

Iona-Hope Episcopal Church  
Minutes of the Vestry  
February 11, 2020

**Attendees:**

The Reverend Ray Buchanan ✓

**Vestry Members:**

Joe Mulino, Senior Warden ✓

Ray Zentis, Junior Warden ✓

Bob Earl ✓

Margo Farrara ✓

Alison Kinch ✓

Robin Mills ✓

Andi Jerger ✓

Debbie Prather, Treasurer, Member (excused with regrets)

Patricia Ingram ✓

**Guests - Persons of Interest:**

Ken and Donna Owens, Church Staff ✓

John Thomas (Assistant Treasurer) ✓

John Gamble, Project Manager ✓

Paula Paquette, Clerk of the Vestry ✓

**Guest:** Douglass Lind, Consultant ✓

**Opening Concerns and Prayers:** Father Ray

**Vestry Covenant** was read aloud (as created from the Vestry retreat). Margo Farrara did the final draft of it.

**Minutes** Motion Joe Mulino, Second Andi Jerger, to approve previous minutes (January) as presented. All in favor.

Approval of Annual Meeting minutes. Motion Joe Mulino, Second Bob Earl, to approve Annual Meeting minutes. All in favor.

**Group Ministries Reports**

Reports – AA meetings have concerns about lighting. Will be addressed in Junior Warden report. Senior Warden will discuss other items related to Small Groups.

**Announcements**

Welcome Bob Earl, Ray Zentis, Alison Kinch to new terms on the Vestry. Joe Mulino is officially appointed as Senior Warden. Monitor schedule is established. Margo Farrara is monitor for tonight. The monitor makes sure the Vestry is operating according to the Vestry Covenant. The Vestry will most probably not need to meet over summer. Meetings will take place through April and resume in September. If a meeting is needed, Senior Warden will call one. Light up ball is our tool for alerting of a possible issue. Only agenda and prayer will be printed out for meetings. Members are responsible for printing any other materials they need. Tomorrow night is Interfaith Prayer Study at 7:00. Gather at 6:30; meeting at 7:00.

**New Facilities**

Father John Gamble, executive summary concerning building projects, new facilities. Report was emailed. Any questions? In addition to the report, the dishwasher was received and is installed. Waiting for plumbing reinspection by county. Have not received from Compass information for payment number 2 so that is pending. There was a cost in for kitchen cabinets which was not utilized and so was incorrect. The additional details and correction is pending. Patio pavers will be set tomorrow, irrigation, cutting on asphalt,

drywall painting, etc. are coming right up. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, Total Flooring will complete their work. Team Logic will be here on Thursday for a review. FPL has been paid an amount to disconnect the transformer which is here. In the Compass contract, they are to remove the transformer. The Columbarium sits right there so it interferes. We are waiting on a price to remove overgrowth in the back area also. Transformer cost was over and above, out of pocket. Not in original estimates. Paid FPL \$5,502. We received a credit on the construction of \$6,000 due to cabinets. \$1,700 was paid out because of rotten floors. Bathroom over was \$6,850. \$3,900 was additional painting. Is the drawn down on the capital funds available? We are in process of getting funds in, pledges in. Cash is available to cover bills. We pay on bills no later than 30 days after invoice comes in. Usually, invoice received on the 24<sup>th</sup> and bill is paid by the 15<sup>th</sup>. Using Christmas funds, some patio furniture was purchased. Benches, chairs, tables ordered. Might need some help with assembly. \$10,000 was received for the request letter. Fences, gates, etc. are open for the events we have upcoming. In general, though, they are closed.

## **Discussion**

### **Senior Warden Report, Joe Mulino**

May 2 is the annual Vestry retreat at Dayspring. It is for one day. Several people will try to attend. Small Groups liaison list was distributed. Also discussed was the general vitality of each of the groups. Alison Kinch added as liaison to book club. Pastoral care now falls under the title of Community of Hope. Friday Faithful, Andi Jergen will be Vestry liaison. Healing Ministry needs a lay pastor. Andi Jergen will be Vestry liaison. Kathie Hart is Invite, Welcome, Connect. Father Ray is for the Vestry. Justice Ministry may be having some challenges. Alison Kinch is working on that with the leaders. Deb Prather is the Vestry liaison. Comment that perhaps Vestry needs to look at the issue of our parish's participation in that ministry and how it can be improved. Quad Squad is Alison Kinch for Vestry liaison. Vestry Liaison for Spirituality is Robin Mills. Vestry Liaison for Spanish classes is Robin Mills. Andi Jergen is liaison for Women's breakfast. Alison Kinch is liaison for Wonderful Wednesday.

Mardi Gras is a week from Friday. Sponsors still needed. 106 people are attending. We need 130 people for a break even.

### **Vestry Consultation**

Douglass Lind, Consultant – in attendance. Check-in regarding the weekend retreat. How do we now incorporate and connect the people who were not part of the weekend? Steve, Evelyn, and Craig? Opportunity to voice their thoughts and feelings. How can this be done? Executive session, closed, and invite them in. Outside of the regular meeting? A Saturday morning? Sunday after service? 11:00 on a Sunday? Senior Warden will reach out.

### **Invite Welcome Connect**

Kathie Hart has taken over primary leadership of the group. The group will be dividing into three subgroups to get tasks done (invite, welcome and connect). People are joining the groups and then the whole group will reconvene too.

### **Finance Committee, Deb Prather**

Financial statement for this past month. Reports were emailed. Treasurer Deb Prather is excused. Assistant Treasurer John Thomas is here in her stead. All reports have been provided to Vestry. Any questions about her report? John Thomas did not see the handout which is the contract letter for the audit. Approval for that is needed. Dees and Dees audit letter. Same arrangement we have had every year. Motion, Bob Earl, to accept. Second, Joe Mulino. All in favor. The Dees and Dees contract is approved. Church Insurance company is offering a discount on our insurance (3% rate reduction). Patrick Hunt reviewed this and recommends it. He has contact to Church Insurance. Motion, Bob Earl, second Patty Ingram, to move forward with that. All in favor. Thrift Shop income is down somewhat. There may

be new entities moving into the plaza. Cash is available to cover construction costs.

Treasurer report documents the amounts.

### **Junior Warden Report, Ray Zentis**

Repair of lights. Two outdoor lights are easier to repair. The rear lights are a more difficult matter but Junior Warden is working on it. Construction company is working on running wire, trenching, etc. It is a significant project. We do not have an estimate of costs because it is not known now what we will run into. Outside light of gathering place does not light. It is dark. Father Ray reported breaker was turned back on so exterior lights are now on. There is power to first pole and all the way to the back pole. Do we need to get this contractor with the electrical person? When will Hallett take care of the lights? It seems they are delayed and not working through to conclusion. Exterior lights on building are related to the construction project, and, so, may not work yet. Building lighting will be updated, but it's not done yet. Exterior building light works now. Trees are closing in on the lights near the street. There may be yellow lights out there. Father Ray thinks the color was yellow because one breaker was on and one breaker was off. Lights were on today even with the trees there. Trees do need to be trimmed. Gate closing was discussed. We all need to take responsibility for making sure the gate gets closed and stays closed when we are here. Construction people try to close successfully. Staff of the church have requested people move their cars. Sometimes, gate is open because the construction people actually are constructing something and supplies are coming in, etc. Frustrating issue. Nothing further from Junior Warden. Motion, Bob Earl, to nominate Ray Zentis for the position of Junior Warden. Second, Alison Kinch. All in favor.

### **Approval of Parochial Report**

Report was handed out to all Vestry for their approval. Membership is down significantly because the rolls were purged. Rolls included all people who filled out a yellow card when they came to church. These were never purged Even removing ALF did not show a significant difference in the number of people attending weekly. Funerals listed are only listed if the person was on the rolls. Many other services are done. 11 confirmations and receptions. Motion, Bob Earl, second, Joe Mulino, to accept Parochial Report and submit. All in favor.

### **Columbarium Committee**

Contract is being reviewed now by an attorney. Niches can be on sale very soon. \$1,500 and \$1,700 are the tiered, discounted prices now. Was it approved or was it going to be further discussed? Father Ray will check the pertinent minutes to see if it was approved. Cost per unit (single) is about \$600. There is another \$150 if it is a dual unit. Sale of niches pays the unit, then some goes into maintenance, then monies repay the capital campaign for the cost of the Columbarium. 90 units are going in now out of the total 300 proposed.

**Securing the runners** was discussed again. One runner is fairly secure. The other needs to be more secured. Recommendation of double stick tape was made. But, it might make it difficult to clean. Spikes underneath? Maybe some sort of adhesive over the runner? The rug is designed to get wet. Maybe put adhesive on the edges? Edge of rug in under the refrigerator. The company that provided them might take them back? We get spills on the rug all the time. We did not do tile because people complain it's too loud. We will continue to work on the carpet and runners issue. It does need to get worked out.

China cups can be used again since the dishwasher is working again.

Vestry agenda completed. 6:07 pm

Evening prayer continued.

*Adjournment*