



STATED MEETING OF SESSION
New Hope Presbyterian Church (EPC)
Tuesday, March 29, 2022
(Combined In-person and Zoom meeting)

Our mission: To glorify God and make disciples by living out the gospel together.

Minutes

Teaching Elders:		TE	Pastor Mike Jones	P	
		TE	Pastor Ben Borsay	P	
Class of 2022		Active Ruling Elders Class of 2023		Class of 2024	
Steve Boutelle	P	Gayle Bundschu	P	Doug Keno	P
Sheldon Church	Z	Jerry Elliott	P	Sandy Knipe	P
Sean Ellis	P	Jim Glatz	P	Mark Myers	P
Jerry Franz	P	Duane Higgins	Z	Ken Walker	P
Ken Seim	P	Carolyn Melton	EA	Rodney Woosley	P
Bill Enslin	P	David Milligan	P		
		Kathy Orr	P		
P=In-person; Z=Zoom; EA= Excused Absence; A=Absent				Quorum	Y

Also Present: Church Treasurer – Chuck Knox, Staff – Ed Harger

- 1) Convened in Room 206 at 6 PM with prayer by Pastor Mike followed by a devotion and prayer by Kathy O.
- 2) **MSC (Jim G/Mark M/Unanimous)** approved the Minutes of the Feb. 22nd Stated Session Meeting as written (See attached).
- 3) Pastor Mike Jones (Moderator) Report - Introduced Matt Philips as our new Director of Technologies, distributed “A Short, Practical Guide for Prayer and Fasting” by Richard Pratt (See attached), and challenged the elders to pray and fast for our church.
- 4) Pastor Ben Borsay (Vice Moderator) Report
 - (a) Distributed handouts “Transitional Pastor Report”, “Leadership and Church Size Dynamics” by Timothy Keller, and “Leading a Healthy Church” by Christian Schwarz (See attached).
 - (b) Recommended creating a short-term Task Force on culture to include Sheldon C and Ken S to address our clarifying our church’s culture.
 - (c) Proposed adding an “Executive Pastor” role to his job to assist Pastor Mike, the church and staff and recommended that Session consider adding 10 hours per week to his contract, with compensation to be decided by Session for the additional work.
 - (d) **MSC (Bill E/Doug K/Carried)** called an Executive Session meeting for Tuesday, April 5th at 6 PM for the purpose of discussing Pastor Ben’s proposal to expand his role of “Transitional Pastor” to include “Executive Pastor”, assuming some duties from Pastor Mike and any compensation for that additional work.

- 5) Clerk of Session Report:
 - (a) Membership Report
 - (i) Membership Statistical Reports “RptMS01 Monthly Statistics” summary and “RPT09G Adjustments to Membership” detail for Feb. 2022 (See attached).
 - (ii) Membership Committee Report of Session contacts of dormant members by David M. David thanked elders for their work contacting members by phone and/or email. Those who were not able to be reached were sent letters on March 18th. At the April Stated Session meeting action will be taken on those members requesting removals and moving those who do not respond to the Inactive Members list. The Committee was asked by Session to prepare for the April stated meeting a proposed “exit interview” script to follow up with those members who request membership removal.
 - (iii) MSC (Gayle B/Jim G/U) Session approved removing those members who requested removal. (See attached) The Clerk will send the EPC required notification to each. Jim G led in prayer for those on the list.
 - (b) Reported March 9th email request to change March Stated Meeting from 3/22 to 3/29. Of the 20 Teaching and Ruling Elders, 16 responded with the approval of the change with 2 Ruling Elders responding they would be unable to attend on the 29th. The Session was notified of the change of date by the Clerk via email on March 10th.
 - (c) Reported a Session Commission for the purpose of accepting new members composed of Sheldon Church, David Milligan, Ben Borsay and Mike Jones was held on 3/13 after the 11 AM worship service. After hearing their testimonies and answering all new member questions in the affirmative, by motion made by Sheldon, seconded by David, and unanimously approved, Fred and Carol Henry and Ruth Kiesel were accepted as members.

- 6) Standing Committee Reports
 - (a) Finance Committee Report – Chuck Knox (Final Year End 2021, Jan. 2022 and Feb. 2022 reports attached). Chuck added that the current year to date giving and spending patterns are similar to past years. Some areas discussed, but no motions were made. Sheldon will provide more information on personnel expenditures prior to next Tuesday’s meeting.
 - (b) Personnel Committee Report - Bill E - (See attached report)

- 7) Unfinished Business
 - (a) Mission Council – Status on becoming an Afghanistan refugee sponsor church with Samaritan’s Purse – Ken S – On Friday, April 1st, the Mission Council will have a Zoom meeting with Samaritan’s Purse to get more information on this project. Elders are invited to attend and to contact Ken for details.
 - (b) Christian Education Committee proposal – Duane H requested postponing this until the April stated meeting.

- 8) Other Reports – Committees/Council/Ministries Minutes & Reports
 - (a) Deacons – Steve McKinnon – (See attached February minutes)
 - (b) Exec. Director of Family & Discipleship – Michelle Myers (See report attached)
 - (c) Exec. Director of Finance & Administration – Brad Starner (See report attached)
 - i) Facilities – Ed Harger – Property Council (See attached 3/8 minutes)
MSC (Jerry E/Doug K/U) gave voice to staff Ed Harger.

- (1) Ed reported the estimates of cost to add the cross proposed in the February meeting to be approximately \$16,000 for the cross itself, permitting, engineering, lighting, and lightning protection to be another estimated \$6,500. A member specified donation will provide ~~most of~~ the cost of the cross itself. Discussion followed on whether to proceed and how to fund the balance.
 - (2) MSC (Doug K/David M/U) approved spending up to \$6,500 from Account #31401 to add to the member donation for the installation of the cross as proposed.
 - (3) Ed reported planned use of the Capital Reserve Fund of \$4,900 to re-stripe the parking lot.
 - ii) Missions – Jim Mayer – Mission Council (See attached 2/13 minutes)
 - (d) Exec. Director of Worship Ministries – Ben Ball (See report attached)
 - (e) Youth Director Search Committee – Steve Boutelle – No report this month
 - (f) Care Network – Kathy Orr – Reported the Care Network classes for Care Advocates will be promoted to the congregation starting in late April. There will be four classes starting in May to train the Advocates how to get those seeking care to the right people. Some trained Stephen Ministers have stepped up to help and may, under new guidelines, restart that ministry. Elders are encouraged to consider being an advocate as a part of their responsibilities in shepherding the flock.
- 9) New Business
- (a) Sandy K received sufficient elder signups for Communion service, Sunday, April 3rd, 9:30 & 11 AM Services
 - (b) Sandy will contact inactive elders to get enough for the Communion service on the April 14th, Maundy Thursday 6:30 PM service. Pastor Mike noted that we will be returning to the normal bread and juice service at this service and thereafter, no longer using the double cup/bread communion.
- 10) MSC (Kathy O/Ken S/U) Closed in prayer by Jerry F at 8:15 PM.

Signed by:
 Pastor Mike Jones, Moderator
 Gayle Bundschu, Clerk of Session