



Date: 2/13/24 @ 6:45 p.m., St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Room 325

Open with Serenity Prayer at 6:52 pm

Welcome & Introductions

Darren - Living in the Solution (visiting)

Scott - GSR Friday Night Teachables

Vince - Milesburg Friday night

Kelli - ADCM

Jules - Treasurer

Jamie - GSR for Saturday night Centre Hall discussion

Mark - Alt GSR for Primary Purpose

Randy - GSR for Wednesday night candlelight

Brock - District Web Servant

Paul - GSR for Attitude Adjustment

Kristin - GSR for Gratitude

Daniel - GSR for Tuesday Night Young Hope

Alex - DCM

Officer Reports:

Officer-at-Large: Alex subbing for Todd

- Meeting next month, March 12th at 6:45 p.m., at St. Andrew's
 - (Probably Canterbury Hall)

Secretary:

- Approve January Minutes
- Paul motioned to approve; Jamie and Daniel seconded. Passed unanimously

Treasurer:

- Approve January Financials
- Started January 1st at \$3,042. Take out the prudent reserve, which is \$1200. So \$1842. Started out with \$1695. \$335 in contributions. Just spent money on Verizon bill, which was \$66.44. \$1963 available. Pink can had \$147. Collected \$466. Spent \$274 on Pink can, so we have \$339. So our bank balance for January 31st was \$3,503. Prison institution meeting is the last Sunday of the month. Already spent \$315, so current balance for pink can is \$24.
- I motioned to approve. Scott seconded.

Web Servant:

Brock gave the report. January meeting minutes are currently up right now.

ADCM:

- no report

DCM:

- GSC Agenda Items
 - Sent out a tentative rough draft at the beginning of the month. Good thing to bring to our home groups. Big issues are Big Book editing, Spanish translations, plain language, and updates to language and the 12 and 12 and pamphlets. What are our home group's opinions on things? Go to the pre-conference sharing which is the first weekend in April. That's when a bunch of people who read into background information can present. Alex went last year and learned a lot. To be a well-informed GSR, attend that in April. Plain version will probably be separate, but he doesn't know that for sure.
 - - pre-Conference Session will be on April 6, 2024 at Reformation Lutheran Church in Philadelphia from 9 am to 4 pm.
 - Our delegate is on the plain language committee.
 - Our alternate delegate is stepping down due to some pretty major health concerns, so we have a vacant alternate delegate position for our area. There will be 2 new officers and an entirely new delegate. The EPGSA will be important to get to so that we can vote on who the new delegate is.
- Do you have an alternate GSR?
 - We're 10 months away from a new panel, and we want to start thinking about who will replace us in the new panel. The best way to get into the role is to observe these meetings happening.
 - Alex would be willing to do a new training for the incoming GSRs for next year. He did a training last March and would be willing to do one again.
 - The transition to the next panel is next January.
- Feel free to text and call Alex with any questions, and he will be available to us.

Summaries and Actions (A Summary is an announcement. An Action is something you would like input on or to hear the group's experience on the issue.):

- Sheila emailed Brock and asked him to change the meeting list, so he and Todd changed it so that you click and the virtual meeting list is on there.
- Paul: Bellefonte meeting - February 20th at 9:15 pm at Bellefonte Lanes for \$5 you get free shoe rental and all the bowling you can handle for 2 hours. You can go to the Bellefonte 12-and-Twelve meeting.
 - This coming Saturday, February 17th, the Millheim Group hosts a breakfast at 9:00 and then the meeting is at 9:30. It's a lot of fun and is even more fun when people go. That meeting could always use support, so why not go get breakfast with a bunch of people from your home group?!

Monthly Tradition Discussion: Tradition 2

Short Form: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Long Form: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.

Committee Reports:

Archives, Structure, Visitation:

- Paul - Archives - nothing to report
- Structure - nothing to report
- Visitation - we are circling back and gonna try to hit all of the meetings that are still unrepresented at the district level and just give them the welcome packet and encourage them to have their voice be heard at this level. Part of that is also getting these group information forms filled out that Todd and Brock had requested so that they can bury that information in the bowels of their website. Paul sent everyone that by email. He has paper copies. If we didn't get it, please get those. It's all private information so that our district can get in touch with your meeting if they need to.
- There is a new meeting in the district for those who are unaware. Bellefonte at St. John's Lutheran on McCallister on Fridays at noon. It's a speaker discussion format. Paul went to the inaugural meeting. 14 people were there. They tallied the sobriety time, and there was 282 years. Paul will get that on the meeting list. Does anyone know if there's a grace period or guideline on how long we wait to publicize this. Jules thinks it's 6 months. Jamie thinks it may be 6 months. What are the group's thoughts on adding it to our meeting list. Kelli said that if we don't have anything it's good to take GSO's directions and have it going for 6 months. Regardless, spread the word, because it was a good meeting, and it's always good to have options, and Bellefonte doesn't have any meetings during the day.
- Second meeting announcement. Serenity at Noon meeting is dying a slow and painful death. What you guys want to do with that information is up to you. There's now a competing meeting every day. There's a MWF meeting at Christ Community Church. It's in the process of dying. If you want to promote it, you can promote it. If you want to grab a group of 10 people from your home group to go, do that.

C&I (Corrections & Institutions):

- Jules gave the report.
- Everything seems to be going well. They have new recruits to go to the Centre County Correctional facilities. Working on getting someone going to the Youth Detention Center. Lisa T made contact with the right person there. They do a quick interview for that (separate PREA).
- More PREA opportunities. The next one is February 29th. If you're interested, let Jules know.
- They spent \$ to get some materials for the Meadows meeting. They also like to stock up on Grapevines.
- Rockview and Benner is still just John D. Only men can go to these. They still need folks there.
- Detention Center is a good meeting for newcomers. You only need 3 months sobriety. We're working on getting back in there.

CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community), PI (Public Information), Website Committee:

- Scott - Andrew sent a letter to the Administrator of the Drug Court. Trying to ask if they would allow us to do a presentation for them. Don't know if he's heard back.
- Waiting to hear back from Centre Helps about speaking at the volunteer training.

Old Business:

- Website Discussion

- Vince - group didn't have any real strong opinions on it, but they feel that the NA stuff should be on their website.
- Kristin - my home group felt pretty strongly that we didn't need to change anything and feels like this decision to have a password login would be fear-based.
- Kelli - as long as people could access another layer, it's not really anonymous. Some people thought it was strange that there were names. They thought it would be important for meeting minutes to be on there from district. The extra layer really is an illusion of anonymity. Even though it's first names, it shouldn't be on the meeting minutes.
- Jules - her homegroup liked the idea of having activities on there because they feel that there's not enough get-togethers for people to learn how to get together without alcohol. She suggested taking the names off before putting them on the website. No other 12 Step Group should be on the website (Kelli's group came to that consensus).

Meeting minutes are stored for District with names. Should the secretary remove names before sending them to Brock?

Brock doesn't think that anything that's AA-related shouldn't be on the website. We should be anonymous at press, radio, and films. The root of the issue is if we should be posting non-AA-related things.

The original talk of this login of extra security is so that we can post non-AA things.

Paul said let's get one thing in mind. The people in AA that are going to sober bowling are not going to it because they saw it on the website. They're going because of word-of-mouth. Paul's forms are going somewhere that's only accessible by the web servant.

Vince suggested putting something in the structure manual about this. Paul and Kelli will draft something for this to go in the structure manual that basically our website is to be used for AA events. We should have a definition of what is an AA event.

Kelli said that 20 years ago, AA members went to Spring Creek every week. What would it take to get events like that? Could there be a monthly AA picnic. In Virginia Beach, they had a pancake breakfast. We don't want to be so authoritative that we miss these events. I agree with Kelli about having social meetings posted, because we are missing it if we don't have these social events listed.

Brock is having some issues that the language on the website needs to be more inclusive and say "recovery" versus NA.

Kelli thinks it's fine to include that it's an alcoholics anonymous event.

Brock - we are generally okay if it's AA-related, but not if it's generally recovery-related.

Jules - the website, like everything else in AA, is up to group conscience. Nobody else can tell us how to run our website. These events would make these events look more enticing to the newcomer.

Vince - what's wrong with the groups who want a party bringing it through their GSR
Brock - we don't want to promote NA recovery, because that's not in our traditions
Kelli - perfect example would be this potluck thing; it's a meeting and also fellowship;
it's the same medium as a flyer, but just on the website. Do we want some of the
fellowship? There would be an impromptu meeting there.

Daniel - his group doesn't have strong opinions about this; there's gotta be a reason that
this keeps getting brought up; it may be more that people want more social activities
than the rules about what we put on the website; he doesn't know that people are asking
for NA activities to be on our website

Brock - someone had a flyer with NA/AA event that they wanted posted on the website;
it happened previously and happened this panel

Paul - we're talking about drafting something that defines

Kelli - a general consensus of if we want to put non-AA things on our website (outside
of AA fellowship: garage sale, etc.) - take this to our groups (do they agree); each
meeting's group conscience can decide whether or not to do this;

- the second thing: what about just straight fellowship events? AA fellowship
events - anybody with a desire to stop drinking

Darren proposed the idea of having a login to Brock and Todd, because there are
thousands of websites around the world. There's nothing to re-invent in AA. He proposed it as a solution
to what do we do with minutes. What should be outward-facing, and what should be inward-facing?
There's a lot of stuff that doesn't necessarily need to be for everyone. He feels that our purpose should be
clear, easy, and outward-facing. One use of a security layer would be just having a password that
everyone knows. Or making a new tab with Service, Meeting Minutes. That's why Darren proposed it,
because it seems to work very well for other groups. To him, it's very clear what's AA and what's not.
There are a lot of big parties and jamborees that aren't AA. If it doesn't fit with our traditions, then it has
no business being there.

Does this need to be in the Structure Manual, or is it in the 12 Traditions?

Kelli said that in keeping with X, Y, or Z traditions, we will not be promoting or endorsing
other groups. As district representatives, we need to let people know about the traditions. If we're
promoting bowling, we shouldn't promote an event where you have to pay for it.

Brock - there's been this argument that we need to have this for newcomers. Wouldn't
this fall on the group to advertise these get-togethers?

Kelli thinks a lot of people would benefit from social events.

Vince - do we have any AA announcements? Do we have any non-AA announcements?
This is up to our group.

Darren - a lot of this is best handled at the group level; a lot of this may not be district
business; his home group goes out for dinner after their Wednesday meeting. Many of these events that
are in the gray zone are probably best handled at the group level. A group could easily coordinate these
things. We might be conflicted about this, because this isn't district business.

Paul said that if it's district business, then it doesn't belong on our website.

Daniel - can we have an area on our website where we announce what our group has been
doing?

Kelli - I don't know if we need an area of security but creating a tab for service-related
stuff

Randy - twice a year every year they talk about Cooks Forest at their meeting; there's
never been anything on the website; it's all word-of-mouth; 4th of July picnic; if it doesn't fall within
what's allowed on the AA website, then maybe it doesn't need to be on there.

Alex - check with our home groups about whether or not they want us to put non-AA
information on the website; what is an AA event and what goes on our website; in Alex's experience, a
thing that can go on the website is a meeting; this is also coming into this gray area of are we serving as
our district's intergroup?; if there was a clubhouse recovery website, we wouldn't have to hold it to the

same standard of an AA website; would this be a solution? it seems like we haven't talked much about the password-protected part of the website; even on aa.org there's something that you click that tells you when you're leaving aa.org

Paul - something in writing for us to take back to our groups would be helpful

Do we want to add a password-protected area on the website for members, mainly service-related? Do we need a demarcation for inward-facing or outward-facing? Do we need to separate internal stuff on the website? We could just make it available to people at meetings. **We want to separate internal from external information. Do we want to have a separate layer for PREA Trainings, Meeting minutes, CPC committee, etc.** Password would be for everything but the meeting list. The password could be just word-of-mouth. Do we want to do the password or just put things underneath a tab?

Or can we just start putting stuff under appointed tabs?

Do we want to list non-AA events?

What is an AA event? What goes on our website?

An Intergroup is a huge clubhouse that posts events and serves generally a large population. The intergroup was created as communication centers, to answer telephones, store literature, keep archives. Central office was before intergroups and is obsolete now.

Could we employ the clubhouse to create social events?

Kelli - Anonymity is an illusion

New Business:

Jamie has been in district now for 8 years. Why are we paying 60 something dollars to Verizon every month. Snowstorms have been happening. Called a phone number listed on the Centre Hall meeting, because nobody was there. Why are we paying for this phone number that rings and nobody answers? 814-237-3757. Is this Centre Helps? It's supposed to forward to Centre Helps

Close with the Declaration of Unity at 8:48 pm:

This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.