

April 2, 2019

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Minutes of the Vestry
April 2, 2019

Attendees:

The Reverend Ray Buchanan

Vestry Members:

Joe Mulino, Sr. Warden

Ray Zentis, Jr. Warden

Margo Farrara

Craig Reitan

Bob Earl

Debbie Prather, Member/ Treasurer

Patricia Ingram, Clerk of the Vestry

Ken & Donna Owens, Church Staff

Guests: Fr. John Gamble, Andi Jerger

Absent with Apologies: John Thomas, Robin Mills, Steve Walsh

Opening Concerns & Prayers: - Fr. Ray

- Fr. Ray opened the meeting at 5:00 P.M. with An Order of Worship for the Evening Vestry Meeting. Fr. Ray asked for any prayers/celebrations. Joe asked for prayers himself and Rob as they deal with issues with their dog Mattie. Debbie asked for prayers for her cousin Elizabeth and Elizabeth's husband Rick.

- **Information:**

- **Approval of Minutes:** Fr. Ray asked members to review March minutes. Joe noted the misspelling of Eileen's name. Fr. Ray asked for any other additions/corrections, none noted. Bob motioned to accept as corrected, Joe seconded, March minutes approved to be accepted as corrected.
- **Group Ministries and LIFE Report:**
- **LIFE-** Debbie Prather
- Debbie advised the Nehemiah Action is next Tuesday, April 9, at South Fort Myers High School, hoping for 1,000 people, lots of tickets, encouraged all to come.
- Debbie advised issues are 1) asking city council to reinstate tax on developers, as they apply for permits to build in Ft. Myers, which would go towards affordable housing, and 2) asking county to establish a counsel for children- 6:30 pm registration, 7:00 pm meeting starts.
- **Announcements:** -Fr. Ray
- Fr. Ray asked for any announcements. None.
- **New Facilities** - Fr. John
- Fr. John asked for any questions or comments regarding his Executive Summary or Supplement.
- Debbie inquired as to the timeline.
- Fr. John advised Victor lost 4 months, has submitted, through the civil engineer, the site plans showing demolition and the new work. Fr. John continued advising, at the end of this month, the civil engineer will submit the plans to the county for presentation.
- Debbie inquired if the 4 months of review would start after that.
- Fr. John advised no, it is all part of the 4 months. Fr. John advised what happens next is a review with the county on the permits.

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- Debbie inquired as to what happens after that.
 - Fr. John advised after the completion of the documents, they will come here for Vestry review and approval.
 - Debbie asked if we would get a budget then- Fr. John advised yes.
 - Fr. John advised there is a letter of intent coming from Bruce Downs which will show what is proposed to be done and at what cost. Fr. John further advised the letter must include the phrase “the letter of intent will be superseded by a final contract”; the final contract will be based on an overview by the Vestry of the design drawings and the budget. Fr. John advised that once that is done they will go back into permitting for the building.
 - Debbie inquired about what happens after that.
 - Fr. John advised he expects construction to start on July 1.
 - Debbie asked how long construction will last.
 - Fr. John advised construction is expected to last through November. Fr. John further advised that with the letter of intent Bruce is developing a schedule that they can look at and hopefully be approved.
 - Bob inquired if the schedule is driven by the county’s approval- Fr. John advised yes.
 - Fr. John advised there are two levels of approval, one for the site work and the other for building and demolition. Fr. John further advised there are five different reviewers they have to go through.
 - Debbie stated it is her understanding that the gathering space will not be demolished until this work is completed.
 - Fr. John confirmed the gathering space will remain until all this work is done and fully operational.
 - Bob inquired as to the cost of the flooring.
 - Fr. John advised total flooring gave us here options initially, each with a ten-year warranty. Fr. John advised he told Fr. Ray we should go with the lowest cost which is polyester, Fr. John has samples he can bring to the next meeting.
 - Debbie asked for clarification that this is not in the budget, it is in what she calls we can do it cheaper, which we need a budget for.
 - Fr. John explained the original carpet budget from Victor was \$14,000- not doing that.
 - Debbie advised she understands that, she would like a budget for things Victor is not doing, things that were removed from Victor’s budget, i.e. flooring, appliances, other things.
 - Fr. John advised one refrigerator is gone, one will be placed in Mtr. Suzy’s old office which will be storage, and another will be placed in the corner of Fr. Ray’s present office. Fr. John also advised dishwasher has been priced, no decision yet.
 - Fr. Ray advised what he thinks Debbie is looking for is a list with cost estimate.
 - Bob added they are looking for a total number.
- Fr. Ray asked for any further questions/comments.
- Debbie inquired about the proposal from Brian Liebl.
 - Fr. John advised the work was done and we were not charged. Fr. John further advised we do have issues, the back door is to be blocked off permanently. Also, where new steps were put in, the post is rotten at the base. Fr. John advised that, after speaking with Brian, Victor and Compass, they are not doing any of that work until the new trailers are brought in.
 - Debbie inquired as to the steel beams.
 - Fr. John advised they are ok for now, too costly.
 - Bob inquired if the back entrance is an emergency exit.
 - Fr. John advised no there is an exit right there from the office.
 - Fr. Ray added there are others also.
 - Fr. John advised county will look at when new modulars are in place.
 - Fr. John advised there is still daylight coming in where Kenny fixed the floor, need to put molding.

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- Debbie inquired as to gutters.
 - Ray Z. advised he has a call in to Kenny, supposed to get price.
 - Fr. John suggested we go with the least cost for gutters, eventually coming out anyway.
 - Bob commented we are going to be in these building 6-8 years. Bob continued stating two years ago it was suggested gutters be put in, did not do, now paying the price.
 - Ray Z. advised he does not see the gutters as being a big challenge or expensive to do, waiting to hear from Kenny on cost.
 - Bob inquired as to revised space allocation.
 - Fr. Ray advised he sent it out for information purposes, people had inquired.
 - Fr. John advised that space allocation is really Phase II.
- Fr. Ray asked for any other questions/concerns.
- Fr. Ray advised the only other thing is his article in the Newsletter this month had a timeline, need to stay on folks with that.

Discussions:

- **Senior Warden Report** - Joe Mulino
 - Joe advised Vestry Retreat at Day Springs, May 11th -Joe advised Ray Z, Bob Earl and Joe attending.
 - Margo stated she will also attend.
 - Evelyn will check and get back with Joe.
 - Craig stated he will be out of town.
 - Joe advised Eileen held a farewell to the volunteers for the Thrift Store here on Sunday, about 70+ attended, big success, everyone enjoyed, Fr. Ray and Nancy attended which was a great big plus.
 - Joe advised they opened a money market account with Midwest One, \$65,000 @ 1.75%, if we have extra money, once we go up to \$100,000 rate will automatically go to 2%.
 - Mardi Gras fundraiser, preliminary figure but on target, netted \$8,300, Rob will be reaching out to Maggie who has offered to donate the rest of the funds to bring the total amount to \$10,000 which will go to Gladiolus food Pantry.
- Fr. Ray asked for any other questions/concerns.
- **Stewardship**- Bob Earl
 - Bob advised nothing new.
 - **Current Vestry Status** – Fr. Ray
 - Fr. Ray advised he has not been able to connect with the consultant, conflicting schedules, still working on getting something together.
 - **Strategic Planning**- Debbie
 - Debbie advised she submitted a name to Fr. Ray and Joe, has not heard back yet, assumes same issues as scheduling vestry retreat. Debbie further advised she has received something from Ray Z. as well as Bob that involves the Diocese resources.
 - Debbie advised it stuck in her mind that Fr. Ray said he would like to see us do something different, so she went on the internet looking for different ways of doing strategic planning, did not find anything.
 - Ray Z. advised he and Debbie will talk, he has a very clear idea for the process.
- Fr. Ray asked for any comments/ideas for Debbie. None.
- **Columbarium Committee** -Fr. Ray
 - Fr. Ray advised he has heard from 2 people, Al Harker and Gordon McIntosh. Al did legal work at the last place Peg was at when they built a columbarium, has offered to assist. Gordon hoping to get a new lap top this week, would be happy to be a part of, may not be able to attend at meetings, but can do other stuff.

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- Fr. Ray asked Vestry if they have had any thoughts or have talked to anyone.
- Bob inquired as to how many people Fr. Ray is looking for.
- Fr. Ray advised they are looking for enough people to do the work, 4-5, 6 at most.
- Debbie advised she will serve on committee.
- **Small Group Structure Discussion** – Reserved for future discussion

Decisions:

- **Finance/Finance Committee** – Debbie Prather (Treasurer's Report and March Financial Statements attached)
 - Debbie advised statements are preliminary, David coming tomorrow, will have final statements Thursday or Friday.
 - Debbie advised repairs and maintenance very high, \$7,000 above last year.
 - Debbie advised pledge income up, could be due to yearly a yearly pledge coming in, non-pledge and plate down.
 - Debbie advised Thrift Shop sales down \$7,000 from last year. Debbie continued advising the K Mart building is dividing into 2, one side Habitat for Humanity, the other Big Lots. Debbie advised this is not good news for the Thrift Shop, Big Lots leaving area will take away traffic from Thrift Shop.
 - Debbie advised she was on the board for Habitat for 9 years, Habitat builds relationships with furniture stores, get their furniture from them. Debbie also noted that last she was in the Thrift Shop they had no furniture, no thrift stores in the area had furniture. Debbie added that is why figure is down, big items add up. Debbie asked anything anyone can do to help would be appreciated.
 - Joe advised he and Rob are giving information to people from their sales on homes, people moving away, regarding the Thrift Shop.
 - Debbie advised net for the month is \$17,000 off (negative) on expenses to income due to audio/video equipment and installation, accountant will make adjustment, move money from the designated account (approx. \$11,000) and will be adjusted again when we receive the money from Thom Price.
 - Debbie advised the State Street balance as of 2/28/19 is \$224,064.50.
 - Debbie advised Joe already talked about the money market account, account will show on balance sheet when accountant gives Marnie the figures to make the month end adjustments as will the State Street account.
 - Debbie advised they are asking for a budget for the items removed from the general contractor's budget.
 - Debbie inquired as to the audio/visual, when will we get screen back.
 - Fr. Ray advised hopefully Thursday, they are dealing with three issues right now, two relatively minor but still need to get done, and one major -the screen. Fr. Ray continued advising it is his understanding they are overnighing the bulb which they are hopeful will fix the screen. Fr. Ray added the other two issues they are dealing with that have to do with sound, low volume on recorder, and live streaming via YouTube not publicized yet due to no audio. Fr. Ray stated it is his deepest hope it will be finished this week.
- Fr. Ray asked for any other questions/concerns.
- Debbie added she thinks Fr. Ray is doing an amazing job with the I Pad.
 - **Junior Warden Report** – Ray Zentis (copy of Maintenance & Improvement Activity enclosed)
 - Ray advised whole wall and floor in church was leaking, has been resolved., Kenny did gutter and down spout work and painted the whole exterior wall.
 - Ray advised uneven pavement issue is unresolved, Jim foster working on. Ray further advised Dallas is working on the exterior and ground lighting.

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- Ray advised the big story is the mold which Fr. John already spoke on.
- Ray advised one thing he would like to get done is acquiring and installing hand rails for some of the handicap bathrooms.
- Ray advised other than the above, he thinks we are in pretty good shape.
- Fr. Ray added Roger Ruth recently built and crafted another table that matches all of our altar ware which sits now next to the credence table. Fr. Ray explained the reason Bob Hunt asked for this is for a place to put the ashes when we have a funeral, table can be moved out front and it matches perfectly.
- Ray Z. added the work done over in that shop is amazing.
- Fr. Ray added it is wonderful work and wonderful contributions to Iona-Hope.
- Fr. Ray asked members to hold in prayer those who have died, all 5, 4 directly related to Iona-Hope, some were expected, others not.
- Margo inquired if Rhonda got in touch with Fr. Ray regarding helping with a baptism this weekend.
- Fr. Ray advised they are working on it.
- Fr. Ray asked for anything further.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned with closing prayers at 5:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A Ingram
Clerk of the Vestry