

District 05 of Area 74 Meeting

March 14, 2018

6:45 PM

Menomonie Leisure Center, 1412 6th St E, Menomonie, WI 54751

Opening

- Serenity Prayer

Introductions

- 9 GSRs present.

Reports

- **Secretary** – Joe P.
 - o Read last month's minute highlights.
 - o Sent around contact sheets for officers and GSRs (asked for additions, verification, and indication of GSR vs. Alt. GSR).
 - o *Note:* Please try to get reports to the secretary before the meeting you're due to give a report. An emailed report with or without an attachment is acceptable.
 - o **Approved:** *Last month's minutes approved without objection.*
- **Treasurer** – Sara D.
 - o Report Period: 02/01/18-03/14/18
 - o Checking Opening Balance: \$2,327.61
 - o Group Contributions: \$167.00
 - o Expenses: \$141.40
 - o Checking Closing Balance: \$2,353.21
 - o Is using new template for thank-you letters and sending out monthly.
 - o **Approved:** *Report approved without objection.*

The following reports were given and accepted:

- **District Committee Member (DCM)** – Marybeth S.
 - o Marybeth submitted a written report, which she summarized in person:

I attended the Area 74 Conference Call at the end of February. The discussion centered on how to encourage attendance at both the group and District level. One of the DCMs shared a PowerPoint that they had developed on service. At our next meeting I would like to share the PowerPoint and discuss if there is a way to incorporate it into a workshop or find some other way to use it to help generate interest in service.

The Delegates Workshop was held in Three Lakes on March 10th. There were 16 people from District 5 in attendance. However, only a handful of those were GSRs. I am so happy to see the level of involvement our District has at the Area 74 level. The GSR is the voice of AA at the Area level and our delegate will carry that voice to the GSO conference in April in New York. Therefore, I once again strongly encourage the attendance of the GSRs at the Area Assembly which will be held on April 7th in Three Lakes. Please contact me if you are interested in attending and would like to rideshare.

The folks that attended the Delegate's Workshop will be reporting on their committee's recommendations at the District Meeting tonight (March 14th). The minute meetings will include those reports.

I am so honored to be of service and please contact me if you would like me to attend one of your Group Conscience and/or Business Meetings.

- **Alternate DCM** – Beth E.
 - Submitted a check from a Menomonie group and had no other report.
- **Cooperating with the Professional Community (CPC)** – Pat T.
 - First meeting this month.
 - Purchased \$60.00 in literature.
 - Planning how to proceed and working to coordinate with Treatment and PI.
 - **Be of service!** Regular meetings take place on the first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: April 2.)
- **Treatment** – Matt A.
 - Things are going well.
 - Treatment will provide speakers for an underage drinker session.
 - Looking at “Treatment Committee Workbook” due to recent debate about “singleness of purpose” with a person in treatment.
 - Can be used as a resource to help with that debate.
 - Also contains other useful things when working with treatment centers, including form letters.
 - **Be of service!** Regular meetings take place on the second Monday of each month, 6:45 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: April 9.)
- **Corrections** – Ken P.
 - Number of volunteers has decreased.
 - Volunteers are needed, especially women in Eau Claire and Trempealeau counties.
 - **Ø GSRs:** Ken sent out some fliers and the Secretary emailed those out and printed, so bring to your groups.
 - Actively distributing literature:
 - 10 books to Stanley Prison.
 - Chippewa prison is checking to see if they want more.
 - Order in for *Daily Reflections* for Pepin County.
 - Fulfilling requests.
 - Myron M: Commented on a flier he saw stating that Pierce County is looking for men to bring in meetings to the jail. Ken will follow up.
 - **Be of service!** Regular meetings take place on the first Monday of February, May, August, and November, 7:00 PM, Club 12 (small building), Eau Claire. (Next meeting: May 7.)
- **Special Accessibilities** – Brett Z.
 - Brett emailed and called widely to see about what his committee is supposed to do, with no replies.
 - His committee will start with physical access to meetings.
 - Will assess which ones are accessible and not.
 - Will be visiting all District 05 meetings and letting webmaster know about accessibility status, based on GSO specifications for accessibility.
 - **Be of service!** Regular meetings will occur at a time yet to be determined. Contact Brett to help.
- **Public Information (PI)** – Doug H.
 - No report.
 - **Be of service!** Regular meetings take place on the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months, 6:30 PM, Alano Club, River Falls. (Next meeting: March 21st.)

- **Intergroup** – Variable Representative
 - Katie B-B gave oral report.
 - Planning for a workshop in May: How to get the most out of meetings, what to expect when going to a meeting, and how to prepare.
 - Planning for a workshop in the fall: Topic TBD.
 - Fall Unity Picnic:
 - Was poorly attended last year.
 - ∅ **GSRs**: Bring back to your group: How to encourage better attendance?
 - Events (softball, panel, etc.)?
 - New location?
 - What time of year?
 - Other suggestions.
 - Phone: One group had to give the phone back due to reception south of Eau Claire, but going well otherwise.
 - Yellow page advertisement: Myron has invoice to share with Intergroup.
 - **Be of service!** Regular meetings take place the fourth Wednesday of each month, 6:00 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: March 28.)

- **WICYPAA** – Jonathan S.
 - Good attendance at the event in January.
 - Money was lost overall, due to high numbers of low-cost pre-registrations.
 - Agreement that it was good for the fellowship.

District 05 Meeting Updates

- Brittany mentioned the possibility of a venue change for Flimsy Reed, due to rent costs, but that has not been determined yet.

Reports from Delegate's Workshop

The following is a summary of the activity at the Delegate's Workshop:

- **Grapevine**
 - Possible presence of Grapevine on Instagram and Facebook. **Vote: Keep investigating concept.**
 - *La Vina* in color? **Vote: Yes.**

- **Literature**
 - A. Consider proposed revisions to *Alcoholics Anonymous*:
 - 1. Request to add an appendix reflecting recognition received from the Library of Congress. **Vote: Yes.**
 - 2. Request to add the A.A. Preamble and Responsibility Statement. **Vote: Yes.**
 - 3. Request to add an endnote to Bill W.'s story acknowledging co-founder, Bob S. **Vote: Yes.**
 - B. Consider request that A.A. (U.S./Canada) publish "The God Word" (a pamphlet currently published by the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Great Britain). **Vote: Yes.**
 - C. Consider request for the development of a pamphlet for atheist and agnostic members. **Vote: No.**
 - D. Consider request for the development of a pamphlet based upon A.A.'s Three Legacies. **Vote: Yes.**
 - E. Review report and suggestions on the inclusion of language related to safety in A.A. literature. **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**
 - F. Review revised draft pamphlet "A.A. for the Woman." **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**

- o G. Review revised draft pamphlet “A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic.” **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**
 - o H. Review draft pamphlet “A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues.” **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**
 - o I. Review revised draft pamphlet “Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and its Services.” **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**
 - o J. Review progress report and draft revised text for the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.” **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**
 - o K. Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet “Too Young?” **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**
 - o L. Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**
 - o M. Consider request for revision to *Living Sober*. **Vote: Yes.**
 - o N. Consider request for the development of a new book combining Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with Twelve Concepts for World Service. **Vote: No.**
 - o O. Consider request to update the video “Your A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure.” **Vote: Yes.**
 - o P. Consider request to change the subtitle of the pamphlet “G.S.R. General Service Representative: May Be the Most Important Job in A.A.” **Vote: Yes.**
 - o Q. Consider request for the development of a new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women alcoholics. **Vote: Yes.**
 - o R. Consider request to add a section on anonymity to the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.” **Vote: Yes.**
 - o S. Review matrix of A.A. recovery literature. **Vote: Did not review in the interest of time.**
- **Report and Charter**
 - o Suggested changes to *Service Manual*. Nothing controversial.
 - o Discrepancies between *Service Manual* and “The AA Group” pamphlet, so suggestion made to perhaps just refer to the pamphlet instead.
 - o Use of the circle and triangle symbol has been discontinued, so the can be removed from any literature on which it appears.
 - o AA Directories: Not used much and they get out of date quickly, so agreement they would be better online.
 - o Do discussions need to be published in entirety? **Vote: No.**
- **Treatment and Accessibilities**
 - o More should be done to address those in active military service to make sure AA is there. **Vote: Agreement that exploration should continue.**
 - o “Accessibility for All Alcoholics” (pamphlet):
 - Accessibility has wide range of meanings: Mental illness, remote communities, cultural/language/geographical barriers, etc.
 - o Carrying the message to deaf and hard of hearing members:
 - A person is struggling locally to be part of AA due to this.
 - Proposal to have ASL at Area conferences and assemblies.
 - Who is responsible for funding?
 - **Vote: Delegate should advocate for more information.**
- **Trustees**
 - o Original *Alcoholics Anonymous* manuscript was up for auction:
 - General Service Board went to court and seized the document, stating it belongs to AA.
 - Concern: Why didn’t they contact delegates somehow prior to filing the injunction? Controversial.

- Suit was dropped.
- Settlement: \$135,000 to cover cover legal costs to make amends with party that was sued.
- Should we censure the General Service Board? **Vote: We don't have all the information to determine if GSB had all the information before their decision. Delegate can make decision based on the facts provided.**

- **Archives**

- A. Review a draft proposed publication, *Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W's General Service Conference Talks, 1951-1970*
 - No copy of draft publication to review (security reasons and control of copyright.)
 - That has changed, draft items used to be available for review.
 - What are the costs? What format and what and how many pages?
 - It was thought there was an advisory action that all proposals that have a financial cost associated with them, that that cost should be included.
 - **Vote: We are generally in favor.** We need more information to make an informed decision.
- B. Consider request from the AA Grapevine Board to post the 2017 General Service Conference presentation, "AA Grapevine and La Vina" on AA Grapevine's YouTube Channel.
 - Did the Grapevine sign a waiver on the presentation that gave Archives the copyrights to the presentation that was given by the Josh E, Grapevine Director?
 - The question is, do we trust the Trustees Committee and the Archivist to do the right thing?
 - Reference the 2013 Advisory Action in the background material.
 - This seems silly. We are the same group.
 - Does this help the next suffering Alcoholic?
 - **Vote: We are generally for it.**
- C. Consider developing a policy on distribution of audio recordings of General Service Conference presentations.
 - How are the PowerPoint presentations handled and who owns the rights to the presentations?
 - Needs to be anonymity protected.
 - Are all recordings of the GSC automatically "owned by the AAWS" then sent to archives?
- D. Review Archives Workbook
 - **Vote: No recommended change.**

- **International Conventions and Regional Forums**

- A. Discuss selection of cities to be considered as a site for the International Convention in 2030
 - Question: Why are we down to only 2 cities to consider? In 2000, we had 12 to consider.
 - Is there a problem on our end? Is the contractor influencing the decision making process and the communication process with the potential host cities?
 - The Areas are responsible for submitting host cities.
 - Trustees will select from 3 cities, the point for us is moot.
- B. Discuss inviting up to 21 non-AA speakers to participate in the 2020 International Convention at AA's expense.
 - **Vote: No objection. Status quo.**
- C. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.
 - Lead by example and sponsorship direction.
 - More PI and CPC work. Aggressively pursue more press, radio, and social media for all of AA, including the GSO.

Old Business

- **Discussion: Workshops**
 - Shane S. and Beth E. led a discussion about workshops in District 05.
 - Thoughts that District 05 groups should host 3-6 workshops in 2018.
 - District 05 could lead off by giving a “workshop on workshops” to give tools groups need to make successful workshops. This would have to happen by about May.
 - The Secretary will send out a list of topics for potential workshops from Shane.
 - Agreement that we don’t want to get caught in rut of old workshops.
 - ⚠ **GSRs & Committee Chairs:** Bring this back to your groups/committees to discuss the potential of doing a workshop, ideas for a workshop in general, etc. (See Appendix A, below the minutes.)
 - Should we have a workshop on workshops? Good majority interested in that.
 - Subcommittee formed: Shane will lead. Members: Ken P., Marybeth S., Katie B-B., Paul Mc., Matt A., and Brittany B.
- **Tradition and Concept Presentation**
 - John B. presented on Tradition 2 and Concept 2.
 - Read Tradition 2.
 - AA is a spiritual entity and should operate as such.
 - GSRs are an important voice to connect to AA as a whole and get group conscience.
 - Read Concept 2.
 - Gave a rundown of the concept from the *Service Manual* and the “12 Concepts for World Service Illustrated” pamphlet.
 - The spirit of the AA traditions should be kept and work gets done through delegation.

New Business

- **Area Assembly**
 - **GSRs:** Remember to be there. April 7, 8:30 AM, [Reiter Center, 1858 S Michigan ST, Three Lakes, WI 54562](#)
- **April Presentation**
 - Jacki B. will present on Tradition 3 and Concept 3.
- **April Discussion**
 - Workshop subcommittee will report back and we will discuss recommendations.

Open Sharing

- Myron M.: Not getting the newsletter? You can email thedistrictview@gmail.com to get on list.
 - **Committee Chairs:** Invited to contribute to the “Service View” section of the newsletter. A few paragraphs about their committee would be helpful to grow interest.
 - “Member’s View” section of the newsletter: Submissions are welcomed.
 - ⚠ **GSRs:** Bring back to your group to see if members want to make any submissions.

Closing

- Responsibility Statement

Next Meeting: April 11, 2018.

- Normally scheduled reports: Corrections, PI, CPC, Treatment, Special Accessibilities.

Appendix A

Workshops in District 05

Background

District 05 does not currently have any workshops planned for 2018, according to the online calendar. It is crucial that we carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic and hosting workshops is one way to do that.

Recommendation

District 05 groups will host a minimum of 3-6 workshops in 2018 at locations throughout the district. The first workshop would be hosted by the District 05 group and potentially could be a workshop on the “how to’s” for creating, organizing, and hosting a workshop. Essentially, this workshop would provide the tools that groups need to feel comfortable pulling a workshop together. This workshop would likely need to take place in May or June of 2018 if we want to achieve the minimum goal of 3-6 workshops yet this year in District 05.

Bring Back to Your Groups/Committees

At each group’s next group conscience meeting and next committee meeting, the GSRs and committee chairs will be responsible for asking two questions:

1. Is our group/committee interested in hosting a workshop in 2018?
2. If so, what topic is the group interested in?

The expectation would be that the GSRs and committee chairs would come to the April 11 District 05 meeting with their group and committee decisions.

The internet has a variety of suggested AA workshop topics which are attached and can be used as a resource for discussion.

Resources

- Suggested Workshop Format: https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-112_en.pdf
- Planning a Workshop: <http://www.utahaa.org/assembly/guidelines/Area%2069%20Workshop%20A%20Brief%20Guide%20to%20Planning%20a%20Workshop.pdf>
- Possible AA Workshops: http://www.ncintergroup.com/news/pdf/workshop_topics.pdf

Questions?

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