

**Kairos of Mississippi**  
**State Chapter Committee Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**July 20, 2013**

Committee Member Attendees

Darryl McElrath	Von Brister	Gary Shelley	Paul Morris
Sharon Scott	Martin Butler	Paul Brady	
Jim Sonnier	Barbara McDonald	Tammy Hillman	

Members Absent:

Carolyn Mims	Jimmy Gant	Jean Harvey
Bobbie Blake	Richard Marlowe	Gennia Varnado

Advisory Council Chairs Present:

Anita Johnson

Guests Present:

Bob Neal (Uncle Bob)

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by Darryl McElrath and he shared a devotional from the book of Proverbs followed by prayer.

The minutes from the April 30, 2013 meeting had been previously distributed electronically. There were three amendments to the minutes followed by a motion to accept as amended by Barbara McDonald and seconded by Jim Sonnier – motion carried.

**Old Business:**

There was no old business to discuss.

**Chairperson's General Comments**

- For men only – Effective July 19, 2013, Bill Rushing is no longer with KPMI per Evelyn Lemly, Director. All Kairos Men's Inside business should be directed to Darryl McElreath. All Kairos Women's Inside business will still go directly to Jo Chapman.
- Darryl thanks Martin Butler for hosting the meeting here at Clinton United Methodist Church and also expressed continued thanks to Martin as Financial Secretary along with Jim Sonnier, Treasurer for the continued efforts of keeping the Kairos of MS State Chapter going in the right direction financially.
- Darryl shared a quote from Evelyn Lemly "Always Seems Impossible Until it is Done"

- KPMI asking for any Advisory council updates concerning members, weekend dates & upcoming leaders.
- The Prisoner to Prisoner is now available online for purchase.
- KPMI is asking for financial help
- The Board of Director also sent out a letter concerning a New Vision for the Kairos Prison Ministry – Planning for the Future.
- KPMI asked the State Chairs to discuss with their committee the idea of assisting financially with Kairos startup programs in the state of Wisconsin & Oregon and following discussion to bring those thoughts & ideas to the Summer Conference in Oklahoma for continued discussion. Following discussion and personal comments, there was a positive consensus on the need to financially assist startup programs in both of these areas.
- Advisory Councils are urged to send in any financial business to Martin Butler and Jim Sonnier immediately upon receiving it in order to keep a balanced monthly accounting.
- A Nomination Form for all Kairos Weekend Leaders is to be filled out by the Advisory Council and presented to SCC at quarterly meetings. \*\* For upcoming 2014 leaders, this form needs to be filled out and brought to the next quarterly meeting for approval.

#### KPMI Representative – Von Brister, IC Representative

- KPMI Finances, including audits, Kairos of MS financial status, etc. will be discussed at the Summer Conference.
- A discussion concerning AKT Training in MS for May-June, 2014 and September 5-7, 2014 - location and leaders have not yet been confirmed. Von Brister will look into this and hopefully have some answers by Tuesday, July 23rd. Upcoming leaders can attend out of state AKT Training if necessary.
- Von also requesting ideas for Recruiting and Outreach i.e. what is working, not working to discuss at the Summer Conference as there seems to be a great need to revise the Outreach Program of Mississippi.

#### Vice Chair's Report - Gary Shelley

- Concerning the Excellence Initiative – there are two interviews that still need to be reviewed.
- Recruiting/Outreach at churches is somewhat subdued and the consensus is the most effective way to reach people is one on one.
- Carol Mims is updating the Kairos information to give out at Emmaus gatherings

#### Treasurer's Report – Jim Sonnier

- All the bills were turned in timely and have been paid.
- The timelines are being met and working smoothly along with efficient record keeping, etc.
- Donor to go online in the near future and will eventually be linked to Quick Books.
- Martin Butler needs to receive all bank statements – banks will be contacted to change the address.

### Financial Secretary's Report – Martin Butler

- Having a problem with printing from Quick Books but will get this resolved
- We are current with KPMI through March concerning the affiliation fee and current through July concerning audit fees.
- Due to the auditing systems transparency, it is very important that any monies sent in for deposit need to be signed and to supply any other pertinent information for record keeping purposes.
- Donor site has been updated
- Jim Sonnier relates from KPMI encouraging us to use one bank instead of three – discussion followed and motion was made by Von Brister to consolidate monies and endorse Regions Bank as our primary bank for Advisory Councils, and to use BankPlus **temporarily** as a second bank and amend signature authorization to Jim Sonnier as primary and Sharon Scott as secondary, Paul Morris seconded – motion carried.

\*\*Bob Neal announced that he will be working on the newsletter again. Also, would like to see Kairos of MS establish a Memorial Fund for those people who would like to give money in memory/ honor of someone.

\*\*It was also discussed that at the present time any monies for memorials or donations should be sent to Jim Sonnier at his post office box and when he rolls off from that position will then be forwarded to the appropriate person. In addition, an acknowledgement should be sent to the family and the donor of the gift.

### Kairos Website – Barbara McDonald

- The domain name was renewed
- You can locate Kairos on Facebook – Kairos Prison Ministry Group
- Reminder to send weekend and retreat dates for posting on the website and will then be forwarded to Uncle Bob to place in the Newsletter. These dates should also be sent to KPMI along with any other changes within the Advisory Council and to Sharon Scott for her records.
- Need to establish a place on the website for donations and memorials.

## Advisory Council Reports

### MSP – Paul Morris reporting for Jimmy Gant

- Weekend #33, Unit #29 – September 28- October 1, 2013 – James McPhail, leader
- Weekend #33 Unit #30 – March 27-30, 2014 - Hal Davis, Leader
- Weekend #34 Unit #29 – June 28- July 1, 2014 – Sid Love, Leader
- Weekend #34 Unit #30 - August 28-31, 2014 – Steve Calvert, Leader (needs AKT Tr.)

\*\*Darryl asks the MSP Advisory Council to read ACOP and then look at the positions.

#### CMCF Men – Martin Butler reporting for Bobby Blake

- Summer Retreat – August 10-11, 2013 – Jerry Perez, leader
- There will not be a Fall weekend because of rescheduling of the June #28 Weekend due to hail damage at the prison facility.
- The Fall weekend #29 has been moved to the Spring of 2014 - Johnny Jordan, leader (AKT Trained?)

#### CMCF Women – Anita Johnson

- The weekends are now being held in the Quickbed area which prevents more participants from attending due to space.
- The Retreat was just held in July - Laney Crampton, leader
- There will not be a Fall weekend as there is no one ready to lead.
- Prayer & Share is now being held twice a month due to scheduling issues per the prison.
- Monthly reunions should be handled by the Inside Leader not the volunteers.
- There will be a one day retreat Friday, October 11, 2013 – Diane Vaughan, leader
- Will plan on meeting with Superintendent Denmark at CMCF concerning the problem of groups coming in on Tuesdays night for Prayer & Share, reunions and retreats.

\*\* Discussion: Before every weekend a meeting should be held to include the chaplain, warden, superintendent, Advisory Council liaison, Advisory Council Chair and the upcoming weekend leader. There have been numerous issues concerning Prayer & Share , reunions, retreats & weekends involving both CMCF Women and CMCF Men. Von Brister will email Superintendent Denmark and set up a meeting with himself, Jim Sonnier, Darryl McElrath, Women's & Men's Advisory Council Chair and Liaison to address these conflicting issues.

#### SMCI – Von Brister reporting for Richard Marlowe

- Weekend #16 – August 28- 31, 2013 – Richard Marlowe, leader
- Winter Retreat – November 30, 2013
- Weekend #17 – Spring, 2014 – leader, Anthony Snow
- Weekend #18 – Fall 2014 – leader, Tom Blakeney
- There was a one day retreat June 29<sup>th</sup> led by Leland Creel – question arose as to whether Leland paid for the pizza or have they not turned in their receipts for this retreat?

#### Torch – Paul Brady

- Weekend #7 will be held August 16-18, 2013 – Paul Brady, leader
- Weekend #8 will be held in January – Linda Jack, leader

- Keeping an open mind concerning recruitment - talking to people, one on one seems more productive.

\*\* Two books to consider reading – Orange is the New Black and Effective Jail and Prison Ministry for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Kairos Outside of Mississippi – Tammy Hillman reporting for Jean Harvey

- Weekend #18 – September 20-22, 2013 at Camp Wesley Pines – Lynn Pudas, leader
- Weekend #19 – March 21-23, 2014 at Camp Wesley Pines – Karyn Brannan, leader
- Weekend #20 – September 12-14, 2014 at Camp Wesley Pines – Lanye Herr, leader

South Mississippi Kairos Outside – Tammy Hillman

- Trial Weekend #6 at Home of Grace – October 25-27, 2013 – Deloris Young, leader  
The Home of Grace pilot program is one that this council was asked to look into to provide a program for women who may be going into the prison or possibly if they are proven to be successful within this program, will avoid prison altogether. The council is looking into possibly holding three weekends in a year i.e. Home of Grace in the Fall then Kairos Outside about a month after that and another Kairos Outside in February, 2014.

Barbara McDonald asked the question whether this program was International & State approved as she does not recall this ever being mentioned in any state meetings. Tammy said there was official approval of this “pilot program” 3-4 months ago. This program is also self-supporting with donations, etc. The question was also asked if the person who has gone through this program on the outside, would they also be eligible to attend a weekend once they were in prison. As residents, they are eligible to attend a Kairos Inside weekend. A motion was made by Von Brister to proceed with Kairos Outside Home of Grace Pilot Program, seconded by Jim Sonnier followed by further discussion – motion passed.

- Not receiving applications for Kairos Outside from the Chaplain – going forward will send applications to CMCF men and women’s liaisons to handle for the weekend and get them back to Tammy.
- Weekend #7 & #8 upcoming leaders, Charleen Smith & June Bourne to attend AKT in Alabama – they have both been approved.

Paul Morris made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Tammy Hillman seconded.

\*\* Prayers asked for Tammy Hillman’s Dad who had a stroke June 13<sup>th</sup> and is still in the Hattiesburg Hospital.