

Kairos of Mississippi
State Chapter Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2012

Committee Member Attendees:

Von Brister	Jim Sonnier	Patricia Edwards	Bob Neill
Harriet Brown	Reece Vaughn	Barbara McDonald	Sylvester Mims
Daryl McElrath	Gennia Varnado	Paul Brady	

Members Absent:

Kathi Coleman	Patsy McCarty	Tim Battle
Carolyn Mims	Nick Nichols	
Jimmy Gant	Julian Crawford	

Advisory Councils:

Martha Walton

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 am by Von Brister. Reece Vaughn was asked to open with prayer.

The minutes from March 27, 2012 conference call were distributed and Von asked for any changes. 4 changes were requested and noted. Sylvester Mims made the motion to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Gennia Varnado and carried.

New Business:

Von Brister met with Tom Kemner (Interim Executive Director) and other State Chairpersons on a conference call earlier in the week. Some of the items of focus were:

- Tom wanted to hear from the State Chairpersons directly.
- Simplicity and effectiveness, while maintaining consistency in the ministry was emphasized.
- A priority for his tenure is to ensure that manuals and procedures are updated.
- During the conference call, there was discussion regarding EZRA. A request was made to include more emphasis on the software during the AKT.
- Daryl McElrath suggested that the software be issued at AKT and training conducted there.

Von Brister advised the committee that effective 7/1/12 all state-owned facilities are going tobacco free.

Von Brister offered the AC chairpersons the opportunity to have a conference call once a month at 7:00 on 3rd Thursday of each month. Paul Brady made the motion and it was seconded by Bob Neill and passed.

Von Brister issued warning to individuals being in contact with residents who have been released but are still 'on paper'.

Old Business :

The Kairos 40 Day Peace Initiative - Von Brister

- Appears the project is ready to take off. An agreement with KPMI and Kit Cummins is still in place.
- Von has been in touch with Kit Cummins and is waiting for estimates for the training expenses.
- Reports are that the program is working well in alternative schools.
- Suggestions from the committee that it would be good to start with a Kairos Inside group so there would be a group to mentor.
- The program is once a week for 6 weeks. *[Inserted for reference.....Men would commit to a 7 point peace pledge which are:*
 - *I will do my best to live in peace with everyone I meet.*
 - *I will not provoke or disrespect anyone.*
 - *When provoked, I will not retaliate.*
 - *When cursed, I will not curse back.*
 - *I will not lie, cheat or steal.*
 - *When I am wrong, I will promptly admit it and quickly make amends.*
 - *I will treat all people with the respect with which I wish to be treated.]*
- Texas has used Kit Cummins for Kairos recruiting.

Excellence Initiative Program - Von Brister

- The process for completing the reports will continue as they have been.
- Von Brister will send a memo to all leaders/advising leaders.
- For Kairos Inside and Torch, the Advising Leader will complete the Excellence Initiative Report and go over it with Von over the phone. Von will complete the online portion of the report that will be submitted to KPMI.
- For Kairos Outside, someone from an Advisory Council will be appointed to complete the report.
- There is no pass/fail scoring or consequences. The purpose is to identify areas which are not in the river banks and get everyone on the same page.

Kroger Fundraising Project - Julian Crawford absent - no report

CCLI license - Von Brister

- The CCLI license for both Kairos and Kairos Outside will be consolidated into one agreement at a lesser cost than for two ministries. The specifics will be addressed at a later date.

Committee Reports

KPMI Representative – Bob Neill

- Tom Kemner has been named Interim Executive Director to replace John Thompson.
- A transition team has been established to search for new director.
- Anyone interested in filling the position should submit their information to KPMI.
- Financially, the national committee, while the largest in the world, is not in particular good shape. KPMI established the Foundation a couple of years ago in order to turn things around. The first step being the successful audit. It will likely be 2014 until a noticeable difference will be seen.
- The summer conference will be held July 24 - July 28, in St Louis Missouri. The Music Team has been asked to play.

Special Projects – Bob Neill

- Books and CDs are doing well nationally but not so well locally.
- KPMI complimented Mississippi for having a vision and passion for fundraising .

Agape Coordinator – Gennia Varnado

- Reported her position on this committee gives her the opportunity to connect with folks around the world.
- Received a lot of agape for South Mississippi KO
- Planning an "Agape Roundup" where she will get churches involved in doing letters, placemats, posters, etc. The purpose would be to create an inventory of agape that can be used.

Website Coordinator – Barbara McDonald

- Website reconstruction looks great and due to Barbara's efforts both technically and personally, the cost was only \$500.
- Gennia reported that she received feedback regarding privacy issues when we distribute emails for prayer and mention people's names and conditions. Going forward, any request for prayer must be general in nature.
- Von asked all Advisory Councils to contact Barbara and get the website information updated if not already done so.

Financial Secretary – Julian Crawford (not present- Von Brister reporting)

- Financially, we are doing well. Passed the audit with minor issues.
- Again, asked that Financial Secretaries of AC send in correct forms so that reimbursement can be handled timely.
- Important to Know!!!! Monies should never be given to the Financial Secretary. Should be given to the Treasurer.
- Future plans are to rename the position for Financial Secretary to AC Donor Coordinator.
- Von suggested that ACs stagger the terms for Treasurer and Financial Secretary and ask for 3 year commitment to each.

AKT Training - Danny Brunt (not present- Von Brister reported)

- Everything seems to be on track with 20+ already registered.

Prayer Focus Group - Kathi Coleman (not present-no report)

Advisory Council Reports

Yazoo City- Reece Vaughan

- Ministry closed at Federal Prison indefinitely but has recently requested that Kairos come back in. Reece responded but has not heard anything back yet.
- Several concerns were voiced about the Federal environment and whether we want to go back in:
 - The population is not stable.
 - Prayer and share is not encouraged.
 - According to HIPAA , leaders cannot be targeted for attendance.
- The above concerns have led to questions about whether the Advisory Council should be dissolved. A decision has not been reached.
- Reece mentioned that the Kairos Music Team is available for fund raising projects.

Parchman – Jimmy Gant (not present - Daryl McElrath reporting)

- 1 down and 3 to go.
- Advisory Council is having conference calls and the leadership is spot on.
- Daryl indicated there was one incident that made its way to Jackson. After a few phone calls, the issue was resolved.
- AC is asking for more consideration on the calendar. Waiting to hear from them.

CMCF Men – Sylvester Mims

- Kairos #26 has been completed with Bobby Blake leading the weekend. Over \$18,000 raised for the weekend.
- Von commented that we have tools we are not using for fundraising and plans to set aside time in the next meeting for a fundraising session.
- Several questions regarding reimbursement procedures were discussed ...
 - Receipts for non monetary donations must be reported as "In Kind Donations" and entered into Donor. This is so that the costs associated with the weekend can be determined. If the donor does not want to provide a value amount, just estimate what it would cost for purchase.
 - "If reimbursement to individuals had to be held until all advances had been settled, even if the advance was made to other individuals?" The answer was no.

CMCF Women – Carolyn Mims (not present - Gennia Varnado reporting)

- Just completed weekend #30 with 24 participants and 35 team members. There were 4 tables which made things easier to manage.
- Still having some river bank issues.
- Lost church where they cook but retained the head cook.

SMCI – Tim Battle (not present- Jim Sonnier reporting)

- Held 2 day retreat in February and used the theme "Prayer of St Francis" from the freedom guide. There were 158 participants and 31 team members.
- As result of the retreat, there was reconciliation between a security officer and a resident. The officer admitted that it was not all the resident's fault.
- Weekend #13 with Mac Douglas was a big success. Met goal of \$10,000 raised.
- Muslim for 13 years came back to Christ.

- There was 100% attendance at the 2nd Wednesday and 2nd Saturday following #13.
- Weekend #14 goal is 15 rookies.

Torch - Paul Brady

- Ready for next weekend with 22 residents
- Question as to whether a person can serve Kairos Inside and Torch. Von Brister is checking on the answer.
- Would like to recruit team members from the Jackson area.
- Torch is working on fundraising
 - meal tickets have generated approximately \$2000 in funds

Kairos Outside of Mississippi – Patsy McCarty (not present - Martha Walton reporting)

- #15 in March was one of the more difficult weekends for various reasons.
- There were 28 team members and 18 guests.
- A couple of issues were identified by the AC and brought to the attention of SCC Chair and KPMI. One has been resolved and the other is in the process of being resolved.
- Weekend #16 will be Sept 21-23. Patsy McCarty will be leading the weekend and Judy Shaw advising.
- Will be sending 4 leaders to AKT.
- Looking at area-wide method of conducting reunions so as to increase the involvement and continue to grow the number of guests returning.

South Mississippi Kairos Outside - Patricia Edwards

- Weekend #3 is scheduled for next weekend with 18-22 guests. Tammy Hillman will be the Leader and Martha Walton will conduct the Excellence Initiative Review.
- 2 leaders will be sent to AKT
- Reports that are having great success with fundraisers.

Other Business

Summer Conference approval: Patsy McCarty

Requests pending: Sheila Coleman, Patricia Edwards, Gennia Varnado

Von will research to determine whose expenses can be paid.

Gennia Varnado requested a speakers bureau to go to Covenant Presbyterian church based on a request that she received from the new pastor.

Weekend Leaders presented for approval

- Torch - Skip/Linda Jack, Robert Jameson, Dale/Darylann Hardin
Motion made by Reece Vaughan and seconded by Bob Neill and carried.
- CMCF Women - Jean Gray, Pam Runnels
Motion made by Barbara McDonald and seconded by Bob Neill and carried.
- SM KO- Patricia Edwards, Helen Hancock, Deloras Young
Motion made by Reece Vaughan and seconded by Bob Neill and carried.
- CMCF Men - Mike Barrett
Motion made by Barbara McDonald and seconded by Reece Vaughan.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Harriet Brown and carried. Adjourned at 1:35 pm with prayer from Gennia Varnado.

Respectfully submitted,
Harriet Brown