



**STATED MEETING OF SESSION**  
**New Hope Presbyterian Church (EPC)**  
**Tuesday, Oct. 25, 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
		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	P	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 were: Steve McKinnon, Deacon Chair, Staff Pam Poland, Jackie Elliott and Jim Mayer, and a number of church members.

- 1) Convened in Room 206 at 6 PM with prayer and devotion by Kathy O
- 2) **MSC (Sean E/Gayle B/Unanimous)** Gave voice to any non-active elders present, but the Moderator asked those present to follow Robert's Rules, wait to be recognized by the Moderator, and hold comments to the end of the meeting due to the amount of business that needed to be done.
- 3) **MSC (Jim G/Ken S/U)** Approved the Minutes of the Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> (September) Stated Session Meeting.
- 4) **MSC (Jerry E/Doug K/U)** Approved minutes of the Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> Executive Session as written after the Personnel Committee report. (Moderator Jones and Vice Moderator Borsay did not vote on these minutes as they were not a part of the Executive Session meeting.)
- 5) Pastor Mike Jones Report (See attached) Added to that written report the following:
  - a) Hurricane Ian Relief funds received have grown to \$235,000
  - b) **MSC (Jerry E/Kathy O/U)** Approved suspending the donor confidentiality rule to allow Paul Gorny, the Chair of the Ad Hoc Hurricane Fund Disbursal Committee, to help with processing and responding to these specific donations.
  - c) Discussion of the need to fill the voids left by Ben Ball's resignation resulted in
    - i) **MSC (Bill E/Mark M/U)** Empowered Pastor Mike to find temporary substitutes for organist/director of traditional music/handbell and choir director, and

- ii) MSC (Jerry E/Doug K/U) Authorized the Personnel Committee to form a search committee of no more than 5 members to search for a full-time Director of Traditional and Contemporary Music.
  - d) Notified Session that the proposed 2023 budget is not yet available and would be presented at the Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> meeting for discussion and voted on at a meeting to be called in December and then presented to the congregation.
  - e) Nominated Ken Walker to be the chair of the Finance Committee to fill the vacancy left by Sheldon Church's resignation on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>. By MSC (Kathy O/Ken S/U) Ken was elected.
- 6) Pastor Ben Borsay Report (See attached two pages "Transitional Pastor" and "Path Forward")  
In Point 4 of the "Path Forward", Pastor Ben proposed to change his role again, and by motion by Bill E, seconded by Mark M, moved to increase Pastor Ben's leadership responsibility to be like a Senior Pastor with the title of Executive Pastor and Pastor Mike to be the Associate Pastor. After discussion, it was amended by Bill and Mark to postpone the vote until after the Personnel Committee report.
- 7) Standing Committee Reports
- a) Finance Committee Report – Chuck Knox – (See September Financials attached)
  - b) Personnel Committee – Before the committee was recognized to report, the Moderator responded to a question from the floor and said that he now considered the five people elected by the elders Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> to be the legal Personnel Committee.
    - i) Ken S reported broadly for the committee on the results of the two weeks of meetings with some staff and both pastors. He stated the committee's conclusion is that the problems did not start with Pastors Mike or Ben, but the issues we are facing are complex and the committee does not have the skills or the resources to address the issues. Therefore, the committee made the following motion for which **no second was needed/carried on a vote by a show of hands**, Authorized the Clerk of Session to request our Presbytery supply an outside moderator for a called Executive Session meeting, the date and time to be determined by the Presbytery appointee, to discuss where we are with our church staffing and assist us in developing a plan to move forward.
    - ii) Returning to the motion above in item 6(a), it was further postponed until after the above called Executive Session.
- 8) Clerk of Session Report:
- (a) Membership Reports - "RptMS01 Monthly Statistics" summary for September (See attached)
  - (b) Membership Committee Report – The Clerk requested that the elders please review the report distributed to them in the October meeting for comments/contacts/etc. on those members who have no recorded participation in the last year, and put the marked-up report in her church mailbox as soon as possible.
- 9) Nominating Committee Report – Jim G (See attached slate) – Jim reported that his committee revised the slate which had been approved at the October meeting, but due to subsequent requests of one elder and two deacons to remove themselves from nomination, had to be

revised. The new slate proposed was **the motion by the committee, no second needed, was unanimously carried** and the date for the congregational meeting was set for Sunday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 between the two worship services in the Sanctuary.

- 10) Commissioners' Report on the Presbytery Meeting: David Milligan and Bob Welsh attended. Pastor Mike reported it was a good meeting.
  
- 11) Unfinished Business
  - (a) The Senior Pastor Search Committee proposed Steve Shimp for the chair of the Senior Pastor Search Committee, which was unanimously approved by Session, and elder David Milligan, vice-chair of the search committee, present reported:
    - (i) They plan to hold semi-monthly meetings and establish a web page with regular updates for the congregation in addition to monthly reports to Session,
    - (ii) Are going to wait on the decision to use a Search Company,
    - (iii) Will be ready to post the CIF and Position Description this week or next
    - (iv) **Proposed a motion (no second needed), which was carried,** a salary range on our CIF of \$110,000-\$115,000, including only the actual cash salary and housing, which would yield after the included benefits a total cost to the church of approximately \$163,000.
    - (v) Ken W prayed for the work of the Senior Pastor Search Committee.
  - (b) Review/adoption of Financial Policies and Procedures provided in August meeting was discussed and some comments made were directed to be discussed with Brad Starnier and the Finance Committee and adoption was postponed until those issues could be resolved.
  - (c) Inreach (postponed from August as Evangelism Committee Proposal) – Doug Keno requested postponing until the November meeting.
  
- 12) Other Reports – Committees/Council/Ministries Minutes & Reports
  - (a) Deacons – Steve McKinnon – (See attached August Minutes)
  - (b) Director of Family & Discipleship – Michelle Myers – (See attached Aug. & Sept. reports)
  - (c) Facilities – Ed Harger – Property Council – (Sept Minutes attached)
  - (d) Missions – Jim Mayer – Mission Council – (See attached Aug. & Sept reports)
  - (e) Youth Director Search Committee – Steve Boutelle
  - (f) Care Network – Kathy Orr – (See attached Sept. report)
  
- 13) New Business
  - (a) Elder Handbook Revision – proposed amendments presented for review postponed again due to the late hour until the November meeting.
  - (b) Elder volunteers for Communion service, Sunday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 & 11 AM - Sandy K – will contact inactive elders to get a full roster
  - (c) The Moderator recognized the church members present who wanted to make any statement or ask any questions. The members requested their statements be on the record:
    - (i) John Kellenberger – Was happy to be able to attend Session.

- (ii) Flo Antonio – Loves serving as a deacon, objected to the fact that not all staff was interviewed by the Personnel Committee, and asked Pastor Mike if he wanted to be our senior pastor, to which he responded he did not feel called to it now.
  - (iii) Kay Parkinson – Asked if we will get an organist and choir director for the upcoming holiday season as no practice has been scheduled after Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>
  - (iv) Bob Rae – Stated there is good reason to wait for a permanent full-time music director until after we get a senior pastor, that they really need a good relationship.
  - (v) Kathy Kellenberger – Wants to bring a senior pastor to a healthy church and sees and hears things that do not belong here.
  - (vi) Jackie Elliott – Quoted scripture to be strong and wait for the Lord.
  - (vii) Beth Hoving – Stated that out of the heart the mouth speaks. He (God) wants to make us holy and to keep our eyes on Him, and to make our conversations edifying so that they may build others up (Eph. 4:29) Be aware and develop a prayer life.
  - (viii) Jim Mayer – Read scripture from Hebrews 12
- (d) Ken W asked that the document he authored and had been approved by Session and appended to our CIF, “Philosophy and Commitment” be made available to the congregation in this week’s E-news and on the church website. As it was an approved document, no motion was needed, and the Clerk was directed to notify the webmaster to get it done.

14) By MSC (Doug K/Jerry E/U) the meeting was closed in prayer by Jerry F at 9PM.

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