



KAIROS ADVISORY COUNCIL NORTHEAST CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX

MAY MINUTES (May 17th, 2025)

Attending:

Tom Egan, Rob Roberts, Jared Malone, Jim Catt, Harry Ennis, Scott Hale, Greg Watlington, Harris Ennis, Elgin Gonce, Michael Turley

Excused:

George Fulwider, Rickey Poore, Dean Yates, Jody Mims

Call to Order

Scott opened the meeting at 9:07 AM.

Opening Prayer

Jim began our meeting in prayer.

Approval of January 2025 Minutes – Tom

Tom previously distributed draft minutes of the March 2025 Advisory Council meeting for review. Tom asked if anyone had any issues with these draft minutes. No issues were raised and Tom asked for a motion to accept the draft minutes. Elgin made the motion and Greg 2nd. Motion passed without exception.

Financial Report – Harry / George

Harry provided a financial recap of our activity with State. It shows our current cash balance with the State of \$16,554. This includes all team fees collected on K 45 and the reimbursement to the State of our \$7,000 advance. A copy of this document is attached to these minutes.

The issue of K45 team member donations already received was discussed now that the weekend has been postponed until September. These fees are donations and if the team member works in the fall, their donation will be applied to the weekend. If the team member, for whatever reason wants their donation returned as they cannot work

in the fall, we will offset that return with the donation from another team member in the fall.

The NECX Volunteer's Appreciation Dinner, which was held last Tuesday, was discussed. It was noted that not that many Kairos members were in attendance as there was a drop off from the previous year. Rob mentioned that it was a good opportunity to be with the wardens in a more relaxed atmosphere since they were more at ease during this "fun" event that Resy hosted for volunteers who minister at NECX.

Spiritual Director Devotion

Michael Turley conducted an excellent devotion focused on listening to and hearing the Father. Responding to what the Holy Spirit is telling us and how He is guiding us to share His messages to others. Michael provided his witness of how that has worked in his life and how it has provided spiritual uplifting to others when he shares what the Father has said to him.

Michael then guided us through an exercise of listening to the Father by writing down what each one of us was hearing. Then the Spirit chose the one He wanted to receive His messages and we related what we heard to that individual. They were meaningful and a spiritual uplifting to that brother. This was a powerful testimony of how the Spirit speaks and how that inspires us when we share with others.

Communications Coordinator

Jared shared that there was an issue on what First Christian Church in Mountain City understood regarding food preparation and support for our Kairos weekends. There were other activities planned at that church the same weekend the Kairos 45 would have occurred, which would have made it difficult to support what was required for Kairos. Somehow, they did not understand the amount of effort required. We definitely need to make sure that is understood and planned for, prior to our September weekend. FCC definitely has resources to do this, but they need to be focused on our weekend for it to be successful.

Jared has also talked to the Free Will Baptist church and another church in Mountain City to expand our support for our weekends, which will help.

Kairos Outside

Scott highlighted issues occurring on Kairos Outside weekends in Unicol. People will sign up to be on the weekend and then not show up for that weekend. This occurs a lot which negatively impacts the weekend. KO also needs additional help on the weekend for Saturday night dinner and Sunday packing up. They are asking for our prayers and

physical help. This situation forced KO leadership to cancel the previous two Kairos Outside weekends, so this is serious.

Scott thanked us for our prayers and support. He will, at our Tuesday prayer and share sessions, provide details on what the weekend consists of, along with how to get loved ones signed up for future weekends. Of course this will include KO for more than just our local area. It is important for the men we minister to inside to know about this valuable opportunity that benefits the women in their lives.

Emmaus Liaison

Greg reported that he participated in a statewide zoom session with the other Kairos Councils in Tennessee on recruiting and conducting Kairos weekends. During that two hour sessions he learned that our team recruitment from Road to Emmaus community is what other councils do but it appears we are doing a better job than other councils in recruiting from this source. **We are falling short, however, in fundraising. Most Councils have effective fundraising programs in place through their local churches and local corporate donors to offset the cost of their weekends and not have to depend on “recommended” donations from team members working their weekends.** Other councils have many of their local churches and local businesses contributing annual donations to offset the cost of their weekends.

Greg will talk with Jody and develop a program on how we can implement a similar program in our Council to get more churches and corporate donors involved.

Michael reminded us again on the commitment his church is willing to make toward Kairos and that we need to meet with his pastor to get this started. If they are made aware of how important Kairos is to Christ, they are in a position to sponsor our efforts and make a substantial contribution in manpower and money to help pay for our weekends.

Scott wanted us to be aware of how important Corporate Donations are in our fundraising effort as they will more than offset the expense of our weekends. Jared highlighted that we not only need to offset our weekend expenses but also need to include the cost for AKT and our Christmas party. Also, we are one of only a couple Kairos weekends that is allowed to bring food into the institution during the weekend. This is an additional expense that needs to be covered.

NECX Liaison Report

Jim highlighted that more and more, the overall management at NECX is being done directly through TDOC in Nashville and not the Administration at NECX. Everything we do and plan at NECX, that we ask Resy to approve, is now going through Nashville for approval. They are requiring more documentation and contingency planning which requires longer lead times for approval. We have heard that our September dates for Kairos 45 have been approved but we need to make sure that includes approval from Nashville with the additional safeguards and alternative procedures they require. We will now have to get our paperwork done earlier and include greater detail on what we are doing and contingencies.

The cancellation of Kairos 45 was discussed and Rob wanted to know why we could not have had a backup plan in place which could have allowed us to do Kairos 45 in the Annex instead of just cancelling it all together. There were items that prevented us from doing that but now that we know that a lockdown is a real possibility, we need to have a backup plan with backup dates if this situation ever comes up again in the future.

All indications are that NECX for Prayer and Share on Tuesday evening is a go and we will have our first Tuesday event at the prison in over a month.

Greg will provide Scott with a list of the K45 team so Scott can follow up with them on whether they can work the team in September. He is also coordinating how many cookies we have from our weekend and how to dispose of them since they cannot be kept frozen for 3 months. The cookies will be distributed either at NECX or through other community outreach facilities.

The September Kairos dates are set and they replace the October Kairos 46 dates previously scheduled. Kairos 46 will be held in the spring of 2026. We need to submit our paperwork for Kairos 46 now in order to ensure it is approved by Nashville.

It was also decided that we will now distribute bibles to our Kairos candidates at the Instructional Reunion and not during Closing Ceremonies on Sunday of the weekend. We currently have enough bibles for K 45.

Data Coordinator

Rob told us that the inventory of Kairos equipment in Mountain City that was scheduled to be completed during Kairos 45 is obviously still not done. We continue to have items in our storage facility in Mountain City and at Bethany Church. Rob will work with Scott to do the inventory prior to Kairos 45 in September.

Kairos 45 update

Dean could not attend the Council but sent a note highlighting his concern on the support in place at First Christian had Kairos 45 not been cancelled. This was noted and discussed during our meeting.

Ongoing Fundraising for Kairos Weekends

As noted earlier in the minutes, Greg will talk with Jody regarding fundraising at our Churches and Corporate Donors. .

Old Business

One-day Retreat

It was decided to table this item as there is not enough time before September to schedule a one day retreat through Nashville. One idea was to extend one of our Tuesday sessions or another evening from 5 to 8 to do a mini retreat. The thought is we may not need as much of an approval if we do that.

Advisory Council Vacancy

A vacancy exists on the Council as Cory Paul needed to resign due to a family medical issue. A suggested replacement was named during the meeting and Scott will extend an offer to that individual to join the Council and complete the remainder of Cory's term..

We will also talk about recruiting new council members at our next meeting to fill the key slots of George and Rob who term off the Council at the end of this year.

Volunteer Recertification

It is now a requirement that each volunteer must recertify each year through TDOC. They are doing this at the State level but it is planned that this will go back to each prison in the near future. A number of volunteers completed their recertification preparing for K45. We are going to assign a Council member to monitor certifications next year to ensure this occurs. There is also a requirement that volunteer visit the prison at least every two months to remain active and not get cancelled.

New Business

Christmas Party

Jim will make sure we have submitted the proper paperwork and it has been forwarded to Nashville for approval for our Christmas Dinner in December.

Prayer Requests

- For Michael's daughter Journey
- For Rob's friend who he has been helping, Bob Barnett
- For Jared's mother
- For various members of Greg's family
- For Scott's situation with his family at his home.
- For Tom's brother-in-law, John
- For Harry's daughter Danis and her surgery

Closing Prayer

Scott ended our meeting in prayer highlighting the prayer requests.

Closing

Scott ended the meeting at 11:48 AM

Respectively submitted,

Tom Egan, Secretary

Tom

Summary	
NECC Supplied	\$39,997.01
Advance	\$0.00
Service Charge	\$4,799.86
Disbursed	\$12,889.00
Supplies	\$2,562.98
Reimbursements	\$3,190.87
Net	\$16,554.30

Service Rate	12.0%
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Sum of Amount	Column Labels							
Row Labels	Cash Advance	Disbursement	Donation	Initial	Reimbursement	Service	Supplies	Grand Total
2023/12			\$123.00					\$123.00
2024/01			\$1,498.00	\$5,848.87		-\$310.15		\$7,036.72
2024/02	\$2,000.00	-\$632.83	\$123.00		-\$1,662.56	-\$495.95	-\$911.84	-\$1,580.18
2024/03	\$5,800.00	-\$577.26	\$343.00			-\$114.12		\$5,451.62
2024/04		-\$818.46	\$693.00					-\$125.46
2024/05	-\$7,800.00	-\$4,660.23	\$4,200.00					-\$8,260.23
2024/06			\$373.00			-\$228.60		\$144.40
2024/07			\$1,363.00			-\$237.90		\$1,125.10
2024/08			\$1,750.00		-\$343.66	-\$660.00	-\$670.14	\$76.20
2024/09	\$7,000.00		\$875.00			-\$468.90		\$7,406.10
2024/10		-\$5,603.01	\$7,975.00			\$1,098.38		\$1,273.61
2024/11	-\$7,000.00	-\$357.21	\$2,575.00			\$0.00		-\$4,782.21
2024/12			\$2,375.00		-\$1,184.65	\$0.00		\$1,190.35
2025/01			\$1,075.00			-\$129.00		\$946.00
2025/02			\$1,932.14			-\$231.86		\$1,700.28
2025/03			\$3,625.00			-\$435.00	-\$981.00	\$2,209.00
2025/04	\$7,500.00		\$3,125.00			-\$375.00		\$10,250.00
2025/05	-\$7,500.00	-\$240.00	\$125.00			-\$15.00		-\$7,630.00
Grand Total	\$0.00	-\$12,889.00	\$34,148.14	\$5,848.87	-\$3,190.87	-\$4,799.86	-\$2,562.98	\$16,554.30

DRAFT