

District 7 Meeting Minutes for Sept. 2013

The meeting opened at exactly 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of the month at the First Congregational Church on the SW corner of 415 Juniper Street in Brainerd MN., with the Serenity Prayer. Introductions were made; Neil DCM, Dave Treatment, Arden Corrections, Paul GSR, Tim GSR, Galen GSR, Mary Alt GSR, Bob Web Master, John GSR, Carl GSR Carl Member, Nancy GSR, Toni GSR and Liz CPC/PI.

Call for additions to the agenda: GSR school and concern about cities listed in schedule but not a part of District 7.

Concept 9 – Tim read from the service manual on the section titled Concept 9. No discussion followed the reading.

Tradition 9 – Carl read the short form of the ninth tradition. No Discussion followed the reading

Secretaries Report- Eric: A motion was made by Toni to accept the August secretary's report, 2nd by John and passed unanimously.

Treasury Report-Cindy, Cindy presented financials and provided copies for all present. Motion mad, seconded and passed unanimously.

GSR Reports-

Our Common Welfare- Dave subbed for Larry. O.C.W. is a closed meeting which meets Wed. nights at 8:00 PM at 1601 Oak St. in Brainerd. Attendance varies from 15 to 30 persons. It is a Big Book and AA approved literature discussion meeting. We bring a meeting into the Focus Unit at 7:00pm the 3rd Monday of each month and meetings into the echo pod at the C.W.C Jail the 2nd and the 4th Thurs. at 7:00 PM.

Palisade AA- Arden, We meet Monday at 7:00 PM at the Lutheran Church. It is a topic meeting. The meeting is struggling but still going. 7 people in attendance last week. We are still lacking a GSR.

Big Sandy Wed. - Paul, We meet every Wed. evening at 7:00 PM at the BSL Alano Club. It is an open mixed meeting. On Sept. 11, we celebrated Elsa S.'s milestone anniversary of 40 years. A motion was made and passed to support the website at a cost of no more than \$5.00/mo. Meeting attendance was around 20. We also have an open mixed meeting on Sat. at 9:00AM at the Big Sandy Alano Club. It is an open meeting and attendance was around 20. A motion was made and passed to support the website.

There is a Solution- Tim, Big Book study. We meet at 6:30 PM every Thursday at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Wright MN. We study the first 164 pages of the Big Book. We are sponsoring a meeting Wednesday at Mish Kaw Shen Treatment Center in Sawyer. Every 4th Thursday we have a pot luck dinner followed by a speaker meeting. This starts at 5:30.

Rimer Reason AA Group- Galen, We meet Mondays at 7:00 PM at the Bethesda Church on Hwy 47 just S. of Malmo. We are a topic and discussion group. Members volunteer to bring a topic and lead the discussion for the following week's meeting. The first meeting of each month the topic is a Step or a Tradition correlating with that month. We have 15-20 attendees each week, both men and women, and long term sobriety, as well as newcomers. We are a registered AA group and make regular contributions to District 7, Area 35, and the General Service Office. There is a big Alanon group that meets at the same time in a room adjacent to ours.

Nisswa Wednesday Women's Works-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. Beginning October 2nd 2013, we be having a speaker meeting followed by a potluck and Group Conscience Meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. The speakers will be women from our group, sharing their stories of experience, strength and hope. The group feels this will strengthen the group and help all members of our group, especially the newcomers, to feel a sense of belonging and to know they are not alone. Our group regularly participates in at the Crow Wing County Jail Focus Unit and the each month. Our group has been planning our annual Christmas potluck and speaker meeting, to be held on Wednesday, December 4th, 2013. The group plans to invite a guest speaker for this event. In addition to a great speaker and fabulous food, we have fun games and prizes including charming centerpieces crafted by members of the group. Flyers will be distributed by our members to other groups in our area inviting ladies to join us for this fun event.

***Sleepy Hollow- John,** We meet Mondays at 8:00 PM at Fort Ripley Town Hall. A hot issue is a current 5 week meeting streak of homemade cake and ice cream. Meeting attendance also up from 8-10 to over 12-15 the last few weeks. We are uncertain if it is the message or the cake. There is a round Robin coming up. Saturday Sept 21st is the date- fellowship 5.00 food 6.00. See flier.

Serenity in the Pines- Carl, Our meeting at Serenity at the Pines meets every Thursdays at 8 PM. We have around a dozen regular members. We generally talk about one of the Steps or a topic out of the Big Book. Lately, one of our members has been reading a Chapter out of the Big Book each week and then talking about it. Great discussion follows. Tonight that fellow is celebrating 35 years clean and sober.

Practicing the Principles- Jim V. Meets Sunday 10:00 AM upfront Club. Open Meeting. We read from 24 hours/day and Reflections from which a topic is chosen. 10-20 people in attendance.

Isle Big Book-Mary- Meet at Faith Lutheran Church on Saturday 10:00 AM until 11:00 AM. Attendance has been 10-15 people each meeting with good discussion.

Primary Purpose-Toni- Meets Wed. nights at 7:00 at Living Waters Church of Wahkon. We are an open meeting, 12x12, Big Book and all topics are open for discussion. Our group is sticking at around a comfortable 15 members. As winter moves in we are looking to get some new members back. The 5th Wed. is a speakers-potluck meeting. Oct 30th is a speaker meet. We would like to see all of you there.

Neil for Jeff, The Pequot Lakes meeting has moved to the Baptist church in town

Action Committee Reports-

C.P.C. / P. I.-Liz had nothing new to report.

Archives- Open- No report.

Literature- Gary, Gary sent the following report to Neil. Greetings district 7 and attending GSR's. We had a good month in sales. I sold 6 books to an individual from the Garrison group. I also sold 4 books to 4 separate people at our District 7 picnic and 20 soft cover Big Books to Our Common Welfare group for a total of 30 books with sales of \$266.95. Remember, if you need literature; please call me at 218-831-7155. Yours in service Gary S.

Corrections- Arden- Nothing new to report

Treatment- Dave- There isn't much to report. He will drop off schedules at the various treatment centers.

Grapevine- Sheldon- Was absent but Neil read a few jokes and plugged the Grapevine

Webmaster- Bob- Bob stated the mtg's have been updated on the web and that maps are still being updated. Bob is missing district job descriptions. Neil said he would provide those to Bob in the near future. Bob brought up an issue concerning cities listed in the schedules but not being a part of District 7. This became a new business item. Bob indicated he was struggling with the schedules fine print when updating the web pages.

Alt DCM- Open, No report.

DCM Report – Neil provided a written report-see attachment

Old Business;

1. Meet and greet 8/25: Neil reported good participation despite the rescheduling and hot weather. Liz thanked Bob for all his hard work. Neil thanked Liz and Gail for their contributions as well. Bob asked if it was better to hold the event in July or August. This will be brought forth for future discussion. Bob also noted there is money left over for next year's picnic.
2. West Central Regional Forum: Bob attended this event and offered the following: No votes, action or arguments just sit and listen. There was a lot of discussion regarding finances and electronic literature. He reported the Grapevine should be in the black again this year due mostly to overhead reductions.
3. Fall Workshop: 10/26 2013 to be held in Aitkin. 11:00-2:00 Potluck with sponsorship being the topic. Tom indicated there would be a sub-committee mtg following this meeting to discuss the event. Tom said they were working on a list of topics and the workshop would feature a panel of experts who would field questions. He was looking for recommendations for people qualified to sit on the panel.

4. Fall Assembly: October 5th and 6th. Vote will be taken on Web issues i.e.: money and other support. This issue was brought to the individual groups for discussion. Both Carl and Paul said their groups supported the action. Next Area Delegate: Discussion was focused on the candidates and as expected, a number of qualified people had support. Neil will vote his conscience.

5. District elections will be held at Octobers District meeting.

6. Expense reports: Discussion followed and questions were addressed. I think all are satisfied with the new format.

7. Crow Wing County Echo Pod AA meetings. This was inadvertently left off from the previous meeting and should be discusses again at some future meeting.

Currently O.C.W. brings a meeting to the Echo Pod at the Jail twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. They thought that there was a need to hold the meeting every week, and need help doing so. They are reaching out to the District, and to the other groups in the District for help with this.

Neil speaks, this isn't District Business but Our Common Welfare Group is reaching out and asking other groups for help with this. He also mentioned Arden's efforts with the Aitkin County Jail. Neil also mentioned that Arden should be included in this. O.C.W. should be working with Arden as he is our Corrections Chair.

New Business-

1. GSR School December 12th. Toni made a motion to hold a GSR School in lieu of our District meeting. Carl Seconded and motion passed. There was one minority opinion brought forth and acknowledged. No votes changed. Bob stated it would be a 6:00 potluck (chili) and start the presentation at 7:00. It was suggested that sponsors encourage sponsee participation. The event will finish up with an ice cream social.

2. Cities listed in schedules but not in district 7. It was suggested that we bring this topic back to the groups for discussion and consideration.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lords Prayer.

Note: Although I tested my recorder a couple of times before the meeting and tested again after I discovered the meeting recording was non-existent. So, I did the best I could with old fashion hand written notes. I hope all is forgiven if I missed anything or misinterpreted what was said.

