

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
September 15, 2015

MODERATOR

The Rev. Trey Little

ASSOCIATE PASTORS

The Reverend Chris French
The Reverend Dr. Michael Fry
The Reverend Chad Erb

STAFF

Hardie Morgan, Executive Director of Ministry Support
Beth Craig, Married Life Ministry
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 September 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

ELDERS PRESENT: Okey Akwari, Paul Craig, Russ Chase, Jim Davis, David Finck, Monika Frazelle, Phil Grant, Morris Harper, Debbie Kaplan, Matt Kiker, Doug Lunn, Scott Maham, Dan Malaguilla, Myrna Maldonado, Paul Mancillas, John Musgrove, Ken Purgason, Lisa Schwartz, Wanda Schwarz, Rick Siegel, Jim Weatherall, Mandy Weber, Sarah Williams.

ELDERS EXCUSED: Ronnie Braden, Kevin Kiniry, Doris Looper, Kerry Moore.

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. There were a number of guests in attendance and The Reverend Little welcomed them.

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

- Approve the minutes of the August 18, 2015 stated Session Meeting.

- Approve the September 2015 Clerk's Report and all action items therein.
- Approve the calling of a Congregational Meeting on September 27, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of hearing and acting upon recommendations from the Church Officer Nominating Committee.

There was a second and the floor was opened to discussion. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was then voted upon and the motion passed. The CONC provided the names of the candidates they were recommending to the Congregation.

MODERATOR'S REPORT:

The Reverend Little discussed the State of Grace event which went well. Reverend Little noted the many moving parts of Grace at this time. The three major items are: (1) Committee Structure, (2) Staff--redefining & developing job descriptions and roles, and (3) Facilities. Progress is being made on all three items. The plan tonight is to discuss the Facilities item with the Session as a follow up to last month's preview. Reverend Little asked that the Session join him in dreaming God Sized Dreams for Grace.

The Facilities Improvement Team ("FIT") was in attendance and presented their progress and vision in terms of improvements to the Grace facilities. The presentation was accompanied by a power point, copies of which were provided to the Session. The preliminary cost estimate for all improvements under consideration is \$20--\$25 million.

There was significant discussion over a number of topics including utilization, available space, funding, increased operating costs, Grace School, and a capital campaign.

FIT made two recommendations:

1. FIT requests Session's permission to move ahead with further refinement of the architectural concepts presented.
2. FIT requested Session's permission to begin planning a capital campaign to fund \$20--\$25 million of the recommendations presented.

Motion was made to consider each of the FIT recommendations separately. There was a second and the motion carried.

There was a motion to approve the first recommendation. There was a second and, after discussion, the motion carried.

There was a motion to approve the second recommendation. There was a second and, after discussion, the motion carried. As clarified, this means that a plan for the capital campaign will be created and presented to the Session. No capital campaign will be started without separate

approval of the Session and no contracts shall be signed for consultants or otherwise with regard to any capital campaign without Session approval.

There was a motion to approve FIT as a Session committee, reporting to the Session and ratifying all of FIT's prior activities authorized by the Reverend Little. There was a second and the motion carried.

Scott Maham asked if Reverend Little could provide a timeline at the next meeting for the roll out of the new committee structure and asked if such structure could be implemented by January 2016. The Reverend Little indicated that he would work to make that happen.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration & Finance: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet. Paul Craig noted that the personnel committee was actively working on needed personnel issues and that A&F is looking at the use of Grace developed materials. Through Hardie Morgan, the committee moved to approve the budget presented. After an opportunity for discussion, there motion carried.

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

Congregational Care: No report. The Reverend Fry noted the request for endorsement for ECO ordination of Jessica Shannon. After providing information about Ms. Shannon and giving his recommendation, a motion was made for Grace to endorse Ms. Shannon. There was a second and the motion carried.

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

Evangelism: The committee submitted a written report which was provided in the Session Packet. The Reverend Chris French discussed the upcoming trip to Breakaway in College Station and invited the Session.

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

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

New Business

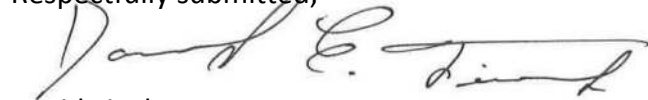
Jim Weatherall requested that church consider creating a new directory.

It was suggested that the church put prayer cards in the bulletin or pews or find some other way for congregants to provide prayer requests in a private manner.

CLOSING

There was a motion to close, a second and the motion passed. The meeting was closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David E. Finck".

David Finck
Clerk