



American Guild of Organists
Sarasota-Manatee Chapter
Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting
October 23, 2024 1 p.m.
Redeemer Church, Sarasota

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Sam Nelson
Dean

Vacant
Sub-Dean

Glen Olsen
Treasurer

Bryan Cordell
Secretary

The Rev. Charleston Wilson
Chaplain

EXECUTIVE BOARD

2025

Linda Petersen
Craig Ramberger

2026

James Guyer
Jane Hunder

2027

Brandon Kouri
Glenn Priest

Admin. –

Membership – Michael Bodnyk

Webmaster – Bryan Cordell

Placement – John Ferreira

Hospitality –

Advertising –

TAO Reporter – John Behnke

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order** – Dean Sam Nelson called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.
- II. **Installation of 2027 Executive Board Officers**
 - a. Glenn Priest
- III. **Roll Call/Quorum** – 7 Members Present
 - a. Sam Nelson, Dean
 - b. Glen Olsen, Treasurer
 - c. Bryan Cordell, Secretary/Webmaster
 - d. Jane Hunder, Executive Board
 - e. Glenn Priest, Executive Board
 - f. Brandon Kouri, Executive Board
 - g. Craig Ramberger, Executive Board (via ZOOM)

2 Members Absent:

 - a. Linda Petersen (Executive Board)
 - b. James Guyer (Executive Board)
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** – Executive Committee Meeting, August 23, 2024
 - a. Dean Sam Nelson summarized previous meeting minutes (*Attachment 1*) and requested any additional inputs, questions, comments
 - b. Hearing none, Glen Olsen moved to approve the minutes, Bryan Cordell seconded. Motion carried
- V. **Dean's Report** – Sam Nelson
 - a. Provided update on efforts to fill the Sub-Dean position. Several inquiries, but no one is interested. Perhaps focus on some of the newer members of the chapter? Or perhaps recently retired individuals who would now have the time to devote to this position? Will keep reaching out to those individuals who could be potential candidates



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b. Program Events Calendar:

1. November – Venice Organ Crawl on Nov 9 is now in final stages of preparation
 - a. Venice Presbyterian: Jamal Sarikoki will prepare an introduction video for presentation (Glen Olsen volunteered to be the organist-host since Ann Stephenson-Moe cannot join us on this day)
 - b. Epiphany Cathedral (Parish Center): Shawn Marren will be the organist-host
 - c. First Baptist: Bryan Cordell will be the organist-host
2. January – Kids ‘N Pipes + Orgelkids on Jan 25 is coming together. Glen Olsen confirmed that a check has been issued to First Presbyterian, Sarasota to reserve the venue; Bryan Cordell confirmed that the Orgelkids kit (plus consultant and organist to demo) have all been lined up from the Southwest Florida chapter; would Glenn Priest consider playing the church organ as part of the Orgelkids construction activity/demo?
3. February - Since the effort to engage Paul Jacobs for a Guest Artist concert has not been successful, could we consider other possibilities. Perhaps James Kennerley from Portland, ME? He’s the municipal organist there and performs a wide range of organ literature, including silent movie accompaniment
ACTION: Dean Sam Nelson to reach out to James Kennerley to discuss possible dates, organ venues in the local area, etc.
4. May – Is the Annual Meeting venue at St. Armand’s Key Lutheran Church still a viable location for May 12? Given the damage to the church and local area from recent storms, we will need to confirm with Michael Bodnyk that it will still be possible to hold the meeting at this location. The new organ is currently scheduled for installation starting in January and completed by Easter

VI. **Treasurer’s Report** – Glen Olsen

- a. Presented first quarter financial report for July 1 – September 30, 2024 (*Attachment 2*)
- b. Financially, we’re in pretty good shape with an account balance of \$19, 810 as of Sep 30
- c. Recent disbursements include \$500 to First Presbyterian, Sarasota for the January event venue and also \$500 to



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Sarasota Redeemer Church as our contribution in support of the October French Organ themed event

- d. Summarized recent remits and how the transition to the new National AGO on-line system was impacting this process for local chapters. Discussion followed on exactly what the remits are and how they are categorized and collected throughout the calendar year
- e. Recommend changing our chapter address on the checking account. Perhaps open a P.O. Box, or use Redeemer Church if legally possible. This warrants more investigation
ACTION: Glen Olsen to include this action with the previous open action researching alternatives to our current Bank of America (BofA) account (due to excessive fees)
- f. With no further discussion or questions on the Q1 financial statement, Jane Hunder moved to accept, Dean Sam Nelson seconded. Motion carried

VII. Secretary/Webmaster's Report – Bryan Cordell

- a. Recommended that future meeting minutes be distributed and approved via e-mail to improve timely release and distribution. Discussion followed with general concurrence to do this
- b. Summarized recent website updates to include:
 - i. Content refresh on the home page and sub-menu pages
 - ii. Reorganized and updated menu structure
 - iii. Updated and released the membership directory
 - iv. Posted newsletters and event brochures
 - v. Refreshed the calendar
 - vi. Posted meeting minutes
 - vii. Implemented additional password protections for sensitive documents
 - viii. Revised, added, and removed multiple position descriptions for local music positions
 - ix. Refreshed the substitute list
- c. Confirmed that the hardcopy repository of physical records at St. Boniface church had survived intact with no damage due to recent storms



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- VIII. **Final Discussion** – Jane Hunder noted the challenge her church at First Congregational UCC is having in sourcing a new Director of Music. This seems to be a prevalent problem among many churches in southwest Florida. What are other churches experiencing? What factors are driving this? How do we respond? Perhaps this would be a good workshop or panel discussion for our chapter to sponsor. General discussion that this could be a very valuable event to add to our future programming
- IX. **Executive Committee Photo** – Photos to be taken in the church courtyard immediately after the meeting
- X. **Adjournment** – Seeing no other agenda items for discussion, Dean Sam Nelson asked for a motion to adjourn. Glen Olsen made the motion; Bryan Cordell seconded. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Cordell, Secretary

Attachment 1: Meeting Minutes, Executive Committee on August 23, 2024, B. Cordell, Secretary
(now posted to the chapter website)

Attachment 2: Financial Report (Q1), G. Olsen, Treasurer