



Meeting Minutes, March 11, 2014

Meeting called to order by ADCM at 7:15pm with the Serenity Prayer

Groups Represented: 15

Friday Night Teachables >>> Mon Night Winners Bellefonte >>> Mon Women's Step >>> Mon-Fri Attitude Adjustment >>> Sat Centre Hall Discussion >>> Sat Keep It Green >>> Saturday Gratitude >>> Thurs Night Big Book >>> Thurs Sober Sisters >>> Tues Bellefonte 12 Step >>> Tues/Thurs Philipsburg >>> Tuesday Young Hope >>> Wed It's OK to be AA >>> Wed Living In the Solution >>> Wed State College Step

Officer Reports:

Officer-at-Large (Amy H): not present at beginning of meeting, ADCM gave report:

Schedule for upcoming district meetings–

- > April 8th, St Andrews Episcopal Church, (Canterbury Hall), 208 W. Foster Ave., State College
- > May 13th, Mill Hall Presbyterian Church, 109 Main St., Mill Hall
- > June 10th TBA

Secretary (Vicki S):

- Copies of the updated district roster were distributed to the GSRs. The next update of the roster will be in July and printed for the August meeting.
- No corrections or amendments are requested for the February 11th, 2014 meeting minutes. Motion made to accept minutes as is and seconded, motion passes with 14 ayes, none opposed.

Treasurer (Jan B): not present, ADCM gave report:

See February contributions and expense report for full details.

- > Total contributions in December amounted to **\$453.56**
- > Total expenditures amounted to **\$581.51**
- > The C&I Literature fund has a balance of **\$55.27**
- > The available cash balance for all other expenditures is **\$1663.56**
- > Prudent Reserve is at **\$1200.00**
- > Projected expenses for March are **\$174.50** +
- A motion is made to accept the Treasurer's report and seconded, motion passes with 14 ayes, none opposed.

WebServant (Jenni L): (Contact the WebServant at info@district43.com)

- Jenni reports that emails and postings are up to date. GSRs should encourage group members to check website for new features and three new event listings.
- Jenni requests that groups send meeting description information to add to the websites new meeting description page.

ADCM (Wayne L):

- The ADCM focused on events related to the General Service Conference, **April 27th – May 4th, 2014** he distributed handouts and encouraged the GSRs to attend the following events:
 - April 13th, Pre Conference Sharing Session
 - May 10th, Delegate Conference Report/Mini Assembly I
 - June 1st, Delegate Conference Report/Mini Assembly II

- GSRs please read 2014 General Service Conference Committees Agenda Items
- It's that time again for Area 59 districts to each nominate a Guest Observer, one of which will be chosen to attend EPGSA, November 7-9, 2014. The deadline for nominations is June 8th. GSRs are asked to bring back their suggestions for the April district meeting.
- DCM (Lisa T): not present, ADCM gave report: See March DCM Report for full details.
- Wayne reported that the DCM had three objectives for the GSRs to consider.
- **Corrections Workshop**, GSRs received a flyer to take to their home groups and they are requested to do as much as they can to promote attendance.
- Read the General Service Conference **Agenda Items** and give feedback.
- Heads up! July 11th – 13th **PENNSCYPAA** in Scranton

Summaries:

- District 43 Corrections and Institutions Workshop March 22nd, Saturday, 2:00 to 4:00 pm at Pine Hall Lutheran Church, 1760 W. College Ave., State College.
- Volunteer help requested for the AA Dance (see flyer for phone contact), April 12th Saturday, – Potluck at 6pm, “Good Old-timer” Speaker at 7pm followed by a Dance at 8pm - Pleasant Gap United Methodist Church, 179 S. Main Street.
- Medallion Night, Friday April 11th, 8pm St Andrews Episcopal Church, (Canterbury Hall), 208 W. Foster Ave., State College - Mon-Fri Attitude Adjustment Group is hosting. Fellowship and cake!
- Friday Night Teachables, 8pm St Andrews, is looking for new home group members and people to fill service positions.

Actions: No Actions presented

Tradition 3 – The only requirement for membership is the **desire** to stop drinking.

Committee Reports:

Archives (Nancy B): Nancy not present, Vicki gave report

- Vicki distributed flyers showing how to access and submit group history information **online** at the Area 59 website. GSRs are reminded that their home groups should be made aware of the new features on the Area 59 website.
- A committee meeting will have to be scheduled for the 2nd quarter to decide on an action plan for the rest of this panel. As far as being organized, digitized, and in agreement about what we want to accomplish, we are doing fine. We will, at some point, need to have a discussion about making Archives more **visible** within the district, e.g., a display at district functions, a page on the website, possibly even take part in a workshop.

Corrections & Institutions (C&I): (chairperson position is open) ADCM gave report:

- A motion was made and seconded to reinstate Bill Q as C&I Chair. Motion passes with 15 ayes, none opposed. We welcome him back after his brief absence due to illness.
- Bill had a few things on his mind:
 - “We need new people.” (to do service in jails and institutions) We are struggling to serve the jail population. We have to do more to raise awareness in newcomers about service in jails and institutions.
 - We need to share our experience, strength and hope when we share with inmates. There are other meetings to share our problems and hardships.
 - Every facility has its own rules and they are subject to being changed from meeting to meeting. AAs need to understand that they have to be willing to accommodate the institutions.
- Bill reminded the GSRs that the handout AA D43: Prisons and Institutions Volunteer Opportunities lists all the current regulations for each facility. The WebServant pointed out that all the applications for jails and institutions are available on the website.
- Wes S gave an account of an incident that happened at his home group that he wanted some C&I feedback on. Someone who was recently incarcerated shared that they felt threatened and unsafe in the jail AA meeting. This individual wanted to convey the information in the hope of some

recourse.

- > Wes's question to Bill was "What, if anything, can district do about this?"
- > C&I responds that since we are just visitors at the institution we have no authority over what happens there but problems should be brought to the C&I committee and discussed. (At this point, we veered of into an informative discussion on prison experiences that various GSRs had encountered.) Bill said that, if warranted, a problem could be discussed with the Drug and Alcohol counselor at the institution.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) (Kevin K):

- The Hotline volunteer list has been completed and sent to the Community Help Centre. (72 volunteers)
- Kevin reports that all the dates for YOP have been filled. Upon being asked what feedback we get from YOP, Kevin replied that at the end of the semester, Lauren from the Community Help Centre sends him the results of a poll that she does on the kids responses to the meetings.

Public Information (PI) (Rodney C):

- Rodney has asked all committee members to check the locations they deliver literature to and says that a meeting will be forthcoming to assess locations and possible changes/additions to literature.

Structure (Wayne L): No Report

Visitation (Susan A): not present, ADCM and Dan W gave report:

- Susan A has stepped down as Visitation Chair. Until a new Chair is appointed, Dan W is willing to answer any questions about Visitations. GSRs are requested to make this service position known to their home groups. Visitation Chair responsibilities are listed in the District 43 Structure Manual on page 10.
- Dan reports that in January the visitation committee met its goal of visiting every group meeting in district 43 that does not have a GSR. They were all given materials and information to make informed decisions about becoming more involved with district service.
- A committee meeting needs to be held to create a plan of action to continue the visitation process.

Ad Hoc Literature (Susan A): not present, no report.

- There was a discussion about the role that the AD Hoc Literature Committee should play within district. The ADCM pointed out that Susan's original intent was to assess the interest, knowledge and accessibility of AA literature within the district. However, the prime interest of many GSRs is for the committee to act as a centralized ordering point in order to save money. The committee will need to have a discussion on how to best serve the district.

Concept 3 – To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of AA – the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees and executives – with a traditional "**Right of Decision**".

Old Business:

- **District 43 Phone List**

- At the February district meeting the ADCM reported that someone had asked for the return of the "district phone list" and it was requested that the GSRs get feedback from their homegroups on this topic.
- The discussion began with the question, "What exactly was the district phone list?" Bill Q explained that, in the past, at the beginning of the year a signup sheet went out to all the groups for members to give their names and numbers if they were willing to have other AAs contact them. These names and numbers were then compiled into a single directory which was copied, distributed and used by all the groups. At some point, this directory was ending up in places it shouldn't have been and names were being used for non AA purposes. District voted to discontinue it. The ADCM recalls being very vocal about his desire to "kill it off". Out of this came the "homegroup phone list" which is internal to the specific group that compiles it. The use

of smart phones and email also make it simpler for an individual AA to compile their own contact list.

- Simon F. commented, “It’s relatively easy for anyone to ‘network through the honeycomb’ to find info for people they want to contact.”
- Minnie R. commented that as a newcomer the big district phone list made her feel safe and secure and never alone.
- When the discussion came to a close, it was agreed to let this topic “die on the floor” and if anyone desired it could be resurrected as new business.

- **Use of Treasury Surplus**

- After having a month to think about the best way to ‘carry the message’ through use of our treasury surplus, the general opinion is that spending it down largely within our own district is the best use of the funds.
- Options for use of funds within district were discussed and it was determined that the district committees should take the opportunity to assess how they could better serve the AA community if they had more funds. The ADCM asks that the committees meet before the April district meeting and determine their goals and monetary needs for the rest of the year.

New Business: None

Adjournment:

Motion made and seconded to adjourn meeting, motion passes by majority vote.

Meeting adjourns at **9:10** pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

Minutes submitted by Vicki S, District Secretary

Documents (distributed at meeting and archived with minutes)

Agenda, Roll Call, Financials (summary, contributions, expenses), DCM Report, GSR Roster,

- How to access and submit Group History at Area 59 Website flyer,
- District 43 Corrections and Institutions Workshop flyer,
- AA Dance flyer,
- 18th Annual AA Archives Workshop registration form
- Breaking Down the Walls District 23,24 Workshop flyer
- Handouts for
- 2014 General Service Conference Agenda Items,
- April 13th Pre Conference Sharing Session,
- May 10th Delegate Conference Report/Mini Assembly I,
- June 1st Delegate Conference Report/Mini Assembly II,
- Submissions for D43 Archives from DCM
- History of the Pre-Conference Sharing Session
- History of Mini Assemblies
- History of the Guest Observer at EPGSA
- What your Area 59 Contribution Supports