

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Minutes of the Vestry
January 23, 2024

Interim Rector

Mother Coleen Tully

Vestry Members:

Paula Paquette, Sr. Warden,

Alison Kinch, Jr. Warden

Kathie Hart

Rob Ricca

Patty Ingram

Steve Walsh

John Mitchell

Linda Griffin, Clerk to the Vestry

Joe Mulino, Treasurer

Thom Price, Asst. Treasurer

Vestry Consultant

Fr. Doug Lind

Thrift Store

Eileen Carrara

Opening Prayer, Mother Coleen Tully

Approval of Minutes: Vestry Meeting Minutes for December 19, 2023. Motion to approve, Patty Ingram. Second, Kathie Hart. All in favor. We note that the correct verbiage is Iona-Hope Circle of Care. The national group is Community of Hope.

Interim Rector's Report: Mother Coleen Tully

The movie Philadelphia 11 will be shown here on February 21. We are hosting St. Michael's and All Angels is paying for it. It is being widely advertised to the Diocese. A recovery service has been started. It has been well received. Construction continues. A newcomer class is pending. CPR/AED class is upcoming. Lots is going on.

Thrift Store Report: Eileen Carrara

We are 30 percent up over 2022 profits for 2023. Sales are excellent. January is \$33,000 to date. The thrift shop will need new flooring this year and plumbing repairs as well to the men's urinal and women's toilets. The Vestry approved giving goods to Citygate Ministries. There are plenty of items of clothes and other goods that we can provide to them. Outreach grants will be \$45,000.

Storage unit for thrift shop. We are renting a storage unit on Cypress now. There is a storage unit available by the thrift shop itself. It is available again now for \$2,000. We feel it would be a really great thing for the thrift shop. Motion to sign a lease for the storage unit, motion Kathie Hart, second, Alison Kinch. All in favor

Finance Report: Joe Mulino

John Edgar, Diocesan staff for congregational finance matters, assisted greatly with our 2024 budget and review of our finances in preparation for the Rector search. He updated our budget figures. He took the actual pledges received and adjusted the budget to that. There are several columns on the budget pages presented by the treasurer. here is a line for \$50,000 from the Thrift Shop. That included the \$20,000 for the air conditioner and \$30,000 for the December contribution. John Edgar recommended in the proposed budget he

worked on to incorporate a \$50,000 donation. One page 2 of the budget pages, the Rector salary at the top, was included as \$70,000 . The additional 70,000 listed is in anticipation of \$23,333 is the remaining amount for Mother Tully for this year. Rector health and dental insurance is now 17,484 from John Edgar. Rector pension is shown at 12,600. Our salary budget line for lay office staff is \$45,000. We have hired a Media Director. What remains from her salary from the This line dropped from \$65,000.

Some donations have come in for the added construction costs we have encountered. The thrift shop is considering an additional donation for \$15,000 to assist with the overage of construction costs.

Diocesan capital apportionment. We had not included an amount in the budget for 2024 – it should have been listed as \$2,500.

Cleaning service. John Edgar wanted to eliminate cleaning. We said it's not possible for us. We need the cleaners. \$19,200 is the annual cost. Some other lines were adjusted in John Edgar's review (from the Diocese).

Motion to approve the final budget for 2024 as modified by John Edgar from the Diocese, Rob Ricca. Second, Patty Ingram. All in favor.

Our negative balance for the year on financials shows as \$30,886.

\$24,277 of that is a discrepancy. The figure on the budget is correct, an operating loss of \$6,609. This reporting discrepancy resulted from not including the mortgage payments to the Diocese as entries on the financial reports. Under restricted accounts, we should have applied the capital apportionment account to a certain account line. It was mistakenly applied to a wrong account. The accountant will make all of the needed adjustments next month.

Group Ministries:

Circle of Care would like to do an alternate training for people, a bit shorter, modified for snowbirds, especially. We need more people

involved. The group takes Eucharist to those who cannot attend church. It's a lifeline to people who cannot be here. The full course is 12 weeks. The group is looking to do the training in six weeks. We have a very strong group.

Newcomer Cards. We have a ministry of reaching out to visitors and newcomers who fill out newcomer cards. This will pass on to another Vestry from Kathie Hart. It does not need to be a Vestry member. It can be any dedicated person.

LIFE – Steve Walsh is working on getting people to the Nehemiah Action on April 7. Rally is before that, three weeks earlier.

Small Group Leaders meeting will be forthcoming.

Vestry Consultant: Fr. Doug Lind

With all the changes and time that has gone by since the Vestry started discussing having a Retreat, does the Vestry want to look at the objectives for the Vestry Retreat?

The other thing Fr. Lind wanted to us to remind the Parish about was the Rector Search Committee. People should not be asking them any questions about how the search is going.

Fr. Lind also wanted to remind the Search Committee to be very clear on what they are looking for in a new Rector.

Junior Warden's Report: Alison Kinch

We are waiting to get the cost for having the floor at the Thrift Store done. The person asked said he would need to see what he is pouring the new floor over before he can give a good quote. It will not be cheap, but has to be taken care of.

Believe Out Loud/All are Welcome has been added to our sign on both sides.

A new Power Supply has been installed in the booth.

More Plaques have been added to the Pet Memorial.

Bob Earl has graciously said he would pay for the removal of the dead tree in front.

Senior Report: Paula Paquette

We sent out a reminder about the upcoming Annual Parish meeting this Sunday. We have 3 candidates for Vestry, and we sent that information out. At the Annual Parish meeting we will ask if there are any other nominees, if not we will ask for a motion to affirm by acclamation. If there are other's we will make a motion for a paper vote. Paula will have paper ballots for people to fill out.

We sent out an update on the Rector search to the Parish.

The profile, along with the financial figures, that Joe and John Edgar worked on has been submitted and is out on the National Search engine. Canon Norman has placed our advertisement on the Episcopal News Service. It will cost us \$495, but will give us additional exposure. All Candidates will apply to the Diocese Canon Norman. The deadline is February 26. They have 5 weeks to supply their material. Canon Norman will schedule a meeting with the Search Team in a couple of weeks, the Senior Warden is required to set in on that meeting. After that the Search Team only will be doing their thing. All applicants that pass back ground screening and ecclesiastical acceptability, will be forwarded to the Search Team.

Website redesign, Margaret Carr. We are just waiting for feed back and we will be ready to go live.

Meeting ended at 5:00pm with closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Griffin, Clerk of the Vestry

