

District 7 Meeting Minutes Feb. 21 2013

Greetings

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, Einar, Nancy, Mary, Todd, Dave, Jeff, Mary, Toni, John, Eric, Bob, Gail, Larry, Mark, Carl, Gary, Sheldon, Carl, and Liz. There were 20 persons in attendance. Kelly couldn't attend as our moderator for the District Inventory. Mark agreed to fill in for her in this capacity. Everyone present agreed to proceed with the inventory, following the regular meeting, as scheduled.

A call for changes to the agenda went out. None were heard.

Secretaries Report- Eric, Eric gave a very 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, and the Distribution List. He asked for corrections, deletions, and additions to those documents. Liz motioned to approve, Dave seconded the motion and all found favor.

Treasurers Report- Cindy, Cindy was absent but she did submit a written report to Neil who read it. And also a monetary summary of expenses and credits for the month. "Thank You to all who contributed. Your monthly contributions help to pay monthly expenses such as rent, the printing of schedules, the phone line, and AA as a whole, and also carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Your contribution also allows AA to be self supporting." Gail made a motion to approve the report. Carl seconded it and all found favor with it.

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,

Friday Night 7:00pm Oak Street- Einar, At the Friday Night Oak St. Meeting we have 15 -20 persons in attendance. It is always a good positive meeting with a fair amount of laughter. We have had a good turnout of people meeting for fellowship at Caribou Coffee after the meeting, which is a good mix of sober time.

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 are a Big Book, 12 X 12, and topic meeting. Our attendance has increased during the past month,

averaging between 30 and 35 women. Many of our newcomers have found a sponsor and have begun working the steps. 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 participate. We hold a Group Conscience Meeting and potluck on the first Wednesday of every month following the regular meeting. The group is hosting a Retreat for All Women in Recovery at Camp Knutson in Crosslake, MN on March 22nd, 23rd, and 24th.

Our Common Welfare- Dave, Dave is filling in for Larry who is ill. Our Common Welfare meets every Wed. at 8:00 PM at 1601 Oak St. in Brainerd MN. We generally have at least 20 persons in attendance at our meeting. We have a discussion meeting based on a topic from conference approved literature. We are a service oriented group that goes into the Crow Wing County Jail and the Focus Treatment Center.

Pequot LKS Group- Jeff, We meet every Monday night at St. Alice Church in Pequot Lakes at 7:30 PM. This is an open meeting. We average 25-30 people. Topics are chosen by whoever chairs the meeting. Had a couple of new people in Jan., plus we gave out quite a few medallions from 1-24 yrs. We have had good participation for speakers for Focus and Pine River Treatment Centers. Focus is the 1st Friday and Pine River is the last Thurs. of every month.

Isle Big Book- Mary, Our meeting is held at Faith Lutheran Church in Isle on Saturday morning at 10:00 AM. We have discussion on the Big Book. Attendance is 8-10 regulars. Everyone is Welcome! Bring your Big Book!

Primary Purpose- Toni, Primary Purpose meets on Wed. night at 7:00 PM at the Living Water Church at Wahkon. Our group size has been rising with young and new faces. Wed Feb 27th we will be having a pot luck speaker meeting to celebrate our 2nd year as a group. We have 2 speakers, representing both AA and Alanon. Tom H. will be speaking. Pot luck starts at 6 and the speaker at 7. Hope to see you there! Toni

Women's AA of Isle-Toni, Women's AA of Isle meets at the Faith Lutheran Church on Sun. night at 6:00PM. Snow closed us down one night. We got the whole group together and went to Milica to a speaker meeting. It was enjoyed by all. We will try to do that more often. In Service Toni.

Tuesday Morning New Hope Group-Gail, The Tuesday Morning New Hope Group meets at the Upfront Club. Our group generally has 12-18 persons in attendance. It is a good meeting with a nice mix of sobriety ages. We recently presented Sharon with her 35th! We are concentrating on the 12 steps and the 12 traditions and topics from approved AA literature.

Practicing the Principles- John, We have a general open topic meeting depending on who is chairing the meeting. We have a flux in attendance any where from 10-12 to as many as 20 persons. We also have a good range of sobriety from brand new to 20-30 and even 40 years.

Serenity in the Pines- Carl, Our meeting is going well. We meet Thurs. at 8 PM at Sleepy Hollow. We also have a good mix of old and new persons, and generally have around 12 in attendance.

Action Committee Reports:

C.P.C.-Liz, I am working on the details surrounding the C.P.C. event, and am looking for volunteers to assist by serving on a committee to help with planning. I am also available to help with facilities the printing of our meeting schedules. I am hoping to firm up a date for the C.P.C. event. I am happy to be of Service, Liz.

Literature- Gary, District 7 Literature Notes for January 2013 thru February 2013. We only sold 2 books for a total of 15.40. I also have price lists available on the front table with my phone number on it. Thank You for allowing me to be of Service! Gary

Corrections-Dave, We have 2 persons that need a contact when they are released from prison. The first is a female. She will be living in Brainerd. Her release date is July 6th. the second is a male who will be released 6/5 and he will be living in Deerwood.

Treatment-Dave, Dave will be visiting the treatment centers as soon as the new schedules are printed.

G. V. - Sheldon,
February 19

"Often in sobriety, I've prayed when I needed to meditate. I've yammered at God so much that God can't get a word in edgewise. (What I practice with people, I cannot help but practice with God.) To me, meditation is simply being quiet and listening for a change. It is buttoning up my lip - and my mind that yaps even when my mouth is shut."

Alt. DCM - OPEN, no report.

DCM- Neil,
DCM Report – District 7, Area 35
FEB 2013
Greetings District 7!

Thank you for supporting me to attend the Area workshop in Walker on Jan. 19th and 20th. The workshop was informative and reinforced the importance of service work being done in AA. AA members from different districts in our Area presented on various topics. In addition, we heard from Ted (past trustee) and Jim (Area 35 delegate). Jim gave a good talk on the importance of keeping AA going and not taking it for granted. He reminded us that other organizations have failed and no longer exist – such as the Washingtonians and the Oxford Group. These are important reasons to participate and I wonder if perhaps we take it for granted that AA will always be there and someone else will always do what is needed?

We received good news from District 14 – this district has been inactive but they are trying to get going again and they have people stepping up and getting involved. As we know, AA's from District 17 have been actively supported District 7 with quite a few meetings listed in 7 that are actually located in 17. Restarting 17 would be ideal if enough support was generated to give it a go.

We've got a lot going on with our inventory scheduled tonight immediately after the district meeting. In addition, there's an Area Committee Meeting Sunday at 9 AM in Aitkin. This meeting is open to all AA's – district chairs should attend as there are committees meeting from our Area discussing AA service, sharing ideas, concerns, etc.

The GSC agenda items have been identified as well as "hot topics" – I have copies here for you. GSR's should become familiar with the agenda and background materials in order to get a group conscience on the items and bring it back to district.

The first formal discussions on the conference will be at the WCRAASC in Rapid City, SD – next Fri-Sun. I will be attending and will get insights to the business coming up at the GSC. I will bring that back to district and will be available to share on the items, address

questions, etc. If you can make it to the regional, please attend you will experience the value that comes from these conferences.

Let's talk about our meetings scheduled in March – one for regular district business and the other to go over the GSC agenda items. I want to make sure we give GSR's enough time to become familiar with the agenda and to meet with their groups.

In closing, I'd like to thank each of you for your service and continued dedication to AA.

In service,
Neil F.

Old Business;

A considerable amount of time was spent discussing the Agenda Items, and the function of the Spring Assembly. Neil passed out copies of the Agenda Items on disk, and he also passed out copies of the Hot Topics list, and the Agenda paper summary. It was noted that the time for reviewing these items was limited and that there was a lot of material to go over. It was also noted that Neil will be voting at the Spring Assembly with the District conscience based on the special meeting that we will hold on 3/7. It was also noted that GSR's get to vote at the Spring Assembly. and one such vote could cancel Neil's vote if that GSR and their group had a differing opinion. **GSR participation at this event is strongly encouraged. A vote was taken and all found favor with sticking to the afore mentioned special meeting time date and place.**

Web-Bob, Bob passed around a cost spread sheet for the Web Site and asked if we were supporting it. This cost covers the Domain Name and the Hosting. **It was, again, generally agreed that we support this.** Bob will submit his expenses to our Treasurer.

C.P.C.- Liz, Liz asked the groups to bring back information on this subject. Four dates and times were advanced. The various GSR's weigh in on the subject. We haggle over the attributes of this day of the week or that time of day. **Finally Liz makes a motion that we hold the event on Thurs. 16th of May, time and location to be announced. Eric seconded that motion, and all found favor with it. We need to continue talking about this.**

New Business;

Schedules-Neil, Neil asked that **we continue to forward changes to the meeting schedule** to himself, Liz, or Tom and we will all attempt to stay current with changes to the schedule.

Could we pass around a master list at our District meeting also?

C.P.C. Event, already been discussed.

Area Committee meeting in Aitkin-Neil, Neil reminded all of us that we are supposed to be attending the Area Committee Meeting in Aitkin this Sunday. **This is a compulsory event** for District Chairs....Also that additional CD's of the Agenda will be available there.

W.C.R.C. in Rapid City- Neil, Neil will be attending the West Central Regional Conference in Rapid City. That will be the 1st-3rd of March.

Re-scheduling the Extra March Meeting-Neil, It was previously agreed that we would keep the original time and date as planned, and that GSR's will consult with their

groups , obtain a group conscience on the Agenda, and attend the extra meeting to convey this conscience to Neil who will vote for the district at the Spring Assembly.

Bob asked for additional updates for the Web site(s).

Liz asked that she be utilized as an additional liaison for the flow of Public Information.

Saturday from noon to two PM at the First Congregational Church we will be holding the training session for the Help Line.

Closing- We closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:00pm right on schedule. Cake and ice cream followed, then we gathered for the group inventory. The group inventory will be typed by Mark our previous DCM, and Moderator.

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. 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