

District 7 Meeting Minutes for January 2016

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM, January 21, 2015 at the First Congregational Church on the SW corner of 415 Juniper Street in Brainerd MN., with the Serenity Prayer. Introductions were made; Liz DCM, Eric District Web, Lindsey visitor, Gail Treasurer, Dave Secretary, Carl Archives/Alt GSR, Jim GSR, Jim Visitor, Eric GSR, Jason GSR, Gary GSR, Carl past DCM, Mark Visitor, Tom GSR, Dennis GSR/Literature/Grapevine, Sarah GSR, Toni Treatment, Gustie GSR, Fred GSR, and Clayton visitor.

Call for additions to the agenda:

1. Plain language excerpt
2. WCRSC
3. Phone line inventory
4. District contributions

Concept 1 – Carl read. Carl (past DCM) read paragraph one. Liz added that her understanding is the group conscience was created as a safeguard against any single entity gaining control. Mark also added that the General Service Conference was created in essence to replace the absence of Dr. Bob and Bill with the Delegates representing the various group consciences.

Tradition 1 – Dave read the long form. Liz added that there were many discussions at Winter Workshop on the importance of studying and learning the Twelve Traditions.

Secretaries Report- Dave: There were no additions or corrections. Carl motioned to accept October meeting minutes, Toni seconded and the motion carried.

Treasury Report-Gail, A financial audit was conducted prior to the meeting with Carl, Liz and Gail. Gail presented the December financial report. Carl made a motion to accept Decembers report, Sarah seconded and the motion carried.

GSR Reports-

Our Common Welfare-Eric, OCW is a closed meeting of AA. We meet Wed. nights at 8:00 at First Congregational Church, 415 Juniper Street in Brainerd. We hold quarterly business meetings and Group Conscience meetings the 4th Wednesday of each month. We are an AA approved literature discussion meeting. We carry the message into the Focus Unit the 3rd Monday of each month and C.W.C. Jail the 2nd and the 4th Thursday of each month. We always welcome any newcomers and have plenty of members willing to be sponsors.

Nisswa Wednesday Women's Work-Sarah, The Nisswa Wednesday Women's Work group meets at the Nisswa Fire Hall every Wednesday at 5:30 PM. We are a group of 30-40 women. 1st Wednesday of the month is our speaker meeting followed by a pot luck and a group conscience meeting. 2nd Wednesday is a Step meeting. 3rd Wednesday is a Tradition meeting followed by fellowship. 4th Wednesday is a 12 x 12 meeting. We are active in Focus Treatment and Jail meetings and a strong emphasis in sponsorship.

Serenity in the Pines-Carl, (sub GSR), We meet at 8:00 Thursday night at a cabin in the woods Located on Co. Rd. 49 across from the Eagles Landing golf course, take the third driveway on the left and park in the yard. Cabin is about a 1 city block walk. We average

7-10 people a week.

Cornerstone of Hope- Dennis, We meet at 7:00 PM on Tues. at the Basement of the St. Francis Church. This is an open meeting. There is a rotating Chair person who picks the topic. We break into smaller groups for discussion and each group are free to leave when they are finished. Attendance is low 20, although this week we had 36 in attendance. Focus Unit patients attend each week and we give them rides to and from. New or first time attendees receive a welcome medallion, call list and meeting schedule.

Sleepy Hollow-Jason, We are a group of men and women who meet every Monday, 8:00 pm. We are located 10 miles south of Baxter on Hwy 371 across from Crow Wing Lake. We have a rotating chair and focus are meetings on the Steps and Traditions. We are responsible for taking a meeting into the Focus Unit the 1st Monday of each month. Our group is very service oriented and always welcome newcomers.

Rimer Reason Malmo AA- Gustie, Meets on Monday 7:00 pm at Bethesda Lutheran Church. We have been averaging 15-20 people. 1st meeting of the month is on Steps, 2nd Monday is on Traditions and other two Mondays is open topic.

Primary Purpose-Gary, Meets Wednesday 7:00 at Living Water Church in Wahkon. We are a Big Book and 12 x 12 topic and discussion meeting. We are having about 10 in attendance. We have a pot luck on the 5th Wed. of the month. All is good.

Friday Night Trinity Speaker Meeting-Tom, Meets Friday night, 7:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Brainerd. Average 30-40 people in attendance. Each month we rotate Chairs who are responsible for finding speakers. We usually have out of town speakers. Last Friday of the month is a potluck which starts at 6:00 followed by a speaker meeting.

Trailside Center Peqout-Fred, Two meetings each week. 7:30 Monday is an open meeting, topic discussion. 40-55 people in attendance. We breakout into three groups to make the meeting a little more manageable. 7:30 Thursday is a 12 x 12 discussion/study with 10-20 people in attendance. We carry the message into the Focus Unit the 1st Friday of the month.

Crosslake Group-Jim, Meets 7:00- 8:00 every Tuesday. We rotate topics from open, Step and Traditions. A calendar is passed around for those that wish to volunteer to Chair. During the summer we average 20-25 people, currently we average 15-20 people. We carry the message into the Focus Unit the last Monday of the month.

Action Committee Reports-

C.P.C. / P. I.-Liz, Looking for help to coordinate District CPC/PI functions until a new Chair steps forward.

Literature/Grapevine-Dennis, Books are available for sale. It was agreed that Dennis will be reimbursed for books given out at the CPC event. There six Braille editions Big Books available. Dennis inquired if anyone knew of a need for these in other Districts or Areas. There is a balance discrepancy of \$57.85 in inventory and as previously agreed, District decided to start the new rotation at \$1500.00, so an appropriate adjustment will be made. There is also ten 75th edition Big Books on hand. Dennis will talk to Mark about how to handle literature items listed but not in stock. Dennis discussed the financial status

of Grapevine and La Vina. Dennis told a few Grapevine jokes.

Corrections-Vicki, Liz presented Vicki's report. Good morning!

Please report for me that I brought an AA meeting to Shakopee last Saturday. I would like to bring some schedules with me when I go in March. I have applied to volunteer in Aitkin Co., but have yet to get a reply. Went to crow wing jail New Year's Eve.

Sorry I can't be there!

Archives-Carl, Attended Winter Workshop. Currently organizing archives on hand.

Webmaster-Eric, Web Guy, Greetings,

I attended and presented at the winter workshop. The presentation went off well. I met with Bob B. the creator of the District 7 web page for an hour and a half last week. We discussed taking the web page into the future with Word Press, and giving it a new look that is friendly to newcomers. (See the Minneapolis Intergroup page for an idea of what we are talking about.) I received an email last Friday with the user names and passwords to access the admin section of the webpage with Linksky. I have been making a study of Word Press on You tube, and am several hours into the study. I have also been studying the use of Cpanel on You tube. Currently I have logged on to the Cpanel and have explored the buttons. I am nearly ready to make the first changes to the pages, adding meeting minutes, and newsletter. Certainly by the end of the month I'll have updated the site. Bob B. has a backup of the pages. I turned over the Picnic Folder, and funds to Carl P.. I passed off the Help Line Folder, user passwords, and Admin information to Clayton who will be the new coordinator of the help line with the District's approval. I am looking forward to this rotation, the opportunity to step up my game with web design, having a safe and fun place to learn exciting new skills, and working with all the wonderful people who make up District 7.

Yours in Service,

eric

Treatment-Toni, Toni is ready to gear up. She needs assistance to help get started. Dave agreed during the breakout session to take Toni around on January 26th to the various treatment facilities the District supports

Alt DCM- Chair position is vacant

DCM Report-Liz, DCM REPORT FOR JANUARY 2016

Welcome to 2016! I'm looking forward to the adventures and challenges as well as the rewards of serving as your new District Committee Member (aka DCM.) We kicked off the New Year by attending the Area 35 Service Workshop in St. Cloud on the 3 Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service as they relate to the 12 Steps/12 Traditions/12 Concepts including a presentation by our very own Carl, Carl, Eric and Toni (thank you!!) on welcoming the newcomers. It was brutally cold outside, but the rooms of AA are always warm and inviting.

Welcome also to all of you in new service roles within the District and in your groups! The commitment you've made to be of service is crucial to keeping the program alive and well. We look forward to having you join us at the District Meetings the third Thursday of every month at First Congregational UCC (415 Juniper Street, Brainerd, MN 56401) from 7-8:30 pm.

Upcoming events in the District/Area/Region include:

- Feb. 18th - February District Meeting - 7-8:30 pm - First Congregational UCC
- Feb. 28th - Area 35 Committee Meeting – 9 am-3 pm – Aitkin Alano Club
- March 4-6 – West Central Regional AA Service Conference – Bismarck, ND

I hope you will join us for meetings, fellowship and fun!

Yours in service,

Liz L. - DCM District 7

Old Business

1. GSR School Mark gave a short re-cap. It was well received and attendance was good. 5 new or potential GSR's were present.
2. Area Winter Workshop: Carl our past DCM recapped the event. Carl (archives) mentioned how hard it is for older people and people who have lost a significant other to find AA or feel comfortable in AA. Liz added how intimidating it is for newcomers. A discussion on the importance of sponsorship followed.
3. Open District Chair positions:
 - A. Carl nominated Carl for Alt DCM. No other nominations came forth and Carl was duly elected.
 - B. Treasurer: Gail stated she is willing to continue for a short while. District will continue to seek her replacement.
 - C. Archives: Carl stated he too was willing to continue until a replacement was found.
 - D. Secretary: Dave stated he is willing to continue until he moves or another person volunteers.
 - E. PI/CPC: No nominations or volunteers

New Business/Old Business carried forward

1. Gail and Liz will meet to change bank signatory requirements.
2. Jim T., new CPC chair Area 35, introduced himself and discussed his new position, budget and how the Area can assist the various Districts. He will focus on organizing meetings with professionals at their facilities and also wants to work with senior centers, senior homes etc.
3. Plain language excerpt: "hot topic" item. This process has started so bring this topic back to your groups for discussion. Liz brought handouts on this topic for distribution.
4. WCRSC: The District will support District Chairs who are willing to make the trip.
5. Phone Line Inventory: Clayton has volunteered to take responsibility of the CLAA help line. As a backup, this duty also falls on the Alt DCM which is now Carl. Eric and Dave will meet with Clayton and Carl after the meeting to turn over material and educate on procedures. Clayton and Carl will start the phone line inventory.
6. District contributions: District does not contribute to GSO.

Carl made a motion to extend the meeting by ten minutes. Motion passed.

7. Literature: Carl made a motion to round up inventory to \$1500.00, Eric seconded and the motion carried.
8. Picnic: Eric handed over the picnic file to Carl, our new Alt DCM.

Calendar of Events

1. Area 35 Committee meeting Feb. 28 in Aitkin
2. WCRSC in Bismarck, ND. March 4-6
3. Area 35 Spring Assembly April 2-3 in Crookston

We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 8:39