

**Iona-Hope Episcopal Church**  
*Vestry Meeting Minutes*

**Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 2:30 p.m.**

**Attending:** The Rev. Jenny Scott-Jones, Rector

**Vestry:** Paula Paquette, Senior Warden (Zoom)

Alison Kinch, Junior Warden

Marcia Leidig

Deb Prather

John Hufnagel (Zoom)

Rob Ricca

Neil Tousley (excused)

Steve Walsh (Zoom)

**Treasurer:** Joe Mulino

**Assistant to the Treasurer:** Thom Price (Zoom)

**Thrift Shop:** Eileen Carrara

**Administrator:** Marnie Ike (Zoom)

**Media Director:** Margaret Carr

**Sextons:** Ken and Donna Owens

**Chaplain:** Marilyn Moore (Zoom)

**Clerk:** Teresa Hufnagel (excused)

**Guest:** Susan Crawford (Zoom)

**Opening Concerns/Prayer**

Marilyn provided an opening prayer.

**Approval of previous minutes April 29, 2025**

Motion to approve, second. All in favor.

### **Thrift Store Update: Eileen Carrara**

No more grant requests will be accepted -26 received.

### **Finance: Joe Mulino**

Vote held and it was approved by vestry to move \$50K donation from restricted funds to general funds.

Joe will prepare a detailed report of Iona-Hope's financial status and projection for second half of 2025 for the vestry meeting June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Joe pointed out that the plan is to use \$30K from the thrift store to pay the line of credit later this summer. This is in addition to the \$35K taken earlier this year. The vestry agreed previously that up to \$100K in 2025 could be used from the thrift store to benefit the church. This will be revisited in the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

An audit is coming up with a report due Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussed using a professional auditor but that will cost about \$7K. Sue Bailey and/or Jeffrey Crawford may be approached to perform an internal audit in order to reduce expense. Diocese will accept internal audit.

### **RaiseRight**

John to follow up with status of Publix and will communicate that to Vestry. Discussion of November push for physical gift cards for Christmas. John will also promote travel vendors.

### **Life Justice Ministry**

Steve following up with Life. They did not complete a grant for funds from thrift store. Typically Iona-Hope donates \$2K per year to this organization. Timing of donation discussion – concluded anytime in the year is acceptable. Discussed if Iona-Hope should donate to Life this year considering our finances and state of Life – decision tabled until later this year.

### **Potpourri**

Name tags need to be returned to boxes as that will determine church attendance.

Rob agreed to lead Welcoming Ministry. Need to make newcomers feel welcome. Vestry should be leaders with welcoming. Make sure newcomers are not sitting alone at coffee.

Cypress Cove folks can not stay for coffee/donuts after 9:30 service as they need to go back for brunch.

Discussed possibilities of ice cream social and high teas.

Discussed church safety. Marnie to send current security plan. Please read through. In the past had a defined medical plan and first aid training/AED training. John will lead follow up. NOTE: John will focus on active shooter situation and whether or not the church has safe rooms and active shooter plan/training. John will complete by September vestry meeting.

### **Junior Warden**

Nothing to state that is not on report

### **Senior Warden**

This Friday Paula and Rev. Jenny will have a meeting with Neighbors Network to discuss a partnership and utilization of the Gathering Space. New congregants are a possibility from this potential partnership.

### **Rector**

Discussed Southwest Fort Myers food pantry. In the past Iona-Hope gave 1/3 to Southwest and 2/3 to Gladiolus. Not clear why this was stopped. It was stop in 2022. Need for food is increasing. Many people in these areas are day laborers; with snow-birds up north, there is not as much work. In the past, Iona-Hope gave Southwest one week's of food donations per month. There is not a promise to Gladiolus regarding 100% donations. Paula to follow up with Supper Club.

Discussion on Kids area. Tabled to June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Summer reconfiguration of chairs was also tabled to June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Also tabled discussion of Rev. Jenny taking one Saturday off per month in summer months. A substitute has been identified.

Discussed Good Futures Accelerator Tool – Vestry to visit website before June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting <https://www.rootedgood.org/good-futures>