

**Iona-Hope Episcopal Church**  
*Vestry Meeting Minutes*  
**Thursday, April 16, 2026, 4:00 p.m.**

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

**Vestry:** Marcia Leidig, Senior Warden  
Patty Ingram, Junior Warden  
Susan Crawford  
Margo Farrara (Zoom)  
Deb Prather  
John Hufnagel (Zoom)

**Treasurer:** Helen Gierke

**Finance Committee:** Paula Paquette  
Robin Mills

**Thrift Shop:** Eileen Carrara

**Administrator:** Marnie Ike (Zoom)

**Media Director:** Margaret Carr

**Clerk:** Teresa Hufnagel (Zoom)

**Opening Prayer**

Mother Jenny stated that Marilyn asked to step down as Chaplain. Mother Jenny provided an opening prayer.

**Approval of previous minutes March 19, 2026**

Susan made motion to approve minutes. Patty seconded. Approved unanimously.

**Thrift Store**

Eileen thanked those who attended thrift store luncheon. The luncheon was a thank you to all the volunteers. Deb, Patty, Margot, Marcia, Susan and Mother Jenny attended. Deb thanked Eileen for arranging for a wonderful meal.

The TS brought in \$5,000 more in this year's first quarter compared to last year's first year's quarter. Revenue is now down about 300 to 400 per day due to absence of snowbirds, but that is to be expected. The TS is now selling gift cards in denominations of 5 to 100 dollars.

We are a month away from deadline and have only received 6 applications for grants thus far.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Helen thanked Marnie for sending emails and attachments. Helen stated that the checking account has a balance of 100K, but she cautioned that in the first quarter, we received almost 50% of the 2026 pledges.

The Finance Committee added estimated monthly expenses to the March 2026 Financial Report, see attached. Helen said the committee is looking at adjusting format of monthly report, have begun working on the 2027 budget, and are reviewing last year's audit to ensure all items have been addressed. Last year's audit committee will again audit this year.

Paula stated that communication is important between the Finance Committee and Vestry. Robin added that the committee is working on ways to incorporate legacy donations and planned donations. The committee is planning a 6-month financial presentation to the congregation.

Robin discussed accounts Iona-Hope no longer need. ~~Capital campaign funds. Buy for out of columbarium~~

In particular, there is an old capital campaign fund that is negative and needs to be removed. Robin suggested taking funds out of the columbarium fund to pay for this. Deb made a motion for this and Patty second. It was approved unanimously.

Robin continued saying that Iona-Hope's finances are in good shape; income is higher and he has confidence in controlling expenses. Expenses are 20K below budget thus far. ~~Does not think we will come out negative. TS is strong. Cash for over half a million. Robin believes we will finish 2026 in the black.~~

Helen discussed a plan to access the 100K from the TS. She stated she would like to access 40K in April, 20K in May, 20K in June and 20 in July. These funds would also be used to pay off the line of credit – 30K. There are no plans to reopen this line of credit. Deb made a motion for this and Marcia seconded. It was approved unanimously.

Paula added we can not continue to communicate desperation. We need to change attitude of congregation. People like to give to organizations that have confidence in their future. Paula also said Diocese is working on reducing property insurance.

In the next two months, the Finance Committee will attend an Executive Session of the Vestry.

### **Junior Warden Report**

Patty said the stucco on the outside of the Sanctuary has been repaired. We need to find a paint that matched.

The new AC in the Sanctuary is not working properly. We do not have a service/maintenance contract. The AC rooms should not be used as a storage room. Patty believes the current issues with the AC will be covered by the warranty. Deb made a motion for Patty to start a service/maintenance contract with FBI provided that the cost was not greater than 3K a year. Marcia seconded and it was approved unanimously.

### **Rector Report**

Mother Jenny will be visiting family June 11 through 14. She will arrange for supply. At services this weekend, we will be praying for the Finance Committee and Vestry. Mother Jenny asked everyone to attend at least one service, if not more.

Looking to obtain estimates for cleaning once or twice a month. Marnie has a list of expectations. We hope to obtain 3 or 4 quotes.

An Interfaith session will occur next Thursday at Temple Judeo.

Margaret discussed an opportunity to join a volunteer inter-church group for one day next year. Vestry was interested and requested more information.

Mother Jenny asked everyone to review the 2026 Vestry Goals and Discernment process.

Mother Jenny provided an ending prayer.