAYER** - Mary Lockey

*Minutes respectfully submitted by David Ferguson.*