

**The Diocese of East Carolina
Standing Committee Minutes
July 10, 2025, at 1:30 pm
Via Zoom**

Present: The Reverend Michael Singer, The Reverend Dr. Farrell Graves, Thomas Warren, Jane Gordon

Absent: Vera Guarino

Welcome: The Rev'd Michael Singer began the meeting at 1:30 pm

Opening Prayer was offered by the Rev. Michael Singer

Report from the Co-Chairs of the Transition Committee: Mary Duane Hale and Stephen Thomas presented a slide show presentation regarding their work to find a venue for the Consecration of the new Bishop in May 2026. After a discussion of the pros and cons of several venues considered, Farrell made a motion to move forward with securing the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center for the Consecration. The motion was seconded by Tom, and the vote to pass the motion was unanimous.

Report from the Co-Chair of the Search Committee: Lisa Richey reported that the Search Committee has been hard at work reviewing applications and interviewing candidates. The retreat for bishop candidates is upcoming, and invitations to attend the retreat will be going out soon. No other information will be made public at this time.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Michael to elect Jane as Secretary of the Standing Committee. The motion passed unanimously.
- Tom made a motion to accept the resignation from the committee of the Rev. Caleb Lee. Farrell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Michael reported that Vera is now in a care facility and is battling many serious health issues. The committee committed to pray for Vera's speedy recovery. Jane moved that the committee regretfully remove Vera as a member due to her ongoing health issue, with the hope that she will recover and that we will be able to consider her for membership in the future. Farrell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- The committee reviewed a draft of the Compensation and Benefits Overview for the new Bishop-Elect. Jane's motion to approve the compensation package was seconded by Farrell, and passed unanimously.
- Farrell moved to require all candidates on the final slate to complete their medical and psychological evaluations prior to the election in November 2025. Tom seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at ? pm.

Future Items:

- Next scheduled meeting: **August 14, 2025, at 1:30 pm**