

DISTRICT 16 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Online Remote Meeting

January 20, 2021

ROLL CALL

Aimee A, Amy V, Becky D, Beverly C, Clare R, Cynthia W, David, Debbie B, Demetrius D, Jennifer A, Ken J, Kristin A, Lisa G, Michael M, Nick N, Phil B, Richard R, Sarah P, Wayne T

Open meeting 7pm with the Serenity Prayer - Terry C

Reading of the Tradition of the month / Tradition One - Beverly C

Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.

Reading of the Concept of the month / Concept I - Jennifer A

Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

New GSR

- *Becky - Keeping it Simple*

Visitors

- *David - Al Anon*

7:10pm - Presentation to District Body - Nick N Area 58 CPC South Chair

P.I. and C.P.C. Committees work closely together and are responsible for informing the public and educating professionals about Alcoholics Anonymous and alcoholism. P. I. and C.P.C. work is the original 12th Step work carrying the message to the suffering alcoholic who does not yet know about A.A. When the average person, and professionals (doctors, judges, social workers), do not know about A.A. or what it does, they cannot help the suffering alcoholics they come in contact with. These are lost opportunities to save lives.

Public Information Committee

The Public Information Committee members in Alcoholics Anonymous have the responsibility of carrying the message of recovery from alcoholism to the still suffering alcoholic by informing the general public, getting in touch with the media, schools, industry, and other organizations, and relaying the nature and purpose of A.A. and what it can do for alcoholics. They share about the A.A. program by providing resources such as literature, discussion, and educational materials. We also can provide Personal Service Announcements to radio and television stations. Members of the P.I. Committees are available to provide A.A. information and make presentations about the A.A. program upon request.

Imagine someone wanting help but they don't know who to call. Imagine someone helping a friend get sober but not knowing where to turn for information. Now imagine all the people who are in recovery today because they did have a phone number, or a pamphlet with the right piece of information that helped them find their way into recovery. That's what PI does, and that's how we can help.

Together we can take action in our responsibility statement: When anyone anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that... I AM RESPONSIBLE.

When a newcomer enters a meeting for the first time, or if a visitor is attending a meeting wanting information and someone hands them a meeting schedule ... that is public information work. We all have the same responsibility to carry the message so in essence we are all doing PI work!

Some examples of PI work include:

Placing literature racks in high schools, libraries, laundromats, police stations, hospitals and maintaining them regularly with current literature and meeting schedules.

Ensuring every public library has at least one Big Book, 12 & 12, or Living Sober book. Contacting local schools, nursing homes and churches and offering to provide literature or make presentations. Responding to speaking requests for non AA meetings within the area and perhaps Placing Public Service Announcements with local radio and television stations.

Cooperation with the Professional Community

The CPC committee provides information about A.A. to those who have contact with alcoholics through their profession, including health care professionals, educators, members of the clergy, lawyers, social workers, union leaders, and industrial managers, as well as those working in the field of alcoholism. Information is provided about where we are, what we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do.

Many professionals consider A.A. to be a valuable resource for alcoholics who want help. When there is a good working relationship between A.A. members in the community and paid alcoholism workers, the sick alcoholic is the winner—he or she gets the help needed from both.

We are not in competition with these non-A.A.s; we have our separate functions. A.A. is not in the business of education, research, medicine, counseling, treatment facilities, prevention, or funding. We simply have a message to carry about a program of recovery for alcoholics—a program that works for hundreds of thousands who want it.

In District 16 the PI/CPC chair is a combined effort.

SAMPLE PRESENTATION

Thank you for asking us to present this information on how Alcoholics Anonymous has helped thousands of Alcoholics to recover from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body and provide the tools to live sober.

My name is _____ and this is _____. I will be providing information about AA and _____ will be sharing his experience before and after he found Alcoholics Anonymous.

We are not spokespersons for Alcoholics Anonymous, merely sober members of AA here to present information about what AA is and what AA isn't. Nor do we suggest someone present might be alcoholic, but that the information presented may prove helpful to someone that they know is struggling with drinking. Along with our presentation we have brought a copy of our textbook, which we refer to as "The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous" along with AA approved literature and pamphlets for newcomers and additional information for the professional community here in this meeting.

We are also here to answer any questions you may have after the presentation.

We represent a service branch of AA called Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community, or PI/CPC. We are not professional speakers and do not receive any compensation for our service work. We do this as part of our recovery. We are here to give information not to judge anyone or say anyone is an alcoholic.

The only person that can say they're an alcoholic is the person themselves. At some time in your life you will most likely cross paths with an alcoholic. An alcoholic is someone who has lost the ability to control their drinking. In our textbook, "Alcoholics Anonymous" it is stated that we have a disease that is progressive and at some point we develop what can be described as an allergy to alcohol. We abstain from drinking any alcohol and do not use any mind altering substances unless prescribed by a doctor.

We stay sober by regularly attending meetings, doing service work like we are doing here today and by doing the 12 steps with a sponsor. A sponsor is someone who has done the 12 steps and guides someone else through them. Alcoholics Anonymous was started in 1934 when a New York stockbroker named Bill Wilson met up with a doctor, Bob Smith in Akron Ohio. Bill had been sober for six months and on a business trip realized he needed to talk to another alcoholic to stay sober himself and met Dr. Bob. From those men there are now more than 2 million people all over the world that are sober.

AA was founded over 80 years ago with over 40 million copies of the book Alcoholics Anonymous published and translated in 70 languages, including Navajo ... and believe it or not there are meetings here in Southern Oregon that have been meeting for 50 years and still going strong.

At this point we read the Preamble and describe what a meeting is like and the different types of meetings as well as inclusivity, diversity, anonymity and how each group is autonomous. We also discuss young people, Alanon and Alateen information. We share information on the God word and say something like this ...

Once again, the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking and there are no dues or fees for membership. AA is not religious, it is a spiritual program based upon each person's own conception of God. We do use the word God in our textbook as a reference but the word God in theory does not need to be used as most people call it a higher power, or the spirit of the universe or creator or anything that they want.

Introduce the speaker ...

The speaker does not share a drunk a log ... but more about their experience before and after recovery
PI/CPC - Presentation for speaking to a group of professionals or non alcoholics

https://youtu.be/JvKp_LADXQ8

CPC South Chair: Nick N.

Email: cpc-s@aa-oregon.org

Cell: (541) 591-2638

7:30pm - Elected 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.)*

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary - *Nick N*

Corrections to last month minutes - *Ken J had a few Nick corrected them and will be resending out revised minutes*

Motion to Approve Minutes - *Cynthia W*

Second - *Beverly*

Treasury's Report - *Kristin A*

- *Ending Balance* *\$2,047.00*
- *Income* *\$160.00*
- *Expenses* *\$457.79*
- *Prudent Reserve* *\$1,250.00*
- *Available Balance* *\$1,140.01*

Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report - *Ken J*

Second - *Becky*

COMMENTS

- *Kristin Talked about travel expenses and a procedure for submitting receipts. Put forth a proposal and method to submit receipts for future travel expenses*

- *Jennifer requested paper copies for archives*

DCM - Terry C

Hello District 16 Service Team!

The Regional Forum was so eye opening and inspiring! There is so much going on in AA, as a whole -- a common desire to apply 21st Century solutions to these current realities. Below I have summarized some of What I heard, What I saw and What I felt. My hope is that it will inspire you as well to delve into what experience has already been hammered out to where you can share that experience or find new ways to contribute.

Madeleine cautioned us to remember that "we are the caretakers of this time" in our program and to watch for "rigidity in our thinking". To welcome the big lessons of Recovery, Unity and Service that will come our way during this time. This can be a time to create, develop and provide our groups and meetings with new processes and new solutions to seemingly hopeless barriers. Or we can stay stuck in the old ways and wait it out ... However, on the existing Anvil of our founders' experience, new opportunities are being made available to us to hammer out a new structure for our Society. I hope you will choose to pick up a hammer!

Tradition One, in the 12+12 pg 131, provides us with relevant similarities and reveals our obligations:

"... [A]t the outset, how best to live and work together as groups became the prime question. In the world about us we saw personalities destroying whole peoples. The struggle for wealth, power and prestige was tearing humanity apart as never before. If strong people were stalemated in the search for peace and harmony, what was to become of our erratic band of alcoholics? As we had once struggled and prayed for individual recovery, just so earnestly did we commence to quest for the principles through which AA itself might survive. On Anvils of experience, the structure of our Society has hammered out.

Bill W writes in his 1965 conference talk: (excerpt from Our Great Responsibility pg 84)

Finally, let's reflect together upon the high spiritual content of this all-important plan. As we know, all AA progress can be reckoned in terms of just two words: humility and responsibility. Our whole spiritual development can be accurately measured by our degree of adherence to these magnificent standards. Ever-deepening humility, accompanied by an ever-greater willingness to accept and to act upon clear-cut obligations -- these are truly our touchstones for all growth in the life of the Spirit. They hold up to us the very essence of right being and right doing. It is by them that we are enabled to find and to do God's will.

The Forum gave me a shot in the arm to my focus on the Primary Purpose. There was mention of a [Digital Newcomer packet - New to AA? <<click here>](#), so I set out to recreate one and you will find it attached or by using the link.

There was also mention of [OIAA](#). Did you know that this platform of AA meetings has been around for 3 decades? We are just now catching up! Even George Jetson ZOOMED!!!

More from the "Did you know" file:

- that GSO services over 60,000 groups? And over 2 million members? The expenses are paid through our contributions and by sales of our literature. Please make sure that if you are not buying your literature directly from [aa.org](#) that you are purchasing it from our local Central Office.
- And that the employees in the General Service Office receive over 90,000 emails and letters a year? This gives me a greater understanding of Concept 11!
- that you can request to purchase, from [aagrapevine.org](#), a Grapevine / La Vina birthday edition of the magazine for the month and year of your sobriety anniversary? Or your sponsors or sponsees? Well you can!
- And that currently there is a special Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous: An Archival Journey book that is on sale now. Available for pre-order at a special early bird discount of \$1 off the list price of \$12: December 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021!

I hope you find this useful information and please share with your groups the Digital Newcomer Packet! And remember Madeleine's words ... **"we are the caretakers of this time in our program"**

Thank you for your time and service to our program! If you didn't get all the information down ... it will be in the minutes that Nick promptly sends out each month.

LDCM-A (Ashland, Phoenix, Talent) - (open)

- No report

GSR - Nick N / Crack of Dawn Monday through Saturday 7am

- Online and very healthy - please join us

LDCM-B - (Medford) - Amy V

- Reminder every other month starting this month GSR school prior to the business meeting.

GSR - Ken J / Hole in the Wall

- Online only

- *Arch Angels and Men's Recovery Center have been joining*

GSR - Demetrius / Holly Street Noontimers

- *Trying to get meeting started back up*
- *Thursday please join us*

GSR - Phil B / There is a Solution

- *Online only*
- *Well attended 30-35 members each Monday*

GSR - Becky / Keeping it simple

- *Still hybrid meeting (teleconference)*
- *Always have newcomers*

LDCM-C - (Prospect, Butte Falls, Shady Cove, Gold Hill, Eagle Point, White City, Central Point, Jacksonville, Ruch, Applegate) - Open

- *No report*

GSR - Clare R / Eagle Point Thursday Night Women's Group Senior Center 6pm

- *Online only*
- *12 members*

GSR - Beverly C / GSR Eagle Point Step Sisters live Monday Night 6pm

- *Online only*
- *Wonderful meetings please join*

GSR - Jennifer / Monday and Saturday night book study / Campfire

- *Meeting Live*
- *Meeting info is on our D16 website*

GSR - Sarah / No Name Group Friday Night in Central Point

- *Back online*
- *When restrictions lift we would like to be hybrid again*
- *Meeting has diminished since we went back online*
- *14-20 members*

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 (Not Present)

- *No report*

Archives - Jennifer A

- *In the process of printing and filing*

- *Please forward your business meeting notes*
- *We have the Big Book printed in Braille and available*

Assembly Committee - Michael M

Hi District 16!

The Nov 2021 Assembly Host Committee is off and running. We met last week, and welcomed Jodie Z as a fundraising char, (YIPPIE!!). We'll be reaching out to the District and groups with some fundraising events and opportunities in the next few months.

After the committee met last week, we did receive word from our venue, Inn At The Commons, in downtown Medford. Now, please don't panic, but the owners, The Newman Group, are selling this property and it is no longer available for us to rent in November '21. They did offer to transition our existing reservation to one of their 3 Ashland properties. I imagined that they may offer us their fancy Ashland Springs location and cracked-up at the thought of 300+ sober alcoholics in downtown Ashland at a swanky hotel. If that were to happen, I'd have to recommend we change our logo to folks in jackets of tan, and our theme to "We have arrived!". lol

Alas, and thankfully, it sounds like we may be able to use the Ashland Hills Inn and Suites location, at the south end of Ashland. This is a venue we had used years ago, and I hope to make this offered transition, but am seeking feedback from the committee and the Area, and confirming contract details.

I'll have more to report next month, but want to bear witness to my experience with this committee which confirms our Theme from the 12x12, pg 152, "... we could do together what we could not do separately." What a brilliant Theme folks.

Thank you for your support, and this opportunity to serve.

Michel M.

Cooperation with Correctional Facilities (CCF) - Women: Aimee A

- *Debrief meeting with Marci - Thank you Marci for five years of service*
- *Hope to bring meetings back to county jail soon*
- *They are all in complete isolation*
- *Video conferencing for AA meetings is no longer an option*
- *Teleconference meetings might be an option*
- *Have plenty of literature*

- *Helping to contribute to the bridging the gap program*
- *I attended the Area 58 monthly meeting for corrections it was super informative*
- *Coffee Creek adult womens holding teleconference meetings*
- *Oak Creek also holding teleconference meetings*
- *Contact me if you wanted to get involved cfw@medfordareaaa.org*

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

- *Sign up individuals to be contacts do not need application info on Area 58 website*
- *No physical meetings yet*
- *All applications have expired so will need to update once we start bringing meetings in*
- *My position is available*

Cooperation with Treatment Facilities (CTF) - Jo B (Not Present)

Events - Lea W (Not Present)

- *No report*

SOSM Sub Committee Cynthia W

- *Cynthia said she met with Lea and currently working on the events calendar for 2021*

Grapevine - (Open)

- *No report*

Public Information/Cooperation w/the Professional Community (PI/CPC) - Kelly K (Not Present)

- *No report*

Schedules - Wayne T

- *Nothing is being printed*
- *Most up to date info posted on the website*

Telephones - Robin P (Not Present)

- *9 calls*
- *1 - 12 step calls were dispatched by volunteers*

Technology Committee - Nick J

- *We have a few agenda items and misc tasks on the website to update*
- *Met in January to update website*
- *Renamed a few pages*
- *Combining a few pages*
- *Added contact us form*
- *Ask It Basket page in the works*
- *Website speed has improved with updates*

- *Stats on our website use*
 - *Remote meetings page in 28 days 6,180 views*
 - *Regular meetings page 600 views*
 - *Home page views 577*
 - *Events page 100 views*
 - *Meeting guide 1,200*
- *Nice to see our website being used*
- *Please join our technology committee once a month*
- *I encourage everyone to use the meeting update and change form on the website*

Central Office Liaison Report - Demetrius

- *The doors are open!*
- *Please start contributing to Central Office again*

YPAA Liaison Report - Garrison M (Not Present)

- *No report*

Al-anon Liaison Report - David

- *PI/CPC in Alanon is similar to AA*
- *Thank you for the presentation tonight*

8:00pm - Business Discussion - [Link to view Robert's Rules of Order](#)

Ongoing Old Business: Guideline Rewrite / Ken J

- *District 16 ad hoc committee report for January district meeting.*
- *Purpose: to revise guidelines to reflect any changes in current practices.*
- *This is one of the duties and responsibilities of the DCM.*
- *This committee is committed to take the time needed to thoroughly go through the District 16 guidelines.*
- *Currently have met January 5, 12th, 19th.*
- *Some tools being used are AA service manual, area 58 guidelines, current District 16 guidelines booklet, and committee experience.*

Planned New Business: Redistricting ad hoc committee / Wayne T

- *Redistricting Ad Hoc Committee Report - Discussions have concluded. It was unanimously decided that dividing District 16 into 4 Sub-Districts is needed, as well as, overdue. Two of the Ad Hoc Committee members are interested in stepping up and Standing for the newly divided areas. Making*

C sub-Districts into C and D and splitting our District into 4 Sub-Districts instead of 3 with one of them unwieldy and left unfilled for years.

- *Terry C - The Service Manual is pretty muddy on the process of Redistricting. I have spoken to my Service Sponsor, and Area Chair Penny, I've studied what the Service Manual is saying and concluded that the DCM has the authority to decide "to take care of expansion at the District Level" and only requires the body to vote on the two qualified persons standing for these Officer positions. The LDCM-D remains Open. This area includes: CP, WC, EP, SC, GH and beyond, as needed. Wayne T has his service resume ready to stand for the new LDCM-C position. Areas include: J'Ville, Applegate, Ruch, MFG, DOTR.*
- *[Map](#) for reference*

8:25pm - District 16 Announcements/What's happening next month:

- *[A Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous](#) Share with your groups! Offers ends Feb 14th*
- *Also go to the [Get Involved](#) tab on the Grapevine site and find a variety of ways to become part of the Grapevine community! Check out i-Poll, the 2020 Carry The Message Project and the Grapevine factoid sections, just to name a few of the interesting and informational things you'll find. These are just some of the small ways we can give back what has been so freely given!*
- *[PRAASA registration](#) is now open! This is such a fantastic opportunity to attend this amazing event since it will be virtual!! Register today! You won't want to miss this!*

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

Call to Adjourn - Amy V

Second - Wayne T

****UPCOMING EVENTS****

1/20/2021 [GSR Session](#) - 6pm - 6:55pm

1/20/2021 [District 16 General Service Business Meeting](#) - 7pm - 8:30pm

1/23/2021 [Area 58 Service Officers Orientation](#) - 9am - 5pm

1/27/2021 [7th Tradition in the Digital Age](#) Hosted by District 36 - 7pm - 8pm

1/30/2021 [Grapevine Mystery Theater Presents: Murder at the Area Office](#) - 7pm - 8:30pm

- 2/17/2021 [Traditions / Concepts Class](#) Hosted by District 16 - 6pm - 6:55pm
- 2/17/2021 [District 16 General Service Business Meeting](#) - 7pm - 8:30pm
- 3/5-7/2021 [PRAASA](#) - Registration Open Now - Hosted by Area 93 Central California
- 3/17/2021 [GSR Session](#) - 6pm - 6:55pm