

District 33 Business Meeting

March 2012 Minutes

Date: Sunday, March 12, 2012

Attendees: Sam H., Leighton L., Hollie R., Joe M., Lauren C., Fred C., Bill R., Linda L., Ed M., Megan M., Jose S., Andy, Connie J., Travis M., Moriah L., Jennie P., Frank C., Lance L., Lauren T., Dave, Jim H., Cliff H., Tom W., Angie N.

ADMINISTRATIVE

February Minutes

The February minutes were read to the group. The minutes were adopted without correction.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DCM

Sam H. attended the Piedmont Regional Pre-Conference. He mentioned that he had the opportunity to attend a workshop on group inventories and again stressed that homegroups consider performing inventories. AA's dire financial situation was discussed at the pre-conference as was the need for a greater number of AA members to get involved with general service.

Alt DCM

Leighton L. attended the same pre-conference and was struck by a discussion over the importance of the minority opinion in AA.

CPCP!

Jennie P. got in touch with Student Health at UNC and they will be receiving new trifold meeting schedules. Passed along an order from the Basic Text homegroup to order some literature for a homeless shelter.

Grapevine

Lance L. will be bringing his grapevine display to the Eno Group Anniversary and asked other members to consider if there is any information from their respective committees that they would like to plug as part of the display.

Telephone Answering Service (TAS)

In February, the answering service received 143 phone calls. Only 19 of those calls were referred out to volunteers at the request of the caller. Ed M. has a readout of the calls, times, and how they were handled which is available for anyone to look at. Leighton pointed out that the number of calls that were farmed out to volunteers is a very small percentage (13%) of the total, so we should remember that just because someone has volunteered for the TAS that does not mean they will receive a call.

Financial Report

Joe M. passed out the March 2012 financial report.

As of March 9 2012:

- 1) Actual amount in checking: \$4,272.52
- 2) \$4,092.37 is the ending balance (3/1/11- \$6108.78)

Note: The difference between the actual checking account balance and ending balance is due to an uncleared payments denoted in bold on the payments page.

- 3) \$2424.37 above our \$1,668 Prudent Reserve.

See the attached Treasure's Report for more information. Please check to make sure all checks sent in are represented there.

OLD BUSINESS

Website

Leighton L. presented the work of the Website Committee. We have engaged the vendor and paid ½ of their fee as well as 24 months of a new hosting service that is cheaper than the old hosting service. A screenshot of the new homepage was passed out to GSRs. Reminder: Leighton L. sent a request to district committee chairs so they can draft content for their committee webpage. Committee Chairs: Please complete these drafts ASAP. For details on what content is expected, please refer to Leighton's email dated March 12. Functionality Highlights: With the new website, each committee chair will receive a generic email address (for example, corrections@aanc33.org) which can be forwarded to their preferred email address. Meetings will link to Google maps for directions. Meeting lists will be updatable through the website database but at the moment, there is no tool on the new website for updating the PDF (downloadable) meeting trifold. The "volunteer for service" functionality will be a general form that can then be forwarded to the relevant committee chair depending on what activity the individual is volunteering for. Timeline: The website will be done no later than June 1, 2012, but hopefully even sooner. Suggestion: Lauren T. suggested switching the positions of the Welcome and the Featured Content boxes. The website will be modified in light of this suggestion

TAS

Some questions and concerns about the TAS were raised and discussed.

1) Q. How are calls farmed out to volunteers? A. When a caller requests to speak to someone in AA, the operator first searches for volunteer of the same sex, then his/her availability, then in light of special needs (for example, Spanish-speaking), then the county in which he/she is located. It seems that sometimes the operators will bypass this system if they have too many calls on the line (in favor of getting ahold of someone they know will be available) but that is how it is supposed to function and the service is working on perfecting the system.

2) Comment: Leighton L. pointed out that with the new website, the TAS will have the ability to input the relevant search criteria and find a volunteer using the website directly.

3) Concern: Ed M. raised a worry with the motion that we discussed and voted on last month that we adopt the GSO criteria, which suggests that volunteers have at least 6 months of sobriety. Namely, he was concerned that given the motion adopted, it is the case that anyone can volunteer to receive phone calls. He suggested that we keep in mind that GSO suggests the minimum because they are not in the business of trying to tell groups how to run their services but we should not take that as a limit on what we can require of volunteers.

In response, Tom W. mentioned that he discussed this motion with his homegroup and they thought that the suggestion of at least 6 months was sufficient as they thought it would be pretty rare for someone to sign up if they had had less time, and in such cases we should trust our Higher Powers.

Ed M. reiterated the worry that volunteers with less time are not equipped to answer the calls and that as a result we aren't providing the most informed, experienced, and knowledgeable service to those who call.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Freedom from Bondage XXIII

March 16-18, 2012

Corrections Conference

Southern Pines, NC

April/May District Meeting- LOCATION CHANGE

The April and May District Meetings will be combined into one and held directly following the Eno Group Anniversary.

4pm, April 29th, 2012

Big Barn Hillsborough

Eno Group Anniversary

1-4 pm, April 29, 2012

Big Barn, Hillsborough

Area 51 Spring Committee & Assembly Meeting

May 4-6, 2012

Hilton, North Raleigh

Hotel Registration Deadline: April 5, 2012

Fifth Annual Gratitude Weekend

June 1-3, 2012

618 Salter Path Rd

Pine Knoll Shores, NC 28512

CONTRIBUTIONS

District Contributions

District 33 GSC

PO Box 2803

Chapel Hill, NC 27515

Note: If you provide your email address, a confirmation will be provided.

Area Contributions

NCGSC- Treasurer

PO Box 1351

Wadesboro, NC 28170