

DISTRICT 16 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Online Remote Meeting

July 15, 2020

ROLL CALL

Aimee A, Amy V, Beverly C, Chuck B, Clare R, Cynthia W, Jennifer A, Jo B, Kelly G, Kelly K, Kelly N, Ken J, Laurie B, Lea W, Lisa G, Michael M, Mollie O, Nick J, Nick N, Phil B, Robert H, Scott B, Terry C, Wayne T

Open meeting 7pm with the Serenity Prayer - Terry C

Reading of the Tradition of the month / Tradition Six - Kelly G

The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

Reading of the Concept of the month / Concept VII - Clare R

The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.

New GSR

Nick N - Crack of Dawn

Visitors - None

Assembly presentation - Aimee A / Chuck B

When is the next Area Assembly?

- *Sept 18-20.*
- *If State guidelines allow, it will be held in McMinnville, OR, and/or remotely*
- <https://medfordareaaa.org/event/7326/>

What, exactly, is an Area Assembly?

- *An Area Assembly is where the entire state of Oregon AA conducts its Quarterly Business.*
- *We hold four a year, in February, May, September and November.*

Who can attend the Area Assembly?

- *Anyone can attend, but only GSRs, DCMs, and Area Officers and Area Committee members can vote. Alts cannot, unless they have their principal's proxy to do so.*

What can someone expect to do at the Area Assembly?

- *Here is the typical schedule: Friday evening there is a GSR school, followed by Concepts Q and A. Saturdays are District reports followed by Committee work and breakout sessions.*
- *There is a Featured speaker at dinner, and usually a fun social event.*
- *Sunday is the big gun. From 8am till noon there is the Area Business meeting. This is where you as a GSR vote your group's conscience on motions brought to the body.*

How much does it cost to attend an area assembly?

- *Nothing, but it's advisable to pre-register*
- *All info is on the Area 58 website*
- <https://medfordareaaa.org/event/7326/>

How can you connect with our District Members when I am at the Assembly?

- *You will see us (D16s) hanging out, usually at the same table, making noise and trouble. It's fun. You will also, with 2 or 3 assemblies under your belt, find that your AA tribe has grown ever larger, to encompass other districts. It will become your assembly family. That is my story.*

What do I do with the information after I attend the area Assembly?

- *You come back and give a GSR report to your group, usually in the business meeting, or during AA related announcements.*
- *You can also attend our District's Post Assembly Sharing Session*
- *The next one is September 30th 7pm - 9pm*
- *Each quarterly sessions follow the same format*
- *Every other year we vote on area motions*
- *Every other year we vote for new officers*

Okay, we hope to see you at

- *Our upcoming Area Assembly on September 18th, 19th and 20th*
- *Our local District 16 Post Assembly Sharing Session on Wednesday September 30th, from 7pm - 9pm right here in our remote conference room.*

We will be voting on the following motion

- **Motion:** *To approve the Area 58 FY 2021 Budget*
 - **Intent/Purpose:** *To approve the operating budget for the operation of the administrative and committee activities for the fiscal year 2021.*
 - **Current Practice:** *OR Area Business Meeting Minutes -June 7, 2020 – Rev 1 17 Submit budget in the 2nd quarter of the year prior and voted on in the 3rd quarter.*
 - **Budgetary Impact:** *Not Applicable*
 - **Submitted by:** *Area Finance Committee - Angela M, Finance Chair*
- *Not much was discussed at the Business Meeting about this motion except that it was clarified that a motion is not needed to resubmit the budget due to the fact that a few travel line items were to change because some motions passed at the assembly.... which adjusted the proposed budget.*
- *There might be new motions to be presented in September (they are added to the agenda..... but none were proposed at the June Assembly.....So stay tuned!*

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary - Nick N

Corrections to last month minutes

Comments:

- *Ken J - Pointed out a few corrections on June*
- *Nick N - Corrections have been made on the June Business Meeting Notes*
 - *Motion to Approve the March minutes - Clare*
 - *Second - Chuck B*

Treasury's Report - Robert H

- *Venmo shows member's names when individual contributions are made. For reporting purposes there will be a line item for "members contributions" instead of listing individual names.*
- *Contributions \$463.80*
- *Expenses \$246.00*
- *Income \$217.73*
- *Starting Balance \$4,370.94*
- *Ending Balance \$4588.00*
- *Prudent Reserve Minus - \$1,250.00*
- *Available Balance \$3,338.67*
 - *Motion to Approve Treasurer Report - Kelly K*

- Second - Amy V

Comments:

- Jennifer - Agreed to the idea of creating a line item for member donations

DCM - Terry C

What I am Learning ... In regards to Service Positions

I see these positions as having a lifeline.

1. A Beginning - where we begin developing our goals, our style and the tactics to become effective in our service position.

In normal times ...

There is a level of enthusiasm and excitement to be a part of carrying the message outside the rooms. We begin by signing up for our packets and stocking up on literature, researching on the AAWS website for resources, making lists of potential areas, websites or past chairs - in other words - people, places or things, that will help us reach our goals and the opportunity to network with others and to effectively carry the message of AA. We begin developing momentum.

In pandemic times ...

Right in the middle of our momentum -- Pandemic! Things grind to a halt! We think how can I fulfil my role of, insert <Service Position> here, being unable to really reach an audience! Maybe our enthusiasm begins to wane and our excitement squashed. What Now??? We had two choices - think outside the box or wait it out ...

2. A Middle - where we begin to implement systems that will help us reach our goals, developing tactics and processes and through trial and error determine the efficiency of our efforts.

This is where, I think, the majority of our team are in the lifeline.

In normal times ...

We are developing committees to share the workload and brainstorm. Maybe this is when we begin making those phone calls to professionals, schools, treatment facilities, jails. Momentum is keeping the enthusiasm and excitement alive and our efforts are strengthening our commitment and confidence.

In pandemic times ...

Here is where we have heard that many Districts have been stalled for so long now that it's just a waiting game for the Service commitment to be over. Enthusiasm has turned to disillusionment and excitement into uncertainty. Thankfully at District 16 we are still showing up for the meetings but maybe for some the thrill is gone ... that is definitely what we are hearing from other Districts ... What NOW??? What is the answer?

Gratefully, our District has not taken this pandemic lying down and have made the decision that we will still uphold the Primary Purpose of this Service Body - To Carry The Message To The Alcoholic Who Still Suffers. With the forward thinking and hard work of those around us, this team of technical rock stars have been "trudging" forth developing, creating and offering new processes for providing information and education to our AA community! A platform has been developed and utilized for several successful workshops, events and presentations. We will continue to utilize this platform for future workshops, events and presentations! Our team is being recognized throughout the Area as "doing great things" despite this pandemic setback. We have adapted and overcome fabulously! I am very proud of each and every one of our Service members that are putting in the hard work and reaping the benefits from each success!

And I believe we can do even more!

This is also the place where we have discovered that we are not utilizing a vital resource at our disposal - the GSR! GSR brings our District business to their groups - remember they "are the very foundation of our general service structure." (GSR pamphlet) - and that they are "the conduit" for getting their group information to the District - this means that they can be used to get your information to the groups. Then from the group members to the community and back again to you. This information can be used to create and implement your vision of carrying the message! Our GSR men and women are a vital but overlooked resource that we can utilize to help rebuild our vision of how we network and reach out to the community. It was suggested during our GSR Sharing Session that the GSR feel it would be helpful if Officers and Chairs would develop our reports with the GSR and groups in mind.

3. And End - where we begin thinking about recruitment and creating a foundation for the newcomer

In normal times ... and ... in pandemic times

This is where I plant the seed to begin thinking about what you wish to leave to the person who will rotate into your position. How was it for you when you rotated in? Did you wish you had some guideline or resource guide to help you navigate the new terrain? I know I did! So I'd like to suggest that it is not too early to begin thinking about what we hope to leave behind for the person coming into our positions.

This is the time when we can begin focusing on documenting what is going well, processes that changed and improved, and putting together a Digital Service Binder to pass down to your successor.

What to consider:

- Developing a legacy - what are 3 categories of your service position that you believe are relevant and important to hand down. These may also become part of our new guidelines and be included on our District website under your service position tab.*
- Recruiting - Develop a Committee, recruit like minded members to join you in developing strategies, make phone calls, brainstorm ideas.*

- *Join us in our upcoming District Service Chair Sharing Session and let's talk more about all of this!*

We have an amazing team of people gathered during this alignment of space and time! I hope to see us utilize all of our resources and energy into leaving behind a foundation of service that will go beyond what we are doing for our community but also to those that will come after us.

LDCM-A (Ashland, Phoenix, Talent) - Chuck B

Still getting around to the groups in my area. I am hosting meetings online and also some district event and committee obligations that keep me busy. Since the statewide re-opening has now become the re-closing, I am not changing my personal policy to attend digital-only meetings.

GSR - Kelly G / Ashland Tuesday Noon Timers Group

- *Our group will be mailing our contributions through the mail for the past 20 meetings*

GSR - Nick N / Crack of Dawn Group is currently meeting online Monday through Saturday at 7am.

- *Our attendance consistently averages between 30-50 members*
- *Our host signs on 30 minutes before the meeting and keeps the meeting after the meeting open 30 minutes afterwards for sharing and fellowship.*
- *In an effort to get more members involved in service*
 - *We have been training a number of people for the co host position. We now have a different co host for each day of the week with a member from Massachusetts as well as Mexico involved in this service position.*
 - *We are also considering creating a newcomer greeter committee where as six members will make themselves available to help new comers navigate AA*
- *We have also established a weekly steering committee meeting. The goal of the steering committee is to help consolidate the many matters at hand and to give greater simplicity to the workings and service commitments available through the online platform.*
- *We had ten members at the last steering committee meeting.*

LDCM-B (Medford) - Amy V

- *I will be trying to get members to help me coordinte "How to Hold a Business Meeting Workshop"*

GSR - Phil B / There is a Solution Monday night closed meeting

- *Currently 25-30 people on Monday Nights*
- *Consistent contributions coming in on Venmo*
- *Will be staying online for the time being*

GSR - Amiee A / Keeping it Simple Women's Group

- *End of May ... we thought our group was going to die*

- *Kept it alive on conference call line*
- *No longer have speakers we are reading the stories in the book*
- *Newcomers like reading the stories*
- *Hybrid meeting with phones in the park with six foot distancing*

GSR - Ken J / Hole in the Wall Group

- *On June 22 we had our business meeting*
- *A few positions rotated*
- *Question: When will we meet in person*
- *Discussion: July 6th will be meeting outside behind St Vincent De Paul ... stay tuned*
- *June 27 District Access Chair Mollie O, Events Chair Lea, Tech Chair Nick J and "The Dash Board Rockers" brought together a great workshop on Safety, Inclusivity and Diversity panel format followed by questions and answers. It was used, it was a heartfelt experience ... Thank you to ALL that coordinated*
- *July 6th had a remote parking lot meeting with 31 members in the lot and 15 members in the field*
- *Another Hybrid meeting is happening July 13th ... stay tuned*

GSR - Lisa G / No Name Group Friday night

- *We have been meeting on the lawn behind the church as a hybrid meeting*
- *Thanks to Jo B and Nick J for hybrid meeting set up*
- *At our business meeting we decided that we are not doing a good job around socially distancing - will do better*

LDCM-C - (Prospect, Butte Falls, Shady Cove, Gold Hill, Eagle Point, White City, Central Point, Jacksonville, Ruch, Applegate) - Rachel H (Not Present)

- *No report*

GSR - Jennifer A / Tuesday Night Women's Group

- *Currently not meeting*
- *Might reopen and start meeting outside in the parking lot*
- *FYI - The Ruch 903 is still meeting in the parking lot at the library*
- *Thank you to ALL GSR for being of service and doin what you are doing*

GSR - Clare R / Eagle Point Women's Meeting

- *Inside and outside hybrid meetings happening on premises meeting*

GSR - Beverly C / GSR Eagle Point Step Sisters

- *Attendance is about 5 - 7 women meeting live wearing masks*

7:30pm Appointed Committee Reports: *(Please keep reports to 3 minutes. When the timer goes off you will be thanked and we will move to the next report. The full report will go into the months minutes.)*

Access Committee (AC) - Mollie O

On June 27 the Access Committee helped sponsor a workshop on Safety, Inclusivity and Diversity on Zoom. Speakers included Madeleine, Gary, Gina, Zoraida and Alex, who all spoke of their challenges and solutions as diverse members of AA. It was a powerful workshop attended by about 90? Participants. As a result, we took away the following, and hope to provide materials and follow up to continue making AA accessible to everyone:

How do we make sure we welcome people - all people- into AA. Eliminate the “outsider/insider” mentality. People’s access to AA happens at the first meeting. How do we make sure we do that, and facilitate it even in remote meetings.

Sponsorship is such an important connection - help sponsors understand issues of Safety, Inclusivity and Diversity, and help sponsees deal honestly with those issues

How can we be “non-confrontational” AND get to the point about issues that hurt others or make them less safe, and get individuals, groups to deal with those issues. If there is interest, we will hold a “Part 2” workshop on how to get that going in groups

- *We still have lots of questions. The committee chair will send all the questions from the Ask it Basket to the panelists, ask them to answer them at their leisure, then put those answers, by category, on the web site. including how to address a non-gender conforming person, how do we learn about correct language.*
- *Other issues we still want to address are how to continue addressing accessibility issues in workshops, perhaps using “breakout rooms” to have smaller issue groups meet. (Issue might be facilitation. That was one piece of this workshop that was very successful.) How can we support Latinx women? Especially those who only speak Spanish. (Contact/outreach to doctor, counselor at La Clinica, other groups that might help us with outreach to Spanish speakers, especially Latinx women)*
- *Follow up workshops Leadership and holding members accountable*
- *Business meeting workshop: address access, group inventory, how to be inclusive.*

The next meeting will be July 20, 5 pm on Zoom. The meeting is open to anyone, and if you would like to attend, contact the Access Chair or the DCM for the Zoom address.

Archives - Jennifer A

- *Since my position is eight years ... during this pandemic I have decided to not doing archival duties*
- *Nothing new to report*

Cooperation with Correctional Facilities (CCF) - Women: Marci S (Not Present)

- *No report*

Cooperation with Correctional Facilities (CCF) - Men: Richard R

- *Still in a holding pattern and nothing new to report*
- *This is a copy of my correspondence with Sargent Davis at the Jackson county jail.*
 - *Thanks for checking in Richard. Yes, I think it's right to assume it will be some time before we let people into the facility in that capacity. We were having conversations about opening up in some capacity a couple of weeks ago. As COVID cases are on the rise and the Governor is becoming more restrictive, we have backed off from that. We remain very appreciative of your motivation to come into the facility and do outreach. We believe that community connection is an important part of people making a successful transition from jail back into the world. I'm Looking forward to a time when we can return to bringing meetings into the jail. Be well. Andy*

Cooperation with Treatment Facilities (CTF) - Jo B

- *Talk to Torsten with the men's Mason House at the ARC ... as soon as they allow people into the house we are looking for a secretary facilitator ... contact me if you are interested*
- *Anyone looking to do hybrid meetings get in touch with myself or Nick J*

Events - Lea W

- *The events committee has been super busy again this past month. We held a safety workshop in June. It was amazing. If you missed it you can listen to the recording on the district website.*
- *This month there is a District Service Sharing session on July 22 from 7pm to 9pm*
- *We will be having a Southern Oregon Speaker Meeting on August 22 with Jeff K from Studio City in Los Angeles ... flyers for this will be out soon.*
- *We are also working on how to hold a business meeting workshop to be held Saturday September 12 ... flyers for this will be out to soon*
- *If your interested in being apart of the Events Committee please contact me at events@medfordareaaa.org*

Grapevine - Gary M (not present)

Public Information/Cooperation w/the Professional Community (PI/CPC) - Kelly K

- *I contacted the Medford school superintendent Michele Moore and will follow up this month to drop off info for them to see if they want to put us in their curriculum.*
- *I sent information via Email to several TV stations about local AA and AA.org for PSA's.*
- *I have made many phone calls but need to go in person to hand out information and pamphlets and will be trying this month to do that where possible.*

- *I was able to get about 30 Grapevines into the Talent work center and will also go to some Radio Stations this month.*

Schedules - Wayne T

- *No report*
- *Nothing is being printed*
- *1,500 sitting around collecting dust*

Telephones - Robin P (not present)

Technology Committee - Nick J

- *I have been busy supporting the set up of a few hybrid meetings as it is important to maintain access to those with health issues that are unable to make a live meeting*
- *Please reach out if you need help in providing this service for your group*
- *Tech Committee still meeting bi-weekly please join us if you are interested in joining*
- *Next meeting Thursday July 24 at 4:30pm*
- *Website*
 - *Working on a virtual "Ask it Basket"*
 - *Implementing a search bar on the website*
 - *Not as many meeting changes happening*
 - *Three hybrid meetings currently happening*
 - *A few groups have closed there online meetings and are meeting live*

Central Office Liaison Report - Open

YPAA Liaison Report - Garrison M (not present)

Al-anon Liaison Report - Laurie B

- *The groups that are meeting virtually are discussing how and when to get back to in-person meetings. The groups I was in touch with seem to be split 50/50 about trying to meet outside in parks or larger venues where members can social distance, or to continue with Zoom or audio meetings.*
- *In my group, we are reaching out to the folks who did not want to meet by phone call, and inviting them to a coffee time after the meeting at a safe distancing place. We had two folks show up who had not been calling in to meetings.*

- *The list of Alanon meetings has been included with last month's report. Note that this is a more complete and updated list than the one that is listed on the Alanon website. <http://www.oregonal-anon.org/contacts.html>. It also lists newcomer contact info.*
- *I took the current Alanon meeting schedule to the Central Office along with some more brochures. I received a box of brochures and a few books from Reggie that I would be happy to share with Group Service Reps. of AA. Just email me or call me (541-482-0654) if you would like to receive some of this material in case you are in touch with someone interested, or maybe a family member who shows up at an AA meeting who you think would benefit from the Alanon Program. I can leave you some at the Central Office.*

8:00pm - Business Discussion

[Link to view Robert Rules of Order](#)

Old Business: *(none)*

New Business: *(none)*

8:25pm - District 16 Announcements:

Michael M - Assembly Planning Committee Chair

- *November Assembly will be virtual in 2020*
- *We have been asked to host for the November 2021 Assembly*
- *All voting members are in agreement to host the assembly in 2021*

Terry C

- *Moving forward GSR will give one minute reports*
- *GSR's will also be involved facilitating our traditions/concepts workshop each month*
- *Scott and Chrissy facilitating August traditions/concepts workshop*
- *Robert H and Phil B facilitating September traditions/concepts workshop*

8:30pm - Call to Adjourn - Close meeting with the AA Responsibility Statement

- *Motion to close the meeting - Robert*
- *Second - Wayne*

UPCOMING EVENTS - 2020

- 7/15 [Traditions / Concepts Class hosted by District 16 \(remote\)](#) from 6 - 6:50pm
- 7/15 [District 16 Monthly General Service Meeting \(remote\)](#) from 7pm - 8:30pm
- 7/22 District Service Chair Sharing Session (remote) from 7pm - 9pm
- 8/19 [Traditions / Concepts Class hosted by District 16 \(remote\)](#) from 6 - 6:50pm

- 8/19 [District 16 Monthly General Service Meeting \(remote\)](#) from 7pm - 8:30pm
- 8/22 SOSM hosted by Dog on the Roof (remote) from 7 - 9pm
- 9/12 How to Have a Business Meeting Discussion Panel (remote) 7pm - 8:30pm
- 9/18-20 [Oregon Area 58 Assembly \(McMinnville, OR\)](#)
- 9/30 GSR Post Assembly Sharing Session hosted by District 16 (remote) from 7pm - 9pm
- 11/20-22 Oregon Area 58 Service Assembly hosted by District 16 (Medford, OR @ Inn at the Commons, Medford)

2021

- 3/5-7 [PRAASA](#) - Burbank, CA