The US Grail Council MINUTES

Vision:	Mission Goals:	Resolutions:
Called by our spiritual values, The Grail envisions a world of peace, justice and renewal of the earth, brought about by racially and ethnically diverse women working together as catalysts for change.	*The Grail in the U.S. empowers women to work for world transformation by: building bridges among diverse faith traditions and spiritual paths; advancing peace, justice and a world free from military dominance; fostering international exchange and solidarity; challenging economic systems that put at risk the most vulnerable, especially women and children; becoming an anti-racist Grail and challenging systemic racism in society; creating communities for a sustainable future; celebrating the arts as a means for personal and societal transformation.*	*To become antiracist internally and externally viewing all our activities through an antiracist lens; and Rebuilding the Grail's spiritual core in community.*

DATE: **5/15/2023** NOTETAKER: **Rachel Hershberger** MODERATOR: **Judith Brown-Leigh**

COUNCIL MEMBERS Present: Cynthia Bernardez, Judith Brown-Leigh, Sonia Jacquez, Tina Kalala, Thanh Xuan Nguyen, Sharon Wood

Absent: Laura Kaplan

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Terrie Puckett

Time	Topic	Facilitator	Focus Question	Desired Outcome	Follow up?
6:30 pm 5mn	**Meditation/Prayer/Reflection Reading of Mission and Vision Statements**	**Sharon**		Minutes approved Agenda approved	

Mission and values read by Judith.
Reading from Awakening Loving Kindness Pema Chodron.

6:35 pm 10 mn	**Approval of April Minutes Approval of Today's Agenda**	**Cynthia**			

Important points to remember:

Changes requested to April minutes:

- Cynthia read closing prayer, not Sharon.
- Cynthia & Tina to coordinate F2F meeting, not Sonia.
- Judith requests to format minutes horizontally.

Additions to other business:

- Judith requests to add SCAG proposal.

Decisions/ Votes:

Cynthia moves to approve minutes, Sonia seconds

Motion passes unanimously

Cynthia moves to approve agenda, Thanh seconds
Motion passes unanimously

6:45 pm 5 mn	**President's Report**	**Thanh Xuan**		**Understanding**	

Important points to remember:

We have not made any financial transaction this month, so nothing to report.

6:50 pm 10 mn	**Executive Director Report**	**Terrie**		**Understanding**	

Important points to remember:

RMM lease update

- Collected information from membership until Friday May 12.
- 3 items listed in report are areas that need to be addressed:
    - Who is responsible for maintenance?
    - What happens if grail decides to sell the property?
    - Grail access to the property
- By June 1st, a draft of the lease will be sent to council and RMM. At this point council can review and send suggestions.
- 120 day notice is June 8, we have already given notice that changes are coming and what they are going to be so we are in compliance.
- Working with new attorney, Sonya from Taft in Cincinnati who is knowledgeable about NY law to ensure compliance.

Finance update

- April financials not yet seen by finance committee.
- Major maintenance, solidarity and elder care not on budget because they are separate buckets.
- $21,000 ahead of budget.
- No emergencies or major maintenance.

Grailville update

- Hired an external communicator to support with communication efforts at Grailville.
- She is developing a 3-year strategy to build non member awareness and relationships.
    - Year 1: "map your experience" at Grailville
    - Year 2: internal transformation
    - Year 3: going out into the world
- Will target businesses and faith communities in the tri-county region to increase property rentals and raise general awareness about the Grail, which could increase nonmember donations and volunteers.
- Buildings/spaces that we currently rent out:
    - Oratory, meeting spaces, Tidings (to a family)
- Events that we currently rent the space for:
    - Meetings, retreats, weddings, events

Decisions/ Votes:

7:00 pm 20 mn	**Committees Report:**				
	Finance:	**Sharon**	**Update**		
	Membership:	**Judith**	**Update**		
	Communication:	**Sonia**	**Update**		
	Ad hoc Education/Scholarship Policy:	**Judith**	**Update**		
	Committee Liaisons	**Thanh Xuan**		**Liaisons Chosen**	

Important points to remember:

Finance
Nothing to report from April meeting, haven't had May meeting yet.
Membership
Have not had a meeting.
Communication
Sonia reached out to Renee and Carol and they are getting organized to see how Sonia can be most helpful.
Education
Met and have two volunteers on committee who are coming up with a draft on how to define each area of the funds we have. Meeting on Weds and will have more to report.
Committee Liaisons
Thanh sent list of all committees that we have. Need to determine committee liaisons.

Decisions/ Votes:

Liaisons determined:

Finance – Sharon
Communication – Sonia
Education – Judith Brown-Leigh
Elder – NA
Archive – Cynthia
Membership - Sonia
GVIC – Sharon
Cemetery and Archive Committee (currently inactive, have not met in a year)– Cynthia

7:20 pm 10 mn	**IC Rep Report**	**Tina**	**Update**		

Important points to remember:

IC not much to report.
Higher Education Fund Survey that International Grail (HEF) has sent out to NLT. Thanh has replied and is sending to Judith and Sharon to review.

7:30 pm 10 mn	**Bylaws Change forum**	**Tina**	**Update**		

Decisions/ Votes:

Bylaws change forum date changed to June 10th at 12 PM-2 PM EST.
Tina will write small block and give it to Terrie to put it into NGN.

7:40 pm 5 mn	**GVIC-SS**	**Thanh Xuan**	**Update**		

Important points to remember:

GVIC-SS committee is working closely with a local organization that has proposed a purchase. Committee is working directly with the organization and will report updates to council.

Committee representatives toured the property with staff of the local organization. The buyer will draft a memorandum of understanding vs purchase agreement that will then be sent out to committee who will send to council.

7:45 pm 5 mn	**July F2F**	**Cynthia**	**Update**		

Important points to remember:

Cynthia and Tina will work on organizing July 8th F2F.
Sonia will send notes from last F2F to Cynthia & Tina.

Cynthia agreed to volunteer (not Sonia) – check minutes*** corrected in last months minutes.

7:50 pm 10 mn	**Other Business**	**Judith**			

Important points to remember:

SCAG sent revised proposal from Mary Lu.
Thanh put up on shared screen to go through together.
Discussion of lease terms and relationship with RMM. Lease is a 3 year lease that automatically renews every year, but can be adjusted as we go.
Process has been written in the lease place for Grail members to use the space. Grail members need to submit dates ahead of time to receive approval. Important to follow process in order to build good relationship with RMM.

Next Council meeting: June 26th, Terrie will send out all dates for the rest of the year. Laura is waiting for teaching schedule for fall.

Decisions/ Votes:

NLT will get together and draft a letter to reply to a representative for SCAG.
Fall F2F: everyone available October 26-29. More details to follow.

8:00pm 5 mn	**Reading / Prayer**	**Tina**			
	Moment of silence for women of Grail past, present, future				