

District 7 Meeting Minutes for April 2013

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The meeting opened at exactly 7:30 PM on the third Thursday of the month at the First Congregational Church on the SW corner of 415 Juniper Street in Brainerd MN., as is the regularly scheduled time and location, with the Serenity Prayer. We went around the room with introductions, and the following persons introduced themselves by their first name. Neil, Larry, Nancy, Andrea, Gary, Jeff, Eric, Dave, Sheldon, and Liz. There were 10 persons in attendance. The number of persons present was reduced due to inclement weather.

Addition to Agenda-Neil, Neil asked for additions to the agenda. None were heard.

Concept 4- Dave, Dave read from the service manual on Concept Four. Several key points are the traditional right to participation, and that there are no second class members in AA.

Secretaries Report- Eric, Eric gave a short report stating that he had mailed out the Minutes to the members on the distribution list, and that they should have it both on the table in front of them, and in their email boxes. He stated that it was self explanatory. He also handed out copies of the Action Booklet, The District Roster, and the Distribution List. He asked for corrections, deletions, and additions to those documents. Dave motioned to approve, Sheldon seconded the motion and all found favor.

Treasury Report-Cindy, Cindy was absent, however a paper copy of her report was circulated. Neil read the report. Nancy made a motion to accept the report, Liz seconded, and all found favor with it. We have plenty of money available for service.

Again, Please note that we don't publish the District financial's. Neither is it a secret. District members may contact Cindy or Neil for a copy, or better yet, your group could send you, or your GSR (General Service Representative) to our monthly District Meeting at the afore mentioned address to participate in service. If you wish to have the financial's published far and wide, feel free to introduce a motion to do so, at the committee meeting, we'd love to have you.

This subject was revisited on 9/20/2012 and the District and GSR's in attendance agreed that the District financial's shouldn't be publicly published. See updated Action Booklet.

GSR Reports,

Our Common Welfare- Larry, Our Common Welfare meets Wed. nights at 8:00pm at the Lakes Area Alano Club, at 1601 Oak Street, in Brainerd. We generally have at least 20 in attendance per meeting, and discuss a topic out of conference approved literature, We are a service orientated group that goes to the Focus unit on the 3rd Monday of the month, and the Crow Wing County Jail the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. We had 5 members from our group in attendance at the spring assembly, which was a great experience.

Nisswa Wednesday Women's Work – Nancy, The Nisswa Wednesday Women's Work group meets on Wednesday nights at 5:30 PM at the Nisswa Fire Hall. We cover steps, traditions and topics at our meetings using the Big Book and 12 X 12. Our attendance continues to average more than 30 women at each meeting. It is exciting to see newcomers receiving medallions and finding a sponsor from within our group. Members of our group regularly participate in meetings at the Focus Unit and the Crow Wing County Jail. Service work is highly encouraged and there are many opportunities for everyone to

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participate. We hold a Group Conscience Meeting and potluck on the first Wednesday of every month following the regular meeting.

Monday Night Pequot LKS AA- Jeff, We meet every Monday night at 7:30 PM at the St. Alice Church 3 blocks east of the stoplight, then 1/2 block south. Attendance has been picking up with spring. We average 35-40 persons. We have been getting some new comers, which is great. We also have a 12 x 12 study every Thursday night at 7:30 at the same place. It is a great meeting. We go to Focus the 1st Friday of every month and to the Pine River Treatment Center the last Thursday if every month. Participation has been good for both.

Action Committees,

C.P.C./ P. I. - Liz, Liz has been doing some networking at the Area level as part of her chair position at the Assembly, and has also registered with GSO and should be receiving some information packets from New York. The location of the C.P.C. event has been finalized, and process of selecting a speaker has been initiated. We will have Rodger R. and Brad I. speaking additionally. Liz would like to know how many people will be attending the event. It currently looks like there will be 13 professionals for sure. Liz discussed the flier which has been printed. Liz discussed the need for big books, and asked that it would be added to the agenda.

Liz also asked that we discuss the CWC Fair and keep that in mind.

She also added that there will be a large gathering of social workers in the Duluth area for an event called MN Age and Disability Odessa, on June 17th-18th. They are looking for speakers and people with experience in AA

Archives- open, No Report.

Literature-Gary, District 7 Literature Report for March thru April 2013

Last month we had a total of 18 books sold to 2 separate groups, and 100 Information pamphlets sold to the Dist. 7 Treatment Chair for a total sales of 159. 85 .

Thank You for allowing me to be of Service, Gary S..

Corrections- Dave/ Arden, Dave had nothing to report, and hasn't yet passed the baton to Arden who is on vacation. **There is a need for speakers and meetings to be brought into the Aitkin County Jail.** We are waiting for Arden to return from vacation to assume the responsibility of being the coordinator for these functions, and to bring us back more information.

Grapevine- Sheldon, Sheldon brought in some pamphlets regarding online subscriptions and digital books for gadgets. He is eager to sell subscriptions. No Jokes tonight. Precious little to laugh about with the weather being so lousy. The grapevine is out in the car and the way he is laid up, with the snow being so deep, and visibility being reduced and such- we'd be here all night waiting for a joke. So we laughed about that. (Sheldon is suffering from a broken heel and is using a walking cast, and a scooter.....)

Neil speaks also to the GV. The GV Actual Financial Profit for the last year was in the black 257,003. This will fund the shortfall of the La Vina Spanish magazine which is in the red 115,000., but even after this the GV will still show 142,003. in the black. This is the second year running that the GV has shown a profit. **This is preliminary information, but it is still something good to take back to your groups.**

Treatment- Dave, Dave speaks about how he made the rounds to local treatment centers. He invited professionals from several of the centers to attend the C.P.C. event. He hasn't gotten any responses at this time.

Webmaster- Bob, We formed a new chair position last month. Bob had briefly stuck his head in the door to drop off fliers, but couldn't stay for the meeting. Check it out- acentrallakes.org.

Alternate DCM-Open, No Report.

DCM Report-Neil, DCM Report – District 7, Area 35

April 2013

Greetings District 7!

I attended the Spring Assembly at the Sawmill Inn in Grand Rapids on April 6th and 7th. It was great to see many of you there representing your groups and District 7. I believe there was about 150 AA's total there.

Area officers, committee chairs, and DCMS gave reports and there were breakout sessions for the 2013 GSC agenda items. I was able to attend the breakouts for corrections and literature followed by a DCM sharing session.

I then represented the district in the agenda item discussions and straw voting. We were able to get through all agenda items by Sat. night about 11:30 p.m.

On Sunday, business not completed Saturday was finished and we then went on to cover old and new business. As you may recall, a group in our district submitted an item for conference consideration: GSO should create and maintain a meeting locator/online directory for the U.S. and Canada. Although this item did not make the conference agenda, we were able to make a motion to have our delegate take a floor action on it at this year's conference. The motion was seconded and approved overwhelmingly by our Area. I want to thank Larry for bringing this item to the district as well as providing me with the actual proposal at the assembly so I could speak to it there.

I heard Larry give a talk about the importance of each group participating and that this was a great example of how each group CAN make a difference in AA. He's right.

If I recall correctly, the corrections proposal was not addressed at the assembly. I'm not sure why not.

AA will have a booth at the MN State Fair and there are a few opportunities for volunteers – please let me know if you're interested and I can give you the details.

The district is sponsoring a CPC event on May 16th at Grandview Lodge in Nisswa. The cost is \$12 per person – we are hopeful that groups will invite professionals and pay for their expenses to attend. Brad, our Area 35 archivist, will be giving a talk about AA history and will have an archives display set up there. Roger, our Area 35 CPC chair, will give a discussion on what AA does and does not do. We hope this will be helpful to professionals in our community who come into contact with alcoholics and non-alcoholics as well.

Just a reminder to everyone that May's district meeting is on May 9th instead of the 16th due to the CPC luncheon we have scheduled instead on the 16th.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, for supporting me to attend the assembly in Grand Rapids, and for all you do!

In service,

Neil

Old Business;

C.P.C. Event-Liz, Dave will check after the meeting to see what literature is available in

our inventory. Rodger R. had a few questions about which professionals are attending the event. They can tailor the event for certain professionals. We discussed having the District purchase big books for the guests. We do have sufficient funds to cover this expense. The C.P.C. sub committee voted in favor of having the District cover the cost of the big books. Liz added that whatever isn't used at the event will go back into the District's inventory. We

can get two cases of books (\$281.) which is 40 books. Dave motions that we purchase 40 big books, and return the surplus to Literature supply. Sheldon seconds the motion, and all find favor with this. Motion passes. **GSR's and others need to find professionals that would like to attend this event and contact Liz**

Liz also spoke briefly about getting a new printing of schedules, and asked if there were any changes to be noted. **It was asked if anyone knows of any changes to please email Neil or Liz.**

District Inventory-Neil, Copies of the District Inventory were distributed to us from Mark N.. The next thing that should happen is that we would take action on this by making changes. Larry made a point that it is imperative to bring the results back to the groups. **So here is a directive for GSR's and others. Please share this document with your group and suggest changes that can be made at district.**

Aitkin County Jail-Neil/Dave, Arden is our primary contact in this matter and he is on vacation. **A directive to GSR's and others was given to make your group aware of the fact that there is a need for AA's and AA meetings to go into the Aitkin County Jail.**

New Business;

Meeting Schedules- Neil, Neil again asked that changes to the schedule would be given to Neil or Liz. There was one meeting that might need to be removed from the list as it had folded.

Eric gave a pitch for the [News Letter, and sending out several packets of information as attachments via email.](#) He asked if the District inventory could be sent out in this fashion, along with current fliers for our up coming events. He also pitched the effectiveness of electronic communication and used the current blizzard conditions and small attendance as a case in point.

[Neil said he'd send out the News Letter.](#)

CWC Fair 2013, and other Fairs, manned or unmanned- GSR's, Three GSR's in attendance all came prepared with their group consciences. All three GSR's said that their groups strongly support the fair. They generally agree that the booth does better when it is unmanned. One group is strongly in favor of participation at all Fairs in surrounding counties, one group was undecided about that issue, and another said No to additional counties. It was agreed that due to the poor weather we should defer this until next month and **get additional feedback from more groups.** The Deadline to get registered and get the deposit in is end of May. [Include this matter in the New Letter.](#)

Delegates Report-Neil, Jim K's report to the District will be held on Monday the 3rd from 6:30 - 8:30 PM at the 1st Congressional Church in the dining area in the basement. (Pot luck Dinner)

Next District Meeting: May 9th 7-8:30 PM at the 1st Congressional Church, also in the basement.

Discussion was given regarding paying the Church extra rent for the additional meetings which we are having this year. After some discussion it was agreed that we need to know what our rent is before we make a decision with a dollar amount. Due to the bad

weather our treasurer isn't present. It was generally agreed to defer this matter until next month also. It will go under old business. We do generally agree to doing this.

We closed the meeting with the Lords Prayer about 20 minutes early (8:10 PM)

For your convenience I used a red font for the directives given to GSR's, and I used a blue font for actions, and directives given to District Chairs and others. This will hopefully make it easier for you to navigate the document, and make your service duties clear. However I may have missed an item, misspelled a name, misquoted a member, or otherwise made a terrible mess of this document, a regular hash of it. That being the case please except my apology in advance. If the offense is serious enough to require a second draft please contact me via email ASAP so that we don't have to waste time struggling with it at the next District meeting.

It is a pleasure to be of service, eric gemminer_n_cutter@yahoo.com