

**Iona Hope Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry
February 8, 2022**

Attendees:

The Reverend Ray Buchanan

Vestry Members:

Ray Zentis

Bob Earl

Allison Kinch

Kathie Hart

Kathleen Ulm

Paula Paquette-Sr. Warden

Rob Ricca

Guests -Persons of Interest:

The Reverend Suzy Post, Excused

Eileen Carrara, Thrift Shop Manager

Joe Mulino-Treasurer

Bella Tousignant, Asst Treasurer

Ken and Donna Owens, Sextons

Guest: Doug Lind, Consultant

Andi Jerger

Opening Concerns & Prayers

Father Ray Buchanan

Prayers are invited for thanksgivings celebrations and intercessions.

Opening Discussion

Father Ray welcomed newest Vestry members Kathleen Ulm, Rob Ricca and Paula Paquette and new treasurer Joe Mulino and Asst Treasurer Bella Tousignant. Suggested the 3 new members do their short welcome video at the end of the meeting. Father Ray also gave a brief overview of what it means to be Vestry. To oversee general and financial areas of the church. They have a fiduciary responsibility and are there for support and encouragement. They are not to manage.

Information

Approval of Minutes

Motion Bob Earl, Second Rob Ricca to approve prior minutes of Jan 2022 all in favor

Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes

Motion Bob Earl, Second Rob Ricca to approve the Annual Meeting Minutes of Jan 30, 2022 all in favor

Group Ministries

It will still take a few months to get everyone up and running. Paula is holding a Small Group Leaders meeting 2/16 at 4:15-this will include a slide show and power point including how-to for technology information. Allison will provide liaisons to Father Ray shortly.

Announcements

Bishops visit 2/27 still working out details, possible reception and MC's will be reinstated at this service.

Parish Picnic 2/20 at Lakes Park after 9:30 service, March 2nd is Ash Wednesday.

No Visitor Comments at this time

Discussion

Senior Warden Report

Paula Paquette Senior Warden

She is delighted and hopeful. Attended all 3 services this past weekend and was pleased to see so many. She met with Marnie, Joe and Bella to get a better understanding of the ACS system. Plans to update the brochure and noted there are lots of events on the calendar.

Vestry Consultant

Doug Lind, consultant

Stated the obvious – it's a new vestry. We need to figure out who has what capabilities to add to the church. There is a new energy.

Invite, Welcome, Connect

Kathie Hart, Chair, Invite, Welcome, Connect

Kathie actually started with the Parish Picnic update. Approximately 80 people signed up so far. It will start with a light coffee hour. Popz Barbeque is the caterer. There will be crafts and games and awards. We will plan on winding down about 3. Looking for helpers to set up and break down.

IWC-Ray Kathie and Paula will be participating in a National Digital conference and will share later the how that goes. Invite – Patrick looking to do a social media campaign will work with Father Ray on that. Invite needs new blood. Welcome-Patty has stepped back from coordinating, Margaret will help but does not want to schedule so we need a new Welcome desk coordinator, Rob volunteered to help with that. Welcome packet still in revisions. Connect- working on the small group tri-fold and ministry fair and plan for a directory update with photos.

Thrift Store Update

Eileen Carrara, Thrift Shop Manager

Reports that everything is doing really well, only thing really is a shortage on furniture. Which makes sense as people wait for their own to come in before donating. Looking to possibly phase out the children's section. Very excited that Alison is working on a digital vision board that will display and loop what Iona Hope mission is all about as well as information about the church, as they often get questions about what we are and what we do. Looking to start OMT Grants again. Discussion about changing the time line to be aligned with the fiscal year as that would be a truer statement of where funds are.

Re-Opening Timelines

Covid numbers seem to be leveling off for dropping. Discussion on how we want to proceed with masks. We will leave as is for now, strongly urged and to keep the signs on the doors for services and group meeting. There have been no issues reported so far. Coffee hours – 9:30 service it was discussed to have it but mostly on the patio for more space. To stick with beverages only for now. Saturday 5 pm will not resume yet. Sunday 8am-nothing for the time being. Planning a small reception for the Bishops visit to include coffees and possible – cupcakes and cookies. Rob Bob Paula and Kathleen all indicated they would assist with putting this together. Again, with the hope of it being in the Gathering Place and Patio.

Review of 2021 Parochial Report

Father Ray reviewed the Parochial Report that is being submitted to the national church and diocese by March 1.

Discussion of Office Staff Position

Father Ray provided 2 job descriptions splitting the Parish Administrator into 2 positions. He recommended approximately 15 hours each with it not going above 19 hours per week. One would focus on administration the other on media. The positions would work together, it could be a hybrid position. We would still require and depend on assistance of office volunteers. Would like to advertise as soon as possible so as to get time to spend with Marnie to learn the peculiarities of the position.

Vestry Retreat and Book Study

Father Ray will get the book to everyone soon and the study will begin 2/28 at 10AM for 5 consecutive weeks. Retreat was agreed to take place on 3/11-3/12. Paula has offered her offices again in the Cape. It will begin at 6PM -9PM. Dinner will be provided and then 8:30AM-2PM. Agenda and additional details will follow.

Decisions

Finance Committee

Joe Mulino, Treasurer

Bella Tousignant, Asst Treasurer

A revised financial report was emailed to everyone. We will receive the report on the Thursday before Vestry from now on. Revenue in January was #60974. Expenses are staying fairly low. \$32000 was profit for month of January. All is good with finances this month. Can we do a Columbarium sale again this month? March 1 to May 1 prices \$1500 for a double and \$1300 for a single. Motion, Bob Earl, second Rob Ricca, to have a niche sale – All in favor. On January 25 1st Citizens gave us the line of credit of \$30,000. It does not show on the current month financial report because it has not post to ACS.

Thrift Shop Financial

The Thrift store wants to return to the church operating account an additional \$4000 this month of February in addition to the typical \$6000 payback. Cheerfully received. Motion, Bob Earl, Second, Kathie Hart, to start the Thrift Store outreach grant program starting again on May 1.

Junior Warden

Bob Earl, motion, Ray Zentis, second, to elect Alison Kinch as Junior Warden. Alison Kinch agrees to stand for nomination. Bob Earl, motion, Kathleen Ulm, second, to close nominations, all in favor. Alison Kinch is elected by acclamation.

Closing Prayers

Father Ray.

Thank you to everyone here and for all that has been accomplished this evening. THANK YOU

Meeting adjourned, 6:20pm

Respectfully Submitted

Margo Farrara
Clerk or the Vestry