

DISTRICT 16 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Online Remote Meeting August 19, 2020

ROLL CALL *Beverly C, Chuck B, Demetrius A, Joe S, John, Kelly K, Ken J, Kristin A, Lea W, Lisa G, Mollie O, Nick J, Nick N, Penny H, Phil B, Robert H, Terry C, Wayne T*

Open meeting 7pm with the Serenity Prayer -
Terry C

Reading of the Tradition of the month / Tradition Eight - *Kelly K Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we may otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12th Step" work is never to be paid for.*

Reading of the Concept of the month / Concept VIII - *Wayne T The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of overall policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.*

New
GSR's

- *John - DOTR: ALT*
GSR

Visitor
s

- *Penny H - Oregon Area Chair: email*
chair@aa-oregon.org
- *Gabriel K - Oregon Area Alternate Chair: email*
chair-alt@aa-oregon.org
- *Joe S - Oregon Area CPC North: email*

cpc-n@aa-oregon.org

7:10pm - Presentation to District Body: Joe S CPC North “7th Tradition and Self Support”

The Seventh Tradition states: “Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

On average the current monthly numbers are as follows:

- *Average monthly cost to run AAWS*
\$1,400,000
- *Average monthly contributions*
\$670,000

**April
2020**

- *Contributions*
\$540,000

**May
2020**

- *Contributions*
\$839,000

**June
2020**

- *Contributions*
\$898,000

**July
2020**

- *Contributions*
\$1,100,000

What does it take to be fully self-supporting? At General Service office:

- **Contributions needed groups and members:**

- \$8.06 per member, per year
- \$176.55 per group, per year

- **Actual contributions from groups and members:**

- \$6.41 per member, per year
- Oregon Area \$6.07 per member, per year
- Actual contributions \$132.52 per group, per year
- Currently only about 43.7% of A.A. groups and A.A. members contribute to G.S.O.

So let's put these numbers into prospective:

- *If each member contributed \$8.06 per year directly to GSO or if each group would contribute \$176.55, our literature would be sold AT COST- making our message more readily available and enabling us to fulfill our primary purpose.*

How about Oregon Area:

- *Services at Oregon Area for 2020 cost \$99,410 . Oregon Area has 795 actively contributing groups which equals \$125.04 per group to fully self-supporting!*

So what makes up the shortfall?

- *Our literature sales make up the shortfall of the lack on contribution by groups and members at GSO. Nearly \$3.5 Million each year in profits closes the gap since we are not self supporting.*

Why is this dangerous?

- *A.A.W.S. is selling fewer books, as is everyone in publishing, and Literature Sales accounts for approximately 56% of our income.*

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- *Also A.A. no longer owns the copyright to our Big book of Alcoholics Anonymous. The danger here is that the profits of our literature fund our programs services. As that gap between contributions and service cost widens we must increase the prices of our literature. Hazelden is the largest non-alcoholic purchaser of our Big Book and the largest publisher of Recovery Literature. As the price goes up for Big books the fear is that they may one day print the books themselves because we don't have the copyright. They are a business and saving 2-3 dollars per big book adds to their bottom line.*

What can we do to help?

1. Inform our groups of the problem, make them aware of the problem and let them know what it takes for the group

and each individual to be self supporting. 2. We can be conscious of our spending at our home group to assure that money can be available for contributions to our district, area, and general service offices. Are buying cakes, paying for parties or picnics out of the 7th tradition, this takes away from contributions. 3. Make sure we have a way for our groups to accept digital contributions. 4. We can suggest to our groups to pass a separate envelop 1 meeting a month for direct contributions to GSO. 5. As individuals we can make personal donations to GSO at aa.org or just by simply mailing a check. \$1 per year

sober or \$5 per year sober anything will help. 6. Make sure our group has a distribution plan with left over contributions. Distribution Plan of (YOUR GROUP

NAME) Your Group Service # (Be sure to write group name and service # on all contributions.)

OFFICER REPORTS Secretary

- Nick N Corrections to last month minutes

Comments: *Ken J had a few corrections from our July Business Meeting notes. The corrections have*

been made and the corrected July minutes will be attached to the August Business Meeting group email.

Motion to Approve Minutes -

Chuck B Second - Wayne T

Treasury's Report -

Robert H

- *Contributions*
\$911.00
- *Expenses*
\$242.00
- *Income*
\$668.51
- *Starting Balance*
\$5,257.18
- *Prudent Reserve Minus*
\$1,250.00
- *Ending Balance*
\$4,007.18

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Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report - Kelly K Second

- Nick J Comments: Terry C - Asked if we should distribute some of the contributions Robert H - nothing in the guidelines to distribute any funds

DCM - Terry C

- *Our Access and Events Chairs along with the Workshop, Events, Presentations, Panel Development Committees are at it again! We have invited the DCM's from Districts 3 and 7 to become part of the development and creation team and we are pretty hopeful that this next discussion panel will address some of the serious issues that seem to be creating division not just in our District but within and around our neighboring communities. More about this will be reported on later. More information will be shared by our Access and Events Chairs reports.*

- *I want to take this opportunity to thank those of you who came to support our neighboring Districts and Area Delegate. Thank you for your investment in your Service Position and for your attendance at the Post Conference Presentation on the 15th.*

Here are some of the highlights - Financials

- *7th Tradition of Self-Support – \$8.86 million set another record, up 5.71% from 2018*
- *Online contributions in 2019 totalled just over \$1 million for the first time in 10 years*
- *AAWS publishing profits – \$9,36 million down 1% from 2018, which was used to cover shortfall between 7th Tradition and Cost of Services, resulting in net GSO loss of \$379,665*
- *Grapevine subscription levels decreased 2% in 2019. 2019 results were a loss of \$44,461 thousand*
- *Reserve Fund – \$16.2 million which means if GSO doesn't receive any more contribution GSO could operate for 9.2 months*
- *28,180 Groups made \$6.9 million of 7th Tradition contributions*
 - *Represents 40.6% of total groups*
 - *\$245.715 average group contribution*
- *Note: Speaking of contributions ... Did you know that the \$1 in 1935 equates to \$18.34 today? So even though a lot of us have upped our contributions we are still way below what it cost to operate our business by todays standards. The More You Know ...*

September Assembly

- *Upcoming Voting Positions*
 - *Trustee at Large*
 - *Treasurer and Alt Treasurer*
 - *Secretary*
 - *Registrar*
- *Attendance is vital for GSR specifically and all District Service Chairs and Officers in general.*

- *All GSR have voting rights*
- *District Chairs and Officers do not*
- *Excellent opportunity to see the Legacies in action*

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.*
- *I am working background duty on all of the district events.*

GSR - Nick N / Crack of Dawn Group in

Ashland

- *We have a steering committee that meets on a regular basis*
- *Working on updated online meeting script to provide an opportunity for any newcomers before the meeting gets started to share*

LDCM-B (Medford) - Amy V (not

present)

- *No report*

GSR - Phil B / There is a Solution Monday night 6:30pm closed meeting

- *Please attend remote online*

**GSR - Ken J / Hole in the Wall
Group**

- Cease hybrid meetings
- We are only online Monday nights at 7pm

**GSR - Mollie LBGT Living Sober Group Sat 10 Wed
6pm**

- Meeting online and going well

**GSR - Lisa G / No Name Group Friday
night**

- Still having hybrid meeting
- Consistent zoom as well as live socially distancing masks etc
- Venmo info much appreciated and I will be sharing it with our group

**GSR - Demetrius
A**

- Our live meeting has disbanded

**GSR - John Alt
DOTR**

- Going well 50-70 members each week
- Hosting Saturday SOSM please

attend

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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 - *Beverly C / GSR Eagle Point Step Sisters*
Monday night

- *In person going well*

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

- *One of the best experiences I have had during this shut down has been to work with other offices and committee chairs to do what we can to make sure the hand of AA is always there. When I first started as the Access Chair I had no idea what to do. I contacted the Area chair, who gave me some great ideas, so I got started but I was really by myself. This is not an area that stimulates a lot of interest. Then Covid hit, and some of the officers and chairs were concerned about how we continued, and asked me to join them. What an amazing group. Our skills are different, our interests are different, and we all care about AA, so we began to work together to figure out the issues and the solutions. The glaring issue is that we do not gather, we do not see each other, and informal meetings are not really possible, more so for some than others. In addition to the online meetings, periodic workshops and speaker meetings have become our "go to" option for encouraging us all to get together, to talk about and think about the program. To that end, we are going to offer, in the month of October, a series of workshops on using the 12 Traditions to cope with the ongoing issues the Pandemic raises. More information will be coming, so reserve your Saturday nights, starting September 26th - Oct 17th 7pm, to 8:30pm. There will not be refreshments (sorry), but there will be speakers and an opportunity to ask questions and stay around for chatting.*

- *A lot of us are getting weary of isolation, not being able to meet in person, no hugging, and all the other issues we all are facing. If you need a little "jolt", join us on one of the committees. Talk to Terry about your interests and needs and figure out where you can do what you want to do.*

- *Finally, are you aware that lack of access to a non-gender bathroom can be a barrier for a trans person who wants to attend a meeting? Or that a lack of a ramp or handicap bathroom can be a barrier for a person with mobility issues? We want to identify all the meeting locations that are barrier free and include that on the meeting page. I have attached [here](#) a link to a very short questionnaire about your meeting space, and I will email it to all of the GSR's as well. Please fill it out for your meeting space so we can share that information when we all can get back together again.*

Archives - Jennifer A (not present)

- *No report*

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Cooperation with Correctional Facilities (CCF) - Women: Marci S (not present)

- *No report*

Cooperation with Correctional Facilities (CCF) - Men: Richard R (not present)

- *No report*

Cooperation with Treatment Facilities (CTF) - Jo B

- *The Women's ARC, Reddy House, still has its weekly AA meeting going. Any woman who is willing to share their experience, strength and hope with the ladies on Wednesday's at 1:15 pm via Zoom, please contact me.*
- *The Men's ARC, Mason House, meetings are also still going with the assistance of Torstein. Once the Covid Restrictions are lifted so people may come into the homes, he would like to step down from being the Chairperson of that meeting.*
- *I have not been able to reach anyone at On Track or the VA to see how we can be of assistance.*
- *Thank you to those who have donated Big Books and Living Sober books for both the ARC patients and Jail. It is deeply appreciated.*

Events - Lea

W

- *The events committee has been super busy again this past month. We are working on a three part series of workshops on “How to Navigate a Global Pandemic Using the Twelve Traditions.” Stay tuned for details*
- *We will be having a Southern Oregon Speaker Meeting on August 22 with speaker Jeff K from Studio City in Los Angeles ... flyers for this will be out soon.*
- *If your interested in being apart of the Events Committee please contact me at events@medfordareaaa.org*

Grapevine - Gary M (not present)

- *No report **Public Information/Cooperation w/the***

Professional Community (PI/CPC) - Kelly K

- *Radio Stations are in the process of getting the psa's to put in their rotation, thank you Jodie Z for all your help on this. Also meeting tomorrow with RCC Nursing Coordinator talk about students getting information about AA and also attending meetings later in the fall, will ty to see about doing a panel zoom meeting with a few students at a time to have Q&A, more on that next month.*
- *Again if GSRs would mention in their meetings for anyone interested in helping get information out please contact me.*

Comments: *Joe S - Monthly meeting and Steve CPC South has been attending. We are working on a project to contact 250 assisted living facilities ... please stay tuned for more information.*

Schedules -

Wayne T

- *Nothing is being printed*
- *1,500 sitting around collecting dust*

Telephones - Robin P (not present)

- *No report*

Technology Committee - Nick J

- *Updated website with a beautiful banner of Table Rock*
- *New contributions page similar to Oregon Area 58*
- *Added upcoming events now accesible on the home page*
- *Tech Committee still meeting bi-weekly please join us if you are interested in joining*
- *Next meeting Thursday August 20 at 4:30pm*

Central Office Liaison Report - Open

YPAA Liaison Report - Garrison M (not present)

AI-anon Liaison Report - Laurie B (not present)

- *No report*

8:00pm - Business Discussion

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

Old Business:

(none)

New

Business:

- *Website presentation on updates and revisions -
Nick J*
 - *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*
 - *Adding a QR code for Venmo*
 - *Eventually adding PayPal*

- *A discussion on sending a one time contribution to GSO*
 - *Robert H - suggested a motion be presented as to whether or not we should make a one time contribution*
 - *Nick N - what is the amount over our prudent reserve*
 - *Robert H - our available balance is \$4,000*

 - *Penny H - referred us to the Seventh Tradition AA Flyer - "Where Money and Spirituality Mix"*

 - *Nick N - suggested the guidelines are adjusted to reflect a plan of distribution for situations like this*
 - *Wayne T - fifteen years ago we had the same situation and suggested the guidelines should be updated*
 - *Mollie O - we are talking about two different things (1)GSO is in financial trouble (2)changing District*
 - *16 guidelines*
 - *Kelly K - our trusted servants present should be able to make a group decision for a one time contribution*
 - *Terry C - I agree that the guidelines should be updated*
 - *Robert H - suggested someone make a motion to distribute a one time amount to GSO as well as updating*
the
guidelines

 - *Nick J - made two motions (1)to distribute a one time amount and ((2)updating the treasurer's guidelines*

 - *Jo B - seconded both motions*
 - *Terry C - is this administrative or urgent*
 - *Penny H - you should not have two motions going at once and perhaps take the motions back to your*

groups ○ Terry C - all in favor to approve the first motion to make a one time donation

- Motion passed

- Anyone opposed

- Chuck B abstained but agrees it should go back to the group ○ Ken J - opposed - the money contributed to district came from the groups so what happens to the money

should then be decided by the groups ○ Terry C - since there is no more discussion and having heard the minority opinion - is there anyone in the

minority opinion that would like to change their vote? ○ Beverly - is it possible to modify the motion ? ○ Penny H - should be opened back up for discussion ○ Joe S - actually you need to now vote to revote ○ Terry C - all in favor to vote to revote

- Motion to revote passed ○ Terry C - now we have discussion ○ Phil B - suggested we table this as it is not a crisis ○ John - I am all in favor for the one time contribution but we should inform our group for approval ○ Nick J - I am willing to table this until next month ○ Nick N - I think the motion should be tabled and we should also have an amount ○ Terry C - a vote to table the motion

- All approved to table the motion

- Wayne T - consider putting a QR code on the screen for the SOSM

8:25pm - District 16

Announcements:

- [Post Conference Presentation Slideshow](#) - Area 58 Delegate
Jim F

- [Digital Basket Presentation Slideshow](#) - Area 58 CPC-N
Joe S
- [Quick Reference Guide 70th General Service Conference Guide](#)
- [Common Grounds Newsletter Area 58](#)

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

- *Motion to close the meeting* - Mollie
O
- *Second* - Wayne
T

UPCOMING EVENTS - 2020

8/19 [Traditions / Concepts Class hosted by District 16](#) (remote) from 6pm - 6:50pm

8/19 [District 16 Monthly General Service Meeting](#) (remote) from 7pm - 8:30pm

8/22 [SOSM Speaker Jeff K from Studio City CA](#) Hosted by DOTR (remote) 7pm - 8:30pm

9/16 [Traditions / Concepts Class hosted by District 16](#) (remote) from 6pm - 6:50pm

9/16 [District 16 Monthly General Service Meeting](#) (remote) from 7pm - 8:30pm

9/18-20 [Oregon Area 58 Assembly hosted by Area 58](#) (remote)

9/26 - 10/17 [Access and Events Workshop details](#)
TBD

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 Area 58
(remote)

**UPCOMING EVENTS -
2021**

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