



Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 8pm EST

Online at meet.vergers.org

If video call does not work, use backup phone +1 (669) 900-6833, code: 7137132009

Board Officers:

Scott Smith, President and Chair of this meeting

Richard Parker, Vice President

Vyonne Carter-Johnson, Secretary

John Whitaker, Treasurer

Board Members:

Barry Norris, Richard Parker, *Vacant* (2019, retiring)

Michael Sanchez, Scott Smith, John Whitaker (2020)

Diane Carlisle, Vyonne Carter-Johnson, Thurl Headen (2021)

Walt Kindergan, Ex-Officio

Board Members Elect, Class of 2022:

Martha-Sue Blythe, Ann Davis McClain, John Townsend

Definition of a Quorum from the VGEC Bylaws: "For a Board meeting a minimum of six members constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The vote of a majority of those voting at a meeting at which a quorum is present constitutes the action of the annual meeting or Board."

Guests:

Duke DuTeil, Financial Secretary, Training Advisor, Past Annual Conference Host

All were present.

Call to Order

Chair

Called to order by Scott at 8:05

Opening Prayer

Chaplain

Walt led us in an opening prayer.

Review Strategic Goals for 2019

All

1. Grow Membership and Revenue Will not show up in 2019, but should in 2020
Membership is not generating the revenue we want.
2. Invest in Technology We are putting this in place in 2020
3. Board-Directed, Simplified Annual Conferences Richard has done well in getting us to a new day
4. Robust Committees - We are getting there
5. Leadership development and transition - We are moving with a whole new slate.
This is very healthy for the guild.

Approval of Minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting

Secretary

Please send corrections/additions to Diane Carlisle. Minutes will not be approved until the next Annual Meeting in Seattle.

Review Current Financials

Treasurer

No updates except from the conference. Conference expense took a big hit at \$18,000 over what we took in. Camp Allen gave us an extra \$1,500. The reason for the loss is to drop the available rooms down at about the 90 day drop. Our statistics show that over half the attendees sign up in the last two months. That didn't happen. WE extended the deadline trying to have more people sign up. Question from Martha Sue: What number were we at when we could have cut off. We don't know. From the 90 day to the conference we probably picked up about 20 people. We anticipated having 150 rooms filled. We encouraged people to have roommates. Even at a conference center we are providing hospitality and food. If we continue to do this we will run out of money in 8 to 10 years. Atlanta actually took in money. Denver and Camp Allen \$32,000 they spent 46,000. And Camp Allen lost \$18,000. We had \$300 in scholarships. Membership is down better than half.

Election of Officers

Chaplain

- *President - John Whitaker nominated Scott Smith Unanimous election*
- *Vice President - Diane Carlisle nominated John Whitaker Unanimous election*
- *Treasurer - John Whitaker nominated Ann Davis McLain Unanimous election*
- *Secretary - Vyonne Carter-Johnson nominated Diane Carlisle Unanimous election*

These elected will take effect on January 2, 2020

Committee Members, Chair, Board Liaison

President

- Annual Conference, Vice President - Chair John Whitaker and Board Liaison (BL), Duke as prior conference chair, Vyonne Carter Johnson past co chair, Diane Carlisle and Michael Seewar, ask Melita if she would like to continue to be on the committee, Richard Parker as advisor.
- Chapters - Martha Sue expressed interest. There may be a person who isn't on the board who could do this and Martha Sue could be the BL.
- Communication and Marketing - Michael Sanchez has been chair for a long time. Thurl Headen has expressed interest and Scott encouraged Michael and Thurl to get together offline and talk about it. Thurl has talked about having a Facebook group as a way to merge the best of the V-List and Facebook.
- Episcopal Relations - Scott Smith
- Finance, Treasurer - Chair - Ann Davis and BL, Duke will remain financial secretary, but hopes are that this may transition to a different role. It is up to the convention
- General Convention - Barry and Duke will co-chair.
- Governance - Vyonne Carter-Johnson, Diane Carlisle (co-chairs)
- Guild Shop - John Townsend and Steven will manage the Guild Shop
- Membership - Martha Sue has agreed to take over this committee, Member - Betty Moore. Martha Sue reported we are taking an inventory of what we have in the MMS system. Then we will talk with Diane and Betty so they can give input into what we see as opposed to what they have seen. We are looking at a system through a broker house for potential platforms. We need to get our requirements nailed down first. Martha Sue also reached out to Cheryl. Training, Annual Conference and the Guild Shop will also be consulted to see how we can still support these two areas with the new system. We plan to move on this in 2020. Ann and Duke will be involved. Michael also wants to talk to Martha Sue. Walt noted that our new bylaws require that in order to vote your dues have to be current. She hopes this will be a little incentive to renew their dues.
- Nomination - We had a stellar nominating process. It continues to get better. We should form the nominating committee in January. That way we won't be doing things last minute.
- Technology - Consistently is a weak point for the guild. We need to figure out who can keep moving the technology forward. Natalie Brady might be a good fit.
- Training - As long as we have Duke we are in a very strong position with training. Duke is happy to continue.

Abbreviated Committee and Officer Reports:

- Annual Conference
 - 2019, Camp Allen - A lot of interaction and free time talking happened. More fellowship than ever before.
 - 2020, Seattle Planning is underway. Seven Vergers met last Friday and each person has their tasks to do. Diane and Michael Seewar will find a tie to meet with Duke DuTeil between December 3 and 20.
 - *Future conferences announced much earlier*
 - *Thoughts on 2021 and 2022*

- *Chapters*
- *Communication and Marketing*
- *Episcopal Relations*
- *Finance*
- *General Convention*
- *Governance*
- *Guild Shop*
- *Membership*
- *Nomination*
- *Technology*
- *Training*
- *Secretary*
- *Treasurer/Finance*
- *Vice President*
- *President*

Strategic Goals for 2020

All

Items in italics were not discussed due to time.

Scott thanked Barry for his time on the board, as he was in the hospital during the conference. Scott will set meeting dates by email.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 EST.