



KAIROS ADVISORY COUNCIL NORTHEAST CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX

JUNE MINUTES (June 20th, 2026)

Attending:

Tom Egan, Jim Catt, Scott Hale, Harry Ennis, Hugh Johnson, Elgin Gonce, Dean Yates, Travis Lane, Shawn Lilly, Jared Malone, Greg Watlington

Excused:

Michael Turley

Call to Order

Scott opened the meeting at 9:07 AM.

Opening Prayer

Tom said an opening prayer.

Spiritual Director Devotion

Michael had emergency appendectomy surgery and was not able to attend the Council meeting.

Approval of March 2026 Minutes

Tom previously distributed draft minutes of the March 2026 Advisory Council meeting for review. Tom asked if anyone had any issues with these draft minutes. Tom then asked for a motion to accept the draft minutes. Hugh made the motion to accept and Greg 2nd. Motion passed without exception.

Financial Report

Harry reported that according to his records, we currently have \$17,100.28 in our checking account. This does not include the cash and checks that Hugh collected. Hugh reported that he has been receiving regular monthly donations from one individual and a few churches. He currently has \$270 in checks and \$170 in cash. Hugh also indicated that he is not getting sufficient details on checks he is receiving from the weekend. He needs more specific information on the deposit, like addresses, so he can

process them through KPMI. He will be depositing \$435 in cash and checks. He received a bill for our PO Box and informed the Council that the amount has gone up; the current fee for our box is \$216.

Kairos Ongoing Ministry

Our Tuesday evening reunions have begun again after the lockdown was lifted at NECX. Attendance is good as last Tuesday approximately 50 residents were in attendance.

Communications Coordinator

Jared informed the Council that he made a Kairos presentation to the Johnson City Emmaus Community. Feedback was good. He highlighted again that we should all be talking to our respective Churches about Kairos. Jared got his former church, Harvest to contribute \$50 a month when he talked to them about Kairos and he will do the same at his new church. Harry also sponsored a table at the recent Methodist Conference to advertise Kairos. He received a lot of interest with one person very interested in joining us at our next weekend.

Kairos Outside

Although the KO community recently completed a successful weekend with 23 "guests" in attendance, there continue to be major issues with KO volunteers adhering to KO policies and guidelines outlined in the KO KPMI Manual. There was a blow up on the weekend with volunteers from the KO Community leaving the ministry. KO Advisory Council members have also resigned. Scott understands the seriousness of this situation and has developed a plan to hopefully bring the KO Community together and into conformity with KPMI policy. He recommended to the Chair of the Tennessee State Kairos Board that three of our past Kairos Inside AC members be recruited to work within the KO Council to provide guidance and direction in an effort to bring the group back into the riverbanks and eliminate division within the Community.

After much discussion, there was consensus that providing individuals from former Kairos Inside members on the KO Council is a good idea. This effort, however, should be directed from the State Council and not from us. Also the KO group in Knoxville, which is the closest KO group geographically to the local KO Chapter, should also be contacted to provide help. One individual highlighted as someone who could provide solid direction is Jim Hawley who is an AKT trainer for KPMI. Jim was made aware of this situation.

Emmaus Liaison

Greg has made a Kairos presentation to the Emmaus Community in Kingsport. There was a lot of positive feedback and he is developing contacts for future Kairos weekends.

NECX Liaison Report

Jim informed the Council that currently only one unit at NECX is on lockdown, Unit 8. There is still a tense situation at the Institution and day to day monitoring of the situation is being done in an effort to prevent future incidents of violence at the prison.

The situation for our weekly Tuesday reunions is, “no news is good news” and hopefully this will be the case for awhile. TDOC is now transferring a lot of residents between prisons in the state in an effort to level out the risk factors within these institutions. This does create long “chains” on Tuesday evenings. One of our reunions was cancelled due to a lot of transfers that evening.

Jim informed us of a major policy change impacting everything we do at the prison, other than chapel services. Approval for all activities at NECX, other than chapel services, will now initially need to go through TDOC in Nashville for approval, rather than Resy and NECX Administration. Nashville will now determine what is approved and what we then need to do to hold the event. This puts a question mark on everything we do, as to what will now be allowed. This new directive is effective immediately. Even the forms to request events from Nashville have not been developed at this time. Jim is being pro-active on this change and has already sent an approval request to Nashville, with information he submitted in the past to Resy’s office, for our October weekend. He will do the same for our one day retreat in July and Christmas Party. Andrea Dunbar from TDOC is the contact person in Nashville for these approvals.

Fundraising

Shawn updated us on fundraising. The Council have him two additional fundraising suggestions:

- Chuck e Cheese
- The Scoop

These restaurants provide a percentage of sales, if we sign up and use their facilities on a specific day.

Kairos 46 – Greg

Greg informed the Council that he currently has 25 to 30 team members for the October weekend. He has been reaching out to the Emmaus Community for new team members. He is hopefully that the musicians he asked will say yes. He does need additional ordained clergy for the tables on the weekend.

Data Coordinator

Travis has copies of our new KPML manual.

Old Business

One Day Retreat

Scott will make calls to recruit someone to lead the one day retreat. There is time to hold the event in July, if TDOC approves it. Hugh will help and George will handle the food.

New Business

Adding former inside council members to Kairos Outside Advisory Council

This was discussed under the Kairos Outside heading above.

Prayer Requests

- Jared and his foster children.
- Kairos 45
- Kairos Outside
- NECX internal situation.

Closing Prayer

Jim closed the meeting in prayer.

Closing

Scott ended the meeting at 10:35 AM.

Next Meeting

The next AC meeting is Saturday, July 18th, 2026.

Respectively submitted,

Tom Egan, Secretary

Tom