



Sequoia Grove Charter Alliance
Special Board Meeting

Date and Time: September 18, 2025
6:15 pm

Location: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://sequoiagrove-org.zoom.us/j/81425258665>

Meeting ID: 814 2525 8665

Agenda:

I. Opening items

- A. Record Attendance
- B. Call the Meeting to Order
- C. Approval of the Agenda
- D. Public Comments on agenda items

II. Finances

- A. Discussion and Potential Action on the Audit and Tax Engagement Multi-Year Contract with Christy White

III. Closing Items Operations

- A. Board of Director's Comments & Requests For Future Agenda Items
- B. Announcement of Next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
- C. Adjourn Meeting

Public Comment Rules: Members of the public may address the Board on agenda items through the teleconference platform, Zoom. Zoom does not require the members of the public to have an account or login. Please either utilize the chat option to communicate to the administrative team of your desire to address the Board or simply communicate orally your desire to address the Board when the Board asks for public comments. Speakers may be called in the order requests are received. Comments are limited to 2 minutes each, with no more than 16 minutes per single topic. If a member of the public utilizes a translator to address the Board, those individuals are allotted 4 minutes each. If the Board utilizes simultaneous translation equipment in a manner that allows the Board to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously, those individuals are allotted 2 minutes each. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to school staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

Note: The Governing Board encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Sequoia Grove Office at (916) 526-3794 at least 48 hours before the scheduled board meeting so every reasonable effort can be made to accommodate you. (Government Code § 54954.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (42 U.S.C. § 1213)).



Certified Public Accountants serving
K-12 School Districts and Charter
Schools throughout California

June 3, 2025

Governing Board and Management
Sequoia Grove Charter Alliance
8950 Cal Center Dr. Bldg One
Suite 110
Sacramento, CA 95826

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide for Sequoia Grove Charter Alliance for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2025, 2026, and 2027.

Audit Scope

We will audit the financial statements of Sequoia Grove Charter Alliance, (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2025, 2026, and 2027, the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended.

Audit Objectives

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibilities

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS, and will include test of accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations are attributable to the Organization or to acts by management of employees acting on behalf of the Organization.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements or noncompliance may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention.

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We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will obtain an understanding of the Organization and its environment, including internal control relevant to the audit, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards

In connection with this engagement, we may communicate with you or others via email transmission. As emails can be intercepted and read, disclosed, or otherwise used or communicated by an unintended third party, or may not be delivered to each of the parties to whom they are directed and only to such parties, we cannot guarantee or warrant that emails from us will be properly delivered and read only by the addressee. Therefore, we specifically disclaim and waive any liability or responsibility whatsoever for interception or unintentional disclosure of emails transmitted by us in connection with the performance of this engagement. In that regard, you agree that we shall have no liability for any loss or damage to any person or entity resulting from the use of email transmissions, including any consequential, incidental, direct, indirect, or special damages, such as loss of revenues or anticipated profits, or disclosure or communication of confidential or proprietary information.

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Tax Preparation and Other Services

We will prepare your annual informational returns for the IRS (Form 990 or 990-EZ, as appropriate), Franchise Tax Board (Form 199), and California Attorney General Registry of Charitable Trusts (RRF-1), with supporting schedules, and perform related research as considered necessary for the fiscal year(s) ending June 30, 2025, 2026, and 2027. We will also assist in preparing the financial statements and related notes of the Organization in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America based on information provided by you. Our work in connection with the preparation of the tax returns does not include any procedures designed to discover defalcations or other irregularities, should any exist. The returns will be prepared solely from information provided to us without verification by us.

We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards, including the Statements on Standards for Tax Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The other services are limited to the financial statements, related notes, and tax services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities. We will advise management with regard to tax positions taken in the preparation of the informational returns, but management must make all decisions with regard to those matters.

Certain communications involving tax advice are privileged and not subject to disclosure to the IRS. By disclosing the contents of those communications to anyone or by turning over information about those communications to the government, you, your employees, or agents, may be waiving this privilege. To protect this right to privileged communication, please consult with us or your attorney prior to disclosing any information about our tax advice. Should you decide that it is appropriate for us to disclose any potentially privileged communication; you agree to provide us with written advance authority to make that disclosure.

The IRS permits you to authorize us to discuss, on a limited basis, aspects of your return for one year after the due date of the return. Your consent to such a discussion is evidenced by checking a box on the return. Unless you tell us otherwise, we will check that box authorizing the IRS to discuss your return with us.

If, during our tax preparation, we discover information that affects your prior-year tax returns, we will make you aware of the facts. However, we cannot be responsible for identifying all items that may affect prior-year returns. If you become aware of such information during the year, please contact us for the best resolution of the issue.

Management Responsibilities

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for designing, implementing, establishing, and maintaining effective internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and for evaluating including monitoring ongoing activities to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met and ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and all accompanying information in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

You are also responsible for making drafts of financial statements, all financial records, and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers). You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed; (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the Organization from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by GAAS.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the Organization involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Organization received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the Organization complies with applicable laws and regulations.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on the organization's website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information, and therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in these sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

With regard to tax preparation, it is your responsibility to provide us with all the information required for preparing complete and accurate returns. You are responsible for the safeguarding of assets, the proper recording of transactions in the books of accounts, the substantial accuracy of the financial records, and the full and accurate disclosure of all relevant facts affecting the return(s) to us. You also have final responsibility for the tax return and, therefore, the appropriate officials should review the return carefully before an authorized officer signs and files it.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities for the tax services, financial statements, and related notes, and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter the tax services provided and our assistance with preparation of the financial statements, and related notes and that you have evaluated the adequacy of our services and have reviewed and approved the results of the services, the financial statements and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

Reporting

We will issue written reports upon completion of our audit. Our reports will be addressed to the Governing Board of Sequoia Grove Charter Alliance. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions, add a separate section, or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditor's report, or if necessary, withdraw from this engagement. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue reports, or we may withdraw from this engagement.

With regard to including the auditor's report in an exempt offering document, you agree that the aforementioned auditor's report, or reference to Christy White, Inc, will not be included in any such offering document without our prior permission or consent. Any agreement to perform work in connection with an exempt offering document, including an agreement to provide permission or consent, will be a separate engagement.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing. We will schedule the engagement based in part on deadlines, working conditions, and the availability of your key personnel. We will plan the engagement based on the assumption that your personnel will cooperate and provide assistance by performing tasks such as preparing requested schedules, retrieving supporting documents, and preparing confirmations. If, for whatever reason, your personnel are unavailable to provide the necessary assistance in a timely manner, it may substantially increase the work we have to do to complete the engagement within the established deadlines, resulting in an increase in fees over our original fee estimate.

We will provide an electronic and up to ten copies of our reports to the Organization, however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of seven years after the report release date. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation. Christy White, Inc does not keep any original client records, so we will return those to you at the completion of the services rendered under this engagement. It is your responsibility to retain and protect your records (which includes any work product we provide to you as well as any records that we return) for possible future use, including potential examination by any government or regulatory agencies.

Christy White, Inc does not accept responsibility for hosting client information; therefore, you have the sole responsibility for ensuring you retain and maintain in your possession all your financial and non-financial information, data and records.

The maximum annual fee for professional services under the terms of this agreement shall not exceed the following agreed upon amounts:

	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
Audit Services	\$ 9,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,500
Tax Preparation:	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Total Cost of Professional Services	<u>\$ 11,500</u>	<u>\$ 12,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,500</u>

The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.

Optional tax preparation services will only be performed if noted as agreed upon by selection of “audit and tax preparation” in your response. Selection of “audit only” will exclude our responsibilities to perform the tax preparation services noted within this letter unless these services are outlined in a separate engagement letter. Our responsibilities do not include preparation of any other tax returns not previously mentioned that may be due to any taxing authority.

Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. For tax preparation services, each annual engagement will be complete upon the delivery of completed tax returns to you.

If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our reports. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of termination.

If any dispute arises among the parties hereto, the parties agree to first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation under Rules for Professional Accounting and Related Services Disputes before resorting to litigation. Costs of any mediation proceeding shall be shared equally by all parties.

Client and accountant both agree that any dispute over fees charged by the accountant to the client will be submitted for resolution by arbitration. Such arbitration shall be binding and final. In agreeing to arbitration, we both acknowledge that in the event of a dispute over fees charged by the accountant, each of us is giving up the right to have the dispute in a court of law before a judge or jury and instead we are accepting the use of arbitration for resolution.

The first period to be audited shall be for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and is subject to extension for up to two additional fiscal years, if agreeable to the auditors and the Organization. The agreement may be cancelled annually if notified by the client or auditor by February 15 of each year. Additional extensions beyond 2027 may be secured on a year-by-year basis, subject to the agreement of the Organization and the auditor.

Christy White, Inc. has a non-licensee owner who may provide client services in your contract under the supervision of licensed owner.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Very truly yours,



Marcy Kearney, CPA
Partner
Christy White, Inc.

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Sequoia Grove Charter Alliance.

Please check your selection:

☐

Audit Only

☐ Audit and Tax Preparation

Signature

Title

Date