

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
October 20, 2015

MODERATOR

The Reverend Trey Little

ASSOCIATE PASTORS

The Reverend Chris French
The Reverend Dr. Michael Fry

STAFF

Hardie Morgan, Executive Director of Ministry Support
Sabrina Hergert, Missions Coordinator
Denise Phelps, Director Older Adult Ministries
Susan McElroy, Pastor's Executive Assistant

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED MEETING in the Library of Grace Presbyterian Church on October 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

ELDERS PRESENT: Okey Akwari, Ronnie Braden, Russ Chase, Paul Craig, Jim Davis, David Finck, Monika Frazelle, Morris Harper, Debbie Kaplan, Kevin Kiniry, Doris Looper, Doug Lunn, Scott Maham, Dan Malaguilla, Myrna Maldonado, Paul Mancillas, Kerry Moore, John Musgrove, Ken Purgason, Lisa Schwartz, Wanda Schwarz, Rick Siegel, Jim Weatherall, Sarah Williams.

ELDERS EXCUSED: Phil Grant, Matt Kiker, Mandy Weber.

CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER AND DEVOTION: The Session Packet was provided to the Session with an agenda for this meeting, the minutes of the prior Session meeting, committee reports, and other data for the Session's review and analysis.

The clerk took roll and declared a quorum.

The Reverend Little called the meeting to order and Jim Davis opened the meeting with prayer.

CLERK'S REPORT: Motion was made for approval of the Consent Agenda as stated below:

- Approve the minutes of the September 15, 2015 stated Session Meeting.
- Approve the October 2015 Clerk's Report and all action items therein.
- Approve Minutes of three called Session meetings for the purpose of receiving new members:

- September 27, 2015 after the 9:00 a.m. service
- September 27, 2015 after the 11:00 a.m. service
- October 4, 2015

There was a second and an invitation for discussion. The motion to approve the Consent Agent was then voted upon and the motion passed.

MODERATOR'S REPORT:

The Reverend Little presented the proposed structure for mission teams to replace the current committee structure. A handout, **attached hereto**, was provided to view as The Reverend Little explained the plan. It was made clear that this is an overall plan and that details will be worked out over time. It is possible that changes to the structure may be made as the plan is put in place and necessary changes become obvious. The plan was very well received by the Session.

There was discussion on various topics after which there was a motion to:

1. Authorize the plan and structure with the understanding that details will be worked out over time; and
2. Authorize Reverend Little to select the first three members of the Leadership Development Team (class of 2015, 2016 and 2017).

There was a second and the motion passed.

The Reverend Little reported that he spoke with Jim Sheppard who is the consultant previously hired for the anticipated capital campaign. A donor paid the full amount of the consultant fees. Jim Sheppard confirmed that the \$75,000 payment was not just for work already done, but for the cost of consulting on the entire campaign.

The Reverend Little discussed the ECO Discipleship pilot program, which was discussed in prior Session meetings. Grace has been invited by ECO to participate in the pilot program with 3 to 5 individuals including Trey Little, Chris French and Francisco Garibay. There was a motion to submit the application to participate as described, a second and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Finance: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet.

Adult & Encore Ministries: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet.

Congregational Care: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet.

Family Ministries: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet.

Grace School: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet.

Married Life: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet.

Missions: No report.

Evangelism: No report.

Worship: Lisa Schwartz reported for the committee. She described the current process to prepare for Communion, the number of servers required and the difficulty in securing sufficient volunteers. It was noted that service of Communion by intinction requires fewer servers. After discussion, there was a motion to have Communion by intinction at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services in the Sanctuary while keeping the existing service methods in the Chapel. There was a second and the motion carried.

Lisa also discussed a Task Force that Reverend Little asked her to chair to study the Sunday worship service. Lisa asked for volunteers or suggestions of who might serve on this task force. They will consider the worship service overall including times, summer schedules and all aspects of the service and will then make recommendations.

Young Adult: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet.

New Business

Hardie Morgan discussed the Grace School Foundation and the need for the Session to appoint members of the board. This issue, along with a recommendation, was set out in the session packet. The following motion was made:

It is resolved that the following individuals be appointed to the Grace School Foundation board for terms ending December 31, 2016 or until their successors are named, whichever occurs later:

- Liz Walgamuth – Grace School Head of School
- Les Davis – Grace School Finance Committee Chair
- Sarah Williams – Grace School Committee
- Jerry Hanlon – Grace School Committee

- Hardie Morgan – Grace Church Executive Director Ministry Support
There was a second and the motion carried.

Hardie Morgan then discussed the Grace Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund and the need for the Session to nominate members of the Board for the Congregation to consider in electing such board members. This issue, along with a recommendation, was set out in the Session packet. The following motion was made:

It is resolved that the following individuals be nominated to stand for election to the Grace Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund Board of Trustees Class of 2018

- Scott Maham
- Robert Whitten

There was a second and the motion carried.

CLOSING

The meeting was closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David E. Finck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David Finck
Clerk