

KOT State Chapter Committee Meeting

November 6, 2021

Attendees were: Ray Sims, Chairman; Scott Baker, V-Chairman; Kyan Kirby, Secretary; Bob Crane, Treasurer; Steve Newton, Financial Secretary; John Osborne, Julie Cole, Driskoll Tubbs, and Joaquin Ytuarte, International Council Reps; Michelle Edwards, and Susan Mannas, KO Chapter Co- Chairs, Debbie Van Pelt KI Chapter Chair; Dickson de la Haye KT Chair; Larry “Buck” Rodgers, KPMI Board of Directors; Craig Combs, KPMI Men’s Ministry Coordinator; Tom Barnes, New Starts Committee Chair; Chris Wilson, Volunteer Recruiting/Outreach Committee Chair; David Mosser, Spiritual Director; Cheryl Glasgow, Website Development Committee Chair; Scott Van Pelt, Music Coordinator; Roger Harbert, Audio/Visual Committee Chair; Bettye Keefer, Newsletter Committee Chair; Jeff Coatney, Trailer Coordinator Committee Chair; Kevin Adkins, Stiles State Rep; Paula Aitkens, KO Houston Communications Coord.; Leslie Alexander, Wainwright Sponsorship; Paul Alexander, Wainwright State Rep; Kathy Anderson, KO Corpus Christi State Rep; Pam Baker, Wainwright and KT Giddings Sec; Nina Barcus; Robert Barcus, Coffield State Rep; Brian Bray, McConnell Financial Sec; Marsha Carter, Robertson Financial Sec; Patricia Coatney, Lockhart Outreach/ Recruiting Coord; Diane Crane; Rexine Davis, KO Abilene Facility Coord; Nash Dowdle, Lynaugh Sec; Joy Drady, KOSA Financial Sec; Paul Draper, Ferguson State Rep; Brian Gipson, Briscoe Data Coord; Susan Hannaman, Lynaugh Agape Coord; David Higgins, Daniel State Rep; Nancy Higgins, Daniel Secretary; Dianna Jackson, KO Houston Secretary; Linda Lea, KO Amarillo Sec; Melinda McDonald, KOET Fundraising Coord; Dusty Meil, KO Lubbock State Rep; Tim Mentzel, Boyd State Rep; Suzy Miller, KO Abilene; Stephanie Pegg, Torres State Rep; Tony Perez, Estes Music; Cinda Rose, KO Abilene State Rep; CJ Salzman, Pack Financial Sec; Sarah Sims, Memorial Agape and KT Giddings Treasurer; Michael Sondergaard, Wynne State Rep; Mike Tavary, Clemens State Rep; Rebecca Terry, KONT Financial Sec; Staci Thorne; Dawn Tucker, KONT Secretary; Debra Usry, KOET State Rep; Peter Urbani, Wainwright Financial Sec; Clarissa Van Pelt, Wallace Data Coord; Marjorie Whitner, KONT State Rep; Don Wineinger, KOET Food Coord; Dawnya Wineinger, KOET Food Coord; Nora Ytuarte, KOSA; Jonnie Zaepfel, KO Amarillo State Rep .

I failed to screen Shot those on Zoom, so if someone has them, please let me know.

The Units not represented Clements, Ellis, Estelle, Montford, Neal, Polunsky, Segovia, Smith, Telford, and Terrell.

Scott Van Pelt opened the meeting with song and prayer. Songs were sung.

Ray told us about housekeeping. Masks are required by the Hill Country Bible Church.

David Mosser officially opened the meeting in prayer. We need Spiritual Restoration. We get so busy in our worldly happenings that sometimes we forget about our Spiritual business. Stopping a behavior sometimes opens a door for something—a new behavior. People need to spend time with those we love. When we make a promise, we need to keep it. We need to be prepared with God's Grace and Mercy. Giving ourselves to others is the best gift.

Kyan Kirby did the Roll Call with only 10 units not being in attendance. Debbie Van Pelt made a motion to approve the minutes and Cinda Rose 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Craig Combs, KPMI Men's Ministry Coordinator, talked about difficult people. We need to "listen, listen, love, love" to each other on a team as well as guests, pilgrims and participants. Team formation times are very important. That 24-36 hours are so important to be able to love on our guests, pilgrims and participants each weekend. Each Weekend people change, some are lost. At Pack, there were 20 new people, 6 under 30 years old that we recruited for mission, not for the Weekend. See what happens! They might not have a chaplain, warden or officer. We need to tell them about Kairos and change the environment of the facility. Craig stated, "Sometimes it is easier to give up and let the other person be wrong." God has done things with covid that have caused new beginnings.

Jeff Coatney had to leave so Mike Tavary has the insurance cards for the 6 regions that share the trailers. We have 63 AC's, 33 use their own trailers. Get the trailers right- check tires, refrigerators, bearings, etc. Get people together for inventory and see what needs to be replaced. We have some money, so let's get this done now before we need them. We also know that 4 trailers being used do not belong to, registered to, or insured by KPMI. This exposes both KOT and KPMI. Please get this information to Jeff Coatney in December so he can take care of this matter.

Ray gave us the status on Kairos in Texas. We have had 16 KO's thus far. KO Wichita Falls is having theirs right now. We have had 4 KI's thus far.

Ray also told us about the Polunsky Death Row Kairos. It was 2 days and he was invited to go for the closing the 2nd day. Fourteen "men in white" participated. Seven "men in white" were upstairs and seven were downstairs. They were never allowed to leave their cells. The Kairos team gave their talks from the Dayroom downstairs with a direct line of sight to the inmates. They, then went to each offender's cell gate to talk with them one on one. The offenders were "gushing with gratitude". The Warden spoke to a rousing applause from the death row inmates. He has to follow the law, but he is very much the death row inmates' advocate, making life as palatable for them as he possibly can. He wants one per year with the Death Row inmates. The men who have received their dates are moved to the next pod over from

the one Kairos was held in. They could hear every word of that Kairos. An officer commented that all were so engrossed, they made not a sound the entire Weekend. God was fully there with those men on that pod as well as the men for whom the Kairos was held. Ray said, "It was the most incredible thing I have ever, ever, seen." The only other time something similar happened was in 2015 when a Kairos was held for the Women's Death Row. There were 3 women on that Kairos.

Just a reminder with the 2022 elections fast approaching. Only 13 voting positions are on the AC's. Some of the State Reps are not getting information back to the AC Chairs. The Chair is supposed to vote. If the AC Chair cannot attend, he/she can appoint only the V-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, or Financial Secretary to vote at the KOT meeting. The date the elections should be completed is December 1, and entered into Messenger by December 31. If your AC has problems with the Messenger mechanics, training videos at Mykairos.org/elections. If you cannot find the answers you are looking for, contact Andy Perry KairosMessenger@mykairos.org. And finally, the Advisory Council Affiliation Agreements need to be completed by December 31 and sent to Kyan Kirby kckirbyko@centex.net.

The Executive Committee voted to grant KPMI \$20k because they need the money. They also voted to give Hill Country Bible Church \$250 each quarter for the use of their building. In 2019, the State dues were 15% of what the AC's had at the end of the year. In 2020-2021, they were 10% and for 2022, they will be 12%.

The KOT meetings will be moved to the 2nd weekends in 2022- February 12, 2022, May 14, 2022, August 13, 2022, and November 12, 2022. This change is needed to accommodate an additional meeting that Ray has with the AC Chairs. The schedule change will be reviewed by Bettye Keefer with the church and if there are problems, we will further discuss them. Plan for the 2nd weekend.

Steve Newton gave the financial report. The ladies in Quick Books are awesome! Mileage forms are in the basket. Summarizing the Financial Report Steve advised us that the "Blessings Received" was increased \$24k due to AC's giving to other AC's which equal 231% increase. "Interministry Training Cost" increased \$51k due to the Annual Conference. The "Total Expenses" were down 15%. Total income fell 36%, total expenses fell 15% and the net income fell 83%. The total Advisory Council's bank balance is \$901,205. The total KOT bank balance is \$105,892. Each AC should be working on their budget!

Bob Crane gave the Treasurer's report. He told us how very important it is to get the election results in as soon as possible. Signature cards will need to be changed. Please get them loaded into Kairos Messenger and to Julie Cole julie@kotexas.com. Bob also needs any changes in Chairs, Treasurers and Financial Secretaries. kairostxtr@gmail.com Affiliation fees are due

quarterly and 10 have not sent in their 3rd quarter. Training for Treasurers will be in January on several different dates via Zoom.

Susan Mannas gave a KO report. Fifteen KO's have happened so far this year and #16 is happening now. This year we have averaged 33 volunteers per team for a total of about 400 volunteers with 175 guests. About half of our AC's conducted 2 Weekends, so hooray! She thanked those who have helped KO's financially or in person. Praise for KOCT because they are off to a "New Start" with 8 ladies filling positions. Another Praise Report is that KI, KO, KT had a booth at the TIFA (Texas Inmate Family Association) meeting in Bastrop. There was a good response including guest reservations!

Debbie Van Pelt gave a KI report. After the 2 years of waiting to go back into the prisons, we have been lacking by not having meetings, etc. We need to get going so we will be ready for the Weekends, meeting at least every other month. Prisons want us back. The inmates are missing out. Find new ways and new activities to do in training. Prayers for 2022. A few are scheduled for spring. Get your music team together. Do whatever the Wardens will allow, prayer and share, cookies, hygiene, letter writing, etc.

Ray let us know that Prayer and Share can be in every unit unless the Warden says you can't. Take what the state will give you, Prayer and Share, a one day retreat, hygiene bags, cookie distribution, etc- do something!

Craig mentioned here that everyone needs to watch the Continuing Ministry training online. He said that not very many from Texas have watched this. It would be good for an AC meeting.

Dickson de la Haye said that the KPMI Newsletter has all the videos and training available. Torch in Texas is relatively new. There is an opportunity for growth. It is a mentoring program for children. We need people who are willing to work with youth for New Starts. Kyan is exploring Brownwood, Davis Ross is exploring Gainesville. We have others than need to be explored. One is Evans in Edinburg, the Segovia Unit is very close. McLennan County State Correctional at Mart which is close to Waco as well as others.

Torch Giddings is open and prayerfully will have a Weekend early in 2022. Giddings has Epiphany. Both programs can work together. KT is recognized for our continuous mentoring. Mentoring youth is so important and we all need to work together. We need all prayers. Giddings has 5 going to AKT Torch training in Waxahachie including their Giddings Community Relations person. At Conference, we got 7 volunteers to be part of Giddings. To participate, KPMI has an application with a fee of \$25. This is an approval for Torch through KPMI. Get brochures into the churches!

Elections:

Each nominee gave a short speech about themselves. Scott made the motion to elect incumbents by acclamation, Paul Alexander 2nd the motion. Motion carried. Officers are Ray Sims, Chairman; Scott Baker, V- Chairman; Kyan Kirby Secretary; Bob Crane, Treasurer; and Steve Newton, Financial Secretary.

Next, the election for the International Council Reps was held. Each of these nominees gave a short speech about themselves. Nominees were: David Higgins, John Osborne (incumbent) and Marjorie Whitner. Nominees from the floor were: Roger Harbert and Susan Mannas. The three elected were: New terms for Roger Harbert, and Susan Mannas, with John Osborne being re-elected. They will be joining Julie Cole whose term is not up. There was a run-off between Roger Harbert and David Higgins.

Separate breakout sessions were conducted for Trailers, Agape, EI, New Starts, Recruiting/Outreach, Financial and Treasury. Breakouts reports were provided as follows:

Agape- CJ Salzman said there would be Zoom agape training for KI and KO separately in January 2022. He also said that we need more agape. Some of the units have never contributed, and some have contributed very little. Have your children's Sunday School class draw a picture on a piece of computer paper. They can sign their first name and age. They can also print something from their computer and the class can sign it, or just the name of the class. Ask the Chaplain where you are having prayer and share if your Kairos offenders can draw a wall agape and if so, you can send it to CJ. He needs 30 pieces of wall agape every month from every unit to have enough to send to all units a year. He needs more white prayer chains signed from offenders. In 2021, very few sent in any agape. The agape does not have to be from inmates. People are praying all over the world for Kairos Weekends.

Recruiting/Outreach-Chris Wilson suggests we get out and meet new folks and talk with them about Kairos.

New Starts-Tom Barnes said that Dickson had previously reported on the start-up status of Giddings. Ellis has less than 70% vaccinated but Prayer and Share can happen. He encourages us to talk with the chaplains and get something started at our units!

Excellence Initiative- Scott Baker summarized the EI breakout highlights. There was a discussion about who fills out the EI form? For KI, it is the Advising Leader. For KO, it is the person who knows the most. All reports for 2021 Weekends have been sent in and recorded in Messenger. The timeliness is a first, so congratulations!

AC Activity Report summary- Scott Baker reported that many Units have not conducted the KPMI minimum number of AC Meeting Minutes which is six (6) per year. Our average through October is 3.3. Concerning KOT Quarterly Meeting attendance, All AC's should have 3 but our 2021 average is 2.3. We have room for improvement. Concerning Weekend Reporting, Scott can report that every AC has filled both their Weekend Leader and EI Reports which is another

record performance! Congratulations to all. Finally, if any should any AC have Meeting Minutes that have not yet been forwarded, please do so and we will update our records.

International Committee Reports:

Driskoll said KO is awesome and have a lot going on. He will continue to be involved with all Kairos through Continuing Ministry in 2022.

John Osborne is on the IC Recruiting/Outreach Committee. He sent out an AC Assessment Tool to all 414 AC's nationwide. Only 40% have returned them. This includes Texas. John needs those as soon as you can get them done. This will help KPMI to come up with a tool that will work for everyone.

Fundraising—Phil Pauze' has been asked to consider supporting a KOT Fundraising initiative that might take the form of something together similar to what Dickson de la Haye and his team did for Recruiting/Outreach. Phil is in his 80's and would like some help. He has "the know how" but needs a group to come together and build the best tools for fundraising and training. Pray about this and if you are willing to help, please let Ray know.

Closing Comments:

Ray noted that Don and Dawnya Wineinger will be taking over the morning set ups, water, coffee, donuts, etc that Ed and Bettye Keefer have been doing. A special thank you to Ed and Bettye for doing this so many years.

Ray thanked Craig Combs for traveling to Austin for his first KOT meeting, and hopefully more!

Thank you KPMI "Buck" Rodgers for joining us today.

He also thanked all who have accepted positions election positions for 2022, those who traveled to Austin to attend the meeting in person, and those who joined the meeting via Zoom.

Reverend Mosser closed in prayer, and Scott Van Pelt led us in song.