

## District 7 Aug. 2012 Meeting

### Minutes

### Greetings!!!

The meeting opened at 7 PM with the serenity Prayer, followed by introductions. Ten persons were in attendance. We had previously agreed to adhere to the meeting guidelines.

A call for additions to tonight's agenda went out. There were none heard.

**Secretary's Report-** Eric passed out paper copies of the July minutes, the District Roster, The Distribution List, and the Action Booklet. He has been updating all the documents from month to month. He will use a larger font for the Aug Minutes. A motion to accept was offered by Dave, seconded by Bob, and all were in Favor.

It was generally agreed that the Treasurer will submit an expense report for Paper, Ink, and Batteries for his recorded.

**Treasurer's Report-** Cindy gave an oral summary of the report, and handed out paper copies of the report. Bob made a motion to accept the report, Toni seconded the motion , and all were in favor. If you would like a copy of this report please contact your GSR, the Treasurer, or our DCM Neil.

Discussion ensued about the possibility of creating a budget. Is a budget necessary? It was added to "New Business".

### GSR Reports;

**Primary Purpose Group-** Toni GSR, We meet Thursday at 7:00 PM at the Living Water Church west of Wahkon. We are a B.B. , 12 x 12, discussion, and 1st step meeting when a new person shows up.

Our summer has gone very well, and way too fast. The group size has been doing great. Wed. Aug 29th we are having a speaker meeting. The speaker is Eric B. from Foxhall Chapter 7. Come and join us for a good dinner, and meeting. We would also like more information on the C.P.C. Luncheon. Thank you, Toni

**Sunday Night Women's Group-** Toni reads, We meet at Faith Lutheran Church in Isle at 6:00 PM. We are a B.B., 12 x 12, and Discussion meeting. Our size has varied a lot this summer. We have had a lot drop in with everyone on vacation in the area. Thank you, Toni

**Isle Big Book-** Toni reads, We meet at faith Lutheran Church in Isle at 10:00 am We are somewhat new, as we started in April. We are trying to get registered. We are discussing the GSR position. We would like to share with Primary Purpose AA. The same people belong to all groups around here. We have a lot of visitors which is very interesting. Join us on Sat. for coffee and treats. Thank You.

**Women's Work Meeting-** Liz, We meet every Wed. at 5:30 PM at the Nisswa Fire Hall next to the City Park. Currently we have around 38 people in attendance, with a great range of sobriety. We hold B.B. Study, Traditions, and discussion meetings. On the first Wed. of every month we hold a group conscience meeting.

**Garrison Monday Night-** Bob. The Garrison Monday Night Meeting meets every Monday night at 7:30 at the City Hall.

This an open meeting. We might be changing our location soon because of a leaky roof and mold. We are a B.B. Study, and if we have any new people we hold a first step meeting. We have held first step meetings the last two weeks. We have about 12 people in attendance.

**Serenity in the Pines-** Carl, We hold our meeting at 8pm on Thursday night. Attendance is good at around 12-15 people. Come and join us if you are looking for a strong AA message. We would welcome you.

Toni had questions about being a GSR for multiple groups. Although her group's reasoning was compelling and sound, the service manual and the district conscience seemed to indicate that a person should represent only one group. They only have one vote for that one group, however they may freely share information with other groups.

### **Action Committee Reports;**

**P. I.** - This position is open

**C.P.C.**-Cory is not here

**Archives**-this position is open

**Literature**-Gary District 7 Literature Report for the period of July thru August of 2012  
I moved a lot of Literature in the past month. I sold a total of 98 books to 6 different individuals and groups for a total sales of 639.27 \$ I looked back thru my records and the 2nd largest total sales for a one month period was 335.00\$. Thanks to all those who purchased Literature in the last month for a record month of sales. Let's keep the AA word flowing into our communities! Yours in Service, Gary

**Corrections**-Eric has illness in his family and couldn't attend. No report was given.

**Grapevine**-Sheldon reads a funny joke from the GV..

**Treatment**-Dave, OCW bought a GV subscription for Pinnacle Recovery Services. ( south of Brainerd Motel)

**Alt DCM**-This position is open.

**DCM Report**-Neil,  
Greetings District 7!

It's hard to believe Fall is just around the corner. I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer. We are already a few months into the first year for this rotation. I feel we have strived to serve our district well and have learned together along the way. I'm grateful the AA program allows us to claim progress rather than perfection! I think there is evidence of progress being made and we will continue to serve our district to the best of our ability.

I was able to attend the Area Committee Meeting in Aitkin on August 5th. Also in attendance for our district chairs was Cory B. Together we attended the PI/CPC breakout session and were able to participate in discussions there. Cory touched upon the upcoming CPC luncheon and was able to line up some materials from another district where the event has been very successful. We hope the materials he gets will be a good resource and that we can greatly increase participation by our community's professionals. We can agree there is a need to get AA info out to them and our aim is to be helpful.

We listened to Area officer's and DCM's reports and I was able to give an update to the Area on our district. My assessment is the Area remains healthy and vibrant and we are blessed

to have dedicated AA's in Northern MN.

The Area voted to conduct an inventory at this year's Fall Assembly in International Falls. The purpose of the inventory is to make an assessment of how well Northern MN is being served by the Area and to look for ways to improve. Input will be sought from all AA's. GSRs please make your groups aware and seek input to bring to the Assembly.

I look forward to continuing visits to groups in our district—hope to see you at a meeting soon!

In service,  
Neil F.

### **Old Business;**

**District 7 web site-** Webmaster not present to give a report. The site is up and running. We want to be sure that our groups are aware of the site. We would like to get feedback from groups and individuals. Neil was impressed with the site. He said it was very functional, and easy to navigate. We need feedback.

**Literature for treatment-** Dave reports, The secretary posted some numbers that are close to correct in the minutes last month. Serenity In The Pines expressed that they were opposed to spending the money, but rather thought that the pamphlets would be better served in other locations, i.e., doctors offices, churches, and clinics. The primary Purpose group essentially echoed the previous statement. Gary asked if we would be in violation of any traditions? We do not endorse or finance any institution or organization.....Carl asked if any of these centers are for profit or are they profit free? Dave answers that they are all probably making money somehow. Sheldon would like to see this done once as a trial, and if they come back looking for more literature, then we will have a better idea of what the needs are, and also we would open up a dialog between the District, and centers. Dave said this is what he proposed all along. Women's Work (Liz) responded that it was the experience of Women's Work that providing meeting schedules to the two centers that they visit is most welcome. And that at the various meetings there are pamphlet racks available there. Garrison, (Bob) pretty much goes along with Women's Work Meeting. Garrison feels that the moneys coming into District should be used to finance sending members to the various functions, workshops, assemblies and the WCRSC. They feel the outreach to these centers should be something that the groups undertake, not the District. (Liz) commented that most centers supply a big book and 12 x 12 to patients. Ron summarized the discussion and added that it was his opinion that the monies from District should be used for District functions and the groups should carry the ball for providing contact with the local treatment centers. Bob would be ok with having a sample packet for display and a statement that this is what is available if you attend an AA meeting, that this should be a one time expense. Neil called for vote. The wording of the request was too vague. Dave tightened up the numbers until he arrived at a figure of 18 dollars, that would be one packet of pamphlets for each facility. Each packet contains 12 pamphlets. We do have an existing inventory of most of the requested pamphlets. It could be considerably less than 18 dollars. It would be a one time thing with no re-stocking. A vote was called for this one time service for five centers, at a cost of approximately 18 dollars. No motion was made or seconded in conjunction with this vote. The request for service passed with substantial unanimity. Amid much laughter and applause Dave was finally through the grinding month(s) long process of being allowed to give away a few packets of pamphlets.

**Open Positions-** Neil speaks, P.I., Archives, and Alt Dcm are open, and he asked us to

increase the awareness of these open positions in our AA community. A brief discussion about what is entailed with standing for a position was given. Discussions that followed included the pros and cons of combining service jobs, the qualifications for certain jobs, and the co-dependent issue of picking up the slack for the slackers who need to get busy and do what is in front of them, and is their responsibility. The difficulty of finding the correct people to fill the positions was discussed. There are a lot of people who sit on their hands. We simply aren't getting the word out.

**County Fair Booth Report-** Sheldon reports. The fair was a success. He listed verbally the pamphlets that went out. He stated that we will get our deposit back. He was glad he got to participate. He will type up a proper report later in the month. He guesses that one hundred schedules were given out. Applause for Sheldon's effort were given.

### **New Business;**

**C.P.C. Luncheon-** Cory isn't present to give a report. Neil asked that we make everyone in our district aware of the event. We have one more District meeting to discuss the event before it goes off. Who is on the committee? Cory will facilitate the function and the committee.

*A review of past minutes indicates the following persons volunteered to be on the committee, Neil, Sheldon, Dave, and Margie/ or Margie has people. ed.*

**District chairs attend the ACM in Aitkin-** Neil gives a short talk on the various District chairs are supposed to attend the Aitkin event and join in breakout sessions pertinent to their jobs in District. Costs are reimbursed. The lunch is very good.

**Area Assembly Oct 6th and 7th International Falls-** Neil also pitches this event. Chair persons should attend. The Area will take an inventory.

**Revised District Guidelines-** Neil speaks, The revised District guidelines are available on the back table. Cindy asked that additional revisions be dated for the archives.

**Area Corrections-** Neil again, The Area is looking for help with corrections in District 11. Eric L. isn't here but Neil would ask him specifically what is the area looking for help on?

**Literature-** The free shipping minimum literature orders is going up to 500\$ from 250\$. This could be in effect currently. Gary was asked to look into it.

**State Fair booth-** It is short notice for us (9 days as of the 16th) but the call for volunteers for the state fair was given. Call Neil for details.

**Delegate's Report Expenses-** should the bill for these talks be fronted by the various Districts or by the area. Ask your group for feedback on this matter. Discussion ensues.

**Web Issue-** GSO isn't getting the new group/ group change information back to the Area. To get listed on the meeting locator and schedule please submit new group information, or group change information to the Area first. These was discussed at Area by Bob, and it was the New Beginnings Group in Crosslake that first shed light on this situation when they registered with GSO, but no record of their group appeared on the Area site. They are looking at ways to address this problem. So first register with Area until the problem can be fixed.

**Area 35/36 Joint Workshop-** Neil speaks again, this event was viewed as a success.

**District Budget-** It was agreed to add this to tonight's agenda if there was time. Carl feels that it would be helpful if we had a better handle on future expenses in light of our slender resources. Bob talked about the Thief River Falls event last year that cost the district 1200. He stated if we had two of those expenses back to back we would have had to start telling the chairs that we are sorry and can't pay their expenses. Sheldon expressed that we have been fortunate in that we haven't incurred many expenses thus far as many of the events have been in our back yard, and we lately received a substantial donation from the neighboring (folded) dark District 17. It was noted that it would make more work for Cindy. Sheldon doesn't think it would be very helpful. Ron believes that we can estimate our expenses based on past experience. Neil asked that we could table this until next month.

**Additional Requests for next month-** The secretary asked if the District could also add the subject of the District Roster, and the Printing Of The Financial's to next months agenda for discussion. His concern is that it is his desire to be of service, and based on previous discussion he would like more clarity on what the district would like to do with the Roster, and would like to know if it is the group conscience to print the Financial's or not to print the Financial's in the District Minutes which is also being posted publicly on the Area web site. He felt there could be unanswered questions or people who felt disenfranchised by the current policy, and this needs to be addressed.

**Meeting Adjourned-** Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM per District guidelines with the Lord's Prayer.