

Hope Evangelical Free Church Board Minutes

Meeting held on the Campus of Hope Church
3000 Lenhart Road, Springfield, Illinois 62711
January 26, 2026

Shannon Alderman, Presiding Elder, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following Board members were present: Shannon Alderman, Gary Clark, Anthony Hamilton, Curt Mavis, Brian Mills, TC Morsch (online), Caleb Payne (online), Jeff Pfaffe, Dave Richardson, Shelley Simpson (online), Tony Suggs, Mark Sexton and Cheri Fraker.

Opening: Caleb Payne opened the meeting with prayer. Shelley Simpson led the group reading of the Elder Board Values and Norms.

Prayer and Reflection – Time was set aside for the Elders to pray.

Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the December 15, 2025, meeting minutes with two revisions. The approved minutes will be posted to the Hope Church App.

Old Business

- **Policy #14 (Whistle Blower) update**
Jeff is still working with Kim Wonnell to review the current policy. Jeff will update the Elders with a suggested proposal.

Senior Pastor Reports

- **Strategic Plan Review**
 - Brian shared an encouraging article from Williamsville High School by a Hoper teenager who wrote an article entitled “Why I go to Church”.
 - We reviewed the ChurchOS related to our One Awareness.
 - We continue to strengthen our Resource Team Development (formerly the Finance Team) and hope to have a team leader in February.
- **Vision Metrics**
 - Personnel.
We have a Growth Readiness Consultant working with our staff in January, and he will provide a report in mid-February.
 - Limitations compliance
There is nothing to report at this time.

Policy Work

- **Vision Policy**

There are no changes at this time.

- **Conflict of Interest (COI) Forms**

Presiding Elder Shannon Alderman collected the COI forms for all Elders for 2026. We have a full Elder Board membership with thirteen (13) Elders.

- **Annual Agenda was discussed**

Elders encouraged to review the 2026 meeting agendas, the calendar of meeting dates, and the schedule for elder opening prayer and setting meeting context.

Announcements

- February Policy Reviews:
 - Relationship Policies 1-4.
 - Limitations Policy regarding the annual budget approval and loan responsibilities.
- Elders were encouraged to review our Metrics Annual Agenda and the 2026 Folder to prepare for our 2026 Elder Board Meetings.
 - Annual Strategic Plan Reviews, Vision Metrics, and the Policy Review Schedule.
 - Prayer and Context Schedule.
 - Elders Phone List.
- Shannon announced that the next meeting date will be Monday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m. Gary Clark will open the January meeting with prayer and Anthony Hamilton with set the meeting context.
- We will continue to use Microsoft Teams for our Elder communications. Confidentiality will remain in our commitment to these discussions.

Adjournment

Shannon closed the meeting with prayer and adjourned the meeting at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anthony Hamilton