

IONA-HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Minutes of the Vestry
September 24, 2024 @ 3:30 PM

Rector:

The Rev. Jenny Scott-Jones

Vestry Members:

Paula Paquette – Senior Warden

Alison Kinch – Junior Warden (Zoom)

Rob Ricca (absent – vacation)

Steve Walsh (Zoom)

John Mitchell (absent - vacation)

Debbie Prather (Zoom)

Marcia Leidig

Linda Griffin

Joe Mulino – **Treasurer** (absent – vacation)

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

Eileen Carrara – **Thrift Store Manager** (absent – vacation)

Margaret Carr – **Media Director**

Marnie Ike – **Parish Administrator** (Zoom)

Wanda Adler – **Office Volunteer**

Victoria Lines – **Clerk to the Vestry**

Guests:

Ken & Donna Owens (Zoom)

Opening Prayers & Concerns:

Mother Jenny opened the meeting at 3:30 pm with prayer.

Approval of Minutes:

Vestry Meeting Minutes for August 27, 2024.

Motion to approve, Marcia.

Second, Linda.

All in favor.

Rector Report: The Rev. Jenny Scott-Jones

Mother Jenny is continuing learn and meet with people, teams, etc.

Name tags:

Name tag storage towers in the Sanctuary have recently been reduced from four to three and slightly moved which resulted in an opening-up of the floor space.

Ideas are being considered on how to hang badges on the wall to create even more space. Ideas on how to best use the additional space in the future is TBD through future discussions.

Another idea is to replace current name tags with engraved name tags for regular members. Cost considerations are currently being explored.

Rector Housing Allowance:

The Housing Allowance resolution was adopted by the Vestry.

Resolution document signed by Senior Warden and Clerk of the Vestry.

Motion to approve, Paula.

Second, Marcia.

All in favor.

Bishop's Visitation and Confirmation:

The Bishop's Visitation and Confirmation will be Nov 17th for the 9:30 service only. Mother Jenny proposed that only one service be offered that weekend. Coming together as One body and One community to celebrate. All agreed.

Guest Preaching:

Mother Jenny proposed that a Guest Preacher be invited once a month in order to hear a variety of voices from within our community.

All agreed.

Thrift Store Report: Eileen Carrara

Eileen is currently on vacation, but a Thrift Store report was provided to everyone at time of meeting.

"Sales have been steady and are currently \$13,000 ahead of the same period last year.

At my request, Alison Kinch has been working with our Church Nurse about the purchase of an AED for the Store.

Julie spoke with me about training classes and certification for those interested. Of course, training is absolutely necessary, and I think many store volunteers will want to attend the sessions.

Per a discussion at the Manager's Meeting, I have asked Marnie to look into accident coverage at the Thrift Store for volunteers, as well as customers. At the present time there are no accident forms at the store and no procedures in place.

As I reported at our last Vestry Meeting, I would like to expand our Outreach through the sponsorship of 4 to 5 children from Iona to attend Summer Camp at Days Spring. The Board of Managers unanimously supported pursuing this new outreach. Marnie obtained the cost from last year and Joe Mulino suggested this may be set up as a line item in our budget. I will keep the Vestry updated as this exciting new outreach progresses".

Finance Report: Joe Mulino

Joe is currently on vacation. The financial report was emailed to Vestry prior to this meeting.

Discussion/Updates:

"There were no unusual financial transactions during the month of August on the church financial statements.

A delay in paying the August rental payments for the Thrift Store resulted in understating expenses for the month of August by \$13,094 and overstating Net Income for the month by the same amount. As a result, the September financial statements for the Thrift Store will show two rental payments for August and September. Marnie will monitor that all expenses are paid in the month they are due.

We are currently in the process of preparing the 2025 Budget. The first draft will be presented to the Vestry at the October Vestry Meeting".

Announcements/Upcoming/Programs:

AED (Automated External Defibrillator) Training

CPR and AED training will be Friday, October 18th at 9:00 am for a free class sponsored by the Iona/McGregor Fire District.

Additional information published in the Weekly E-mail.

There was a discussion regarding Florida's "Good Samaritan" law and the importance of having them properly serviced.

Paula recommended that the discussion to purchase additional AED's, etc., be placed on hold until Julie Vergin returns.

Stewardship – Mother Jenny

Stewardship Season will be from October 27th until November 27th.

We will have two events to bookend the season:

- (1) Taco Party Kickoff Event on October 27th following the 9:30 am service in the Gathering Place. For more information on this event (what to bring, etc.)

please contact Linda Griffin.

- (2) "Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 27th at 5:00 pm. There will be "Thanksgathering" ingathering of the pledges. The pledges will be blessed during the service and then have a Pie Share celebration afterwards. Details TBD.

Blessing of the Animals – Mother Jenny

The Blessing of the Animals will take place at Iona-Hope on October 6th at 1:30 pm.

All pets are welcome!

LIFE (Lee Interfaith for Empowerment) – Steve Walsh

House Meeting is October 17th at 7:00 pm in the Iona-Hope Gathering Place.

We will still gather to share our concerns, recommit, and recruit participants before the Fall assembly. The Affordable Housing Committee continues to monitor and pressure the county to make good use of the money allocated for Affordable housing. The Mental Health Committee is working on

addressing the lack of access to care and the mistreatment of persons in crisis.

Interfaith Ministry – Margaret Carr

There will be no meeting in October due to High Holy Days.

Margaret received positive feedback regarding the last meeting held in September at Iona-Hope.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 14th at 7:00 pm.

It's being held at Cypress Lake United Methodist.

Discussion/Reports:

Junior Warden's Report: Alison Kinch

The following report was provided:

“Font update – The water supply and controls for the font are now in place.

I have a call in to Hallett to see what are the next steps.

We continue to install chair and pet memorial markers.

Investigating the purchase of building surge protection through LCEC as suggested by Patrick Hunt. Marnie has started the process.

On Hurricane Watch for later this week.

The parking lot lights are being obstructed by the trees.

Some of these trees are Lee County property.

I will get a couple of quotes from arborists

The lights outside the Gathering Place need to be looked at / replaced.

Possibly solar / motion sensor lights would be best. The new cameras might serve dual purpose as camera and lights.

Cameras – are in the Gathering Place. I will talk to Hallett about installation. We need to connect to someone's phone. I suggest 2 on the rear of the main building, one at each of the main doors. I am unsure for the location for the Gathering Place as they should be high enough to not easily be tampered with.

Keys / locks for the Gathering Place. There seem to be several that are causing issues for different people. I will call out locksmith and get them serviced / adjusted as necessary.

Scott from Kingdom Roofing has indicated that there needs to be guttering put in along the office wall where the office entry door is located, otherwise it will cause more problems in future years. He has also worked through all of the invoices and payments from the insurance company and will be sending them to me and to Marnie along with the proposal for the guttering.”

Senior Warden’s Report: Paula Paquette

Paula has nothing to report at this time.

Meeting ended at 4:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Lines, Clerk of the Vestry