

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Minutes of the Vestry
August 27, 2024 @ 3:30 PM

Vestry Members:

Paula Paquette – Senior Warden
Alison Kinch – Junior Warden (absent)
Rob Ricca
Steve Walsh (Zoom)
John Mitchell (Zoom)
Debbie Prather
Marcia Leidig
Linda Griffin

Joe Mulino – **Treasurer**
Thom Price – **Assistant to the Treasurer** (Zoom)
Eileen Carrara – **Thrift Store Manager**
Margaret Carr – **Media Director**
Marnie Ike – **Parish Administrator** (Zoom)
Wanda Adler – **Office Volunteer**
Victoria Lines – **Clerk to the Vestry**

Guests:

Andi Jerger

Opening Prayers & Concerns:

Mother Jenny opened the meeting at 3:30 pm with prayer.

Approval of Minutes:

Vestry Meeting Minutes for July 23, 2024.
Motion to approve, Rob.
Second, Linda.
All in favor.

Rector Report: The Rev. Jenny Scott-Jones

Mother Jenny shared that she is meeting with people and listening to the visions we have regarding the future.

Father Lind is stepping back as Consultant to the Vestry but will be engaged and connected as a coach/mentor to Mother Jenny.

The lighting in the Sanctuary needs to be updated as there are on-going issues and the current lights are outdated and no longer available for purchase. A request for special contributions to replace lighting will be published in the weekly bulletin.

Thrift Store Report: Eileen Carrara

Eileen reported that August has been better than August of last year (\$10,000 ahead).

The “Men’s Mission of Fort Myers” has been added as a new ministry to assist. Clothing items are now being distributed to them.

The suggestion was made that we create a giving tree this year for children at “All Souls” ministry.

Motion to approve, all Vestry members.

Second, all Vestry members.

All in favor.

Finance Report: Joe Mulino

The financial report was emailed to Vestry prior to this meeting.

Joe reported that he recently signed the renewal for a line of credit through First Citizens Bank for \$40,000 that’s available now until August 2025.

The lease at the Thrift Store is a “triple net lease” that contains CAM charges. Iona-Hope’s share of back-charge is \$12,881 and will be paid in September.

Motion to approve, Deb.

Second, Linda.

All in favor.

Negotiations for lease renewal for 2025 will be held in the first quarter.

Columbarium:

When a niche is sold, there are three different accounts that the money goes to. Joe is requesting that two of the titles be changed.

He would like the Columbarium Investment Account (Restricted) be changed to Columbarium Purchase of Future Niches.

He would also like Columbarium Niche purchase (Restricted) to be changed to Columbarium Maintenance.

Suggestion to change the account allocation to \$500 to the purchase of future niches, \$500 to maintenance, and \$300 to repay negative balance in the capital campaign.

Motion to approve, Marcia.

Second, Rob.

All in favor.

Margaret inquired as to whether the current sale Columbarium niches through the end of August should be extended.

All concurred that the sale should be extended through the rest of 2024.

Motion to approve, Deb.

Second, Linda.

All in favor.

Rob voiced Columbarium maintenance concerns and suggests further discussion and direction on how to properly maintain.

Perhaps a new committee/position is in order.

Rob, Marcia, and Andi volunteered to pursue/research further.

Church Insurance:

Insurance is increasing by \$6,000 for the next year.

Paula requested a motion to reduce policy costs for not having a "named storm" deductible and "All other peril" deductible to be removed for a cost savings.

The matter was tabled until the next Vestry meeting.

Iona-Hope Audit Draft for 12-21-2023:

Dees & Dees draft emailed to Vestry members for review prior to meeting.

Motion to approve, Linda.

Second, Paula.

Announcements/Upcoming/Programs:

Interfaith Ministry – Margaret Carr

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12th at 7:00 pm.
It's being held in the Gathering Place at Iona-Hope.
Participation is highly encouraged.

High Holy Days classes will be held in-person at Temple Beth El on
Wednesday, September 4, 11, and 18th from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

LGBTQ & Allies Ministry – Linda Griffin

Linda presented a proposal crafted by Patrick Hunt regarding a potential
new ministry regarding the above subject matter.
Vestry supported the idea – more forthcoming.

Discussion/Reports:

Junior Warden's Report: Alison Kinch

**No report available as Alison is on vacation*

Senior Warden's Report: Paula Paquette

Paula discussed the situation regarding the on-going issue/presence of
Homeless people on Iona-Hope grounds. A variety of ideas on how best to
manage were discussed in depth. More forthcoming.

August 29, 2024 update:

“Senior Warden Paula Paquette made a motion that Iona-Hope Episcopal
Church confirms that the Rev. Jennifer Scott-Jones has been duly retained
as our Rector and, as such, is the President of our corporation. As such,
she holds all rights and responsibilities as an office of Iona-Hope Episcopal
Church”.

Motion to approve, Paula.

Second, Rob.

All in favor, all Vestry members.

The motion passes in the affirmative.

Meeting ended at 4:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Lines, Clerk of the Vestry