

# District 33 Business Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2014

**Open:** Serenity prayer

**Introductions:** Tom A, Jennie P, Tim Z, Leighton L, Kelsey B, Doug C, Joe N, Lauren C, Angel S, David H, Phil C, Rob, John R, Joe S, Jim H, Paul M, Sam H, Charles T, Kim M, Geneviève B.

**Administrative:** Previous Meeting Minutes highlights read, and a correction to be made regarding the definition of Unity Fund; correction to previous Meeting Minutes approved by District members.

## **Committee Reports**

**DCM – Jennie P:** In the last month, Jennie has been working on the last details for the Unity Rally, and has been getting the word out. The speakers for the panel have been chosen; the event is posted on District 32's and District 33's websites; Jennie created an extremely discreet/secret Facebook invitation where nobody (except those invited by her) can see the names of the people invited or the event at all; the event has also been announced at plenty of AA meetings in the last month.

--- Tells everyone to make sure they come to the Area 51 Assembly this upcoming weekend.

→Kelsey asks when the voting is done at the Assembly. Jennie says that Saturday morning is when the voting for the area officers and agenda items starts and continues until finished.

(The election for the area officers must be completed within the same session; therefore, voting will continue until finished on Saturday, but any agenda items that the assembly was not able to get to can be voted on Sunday.)

**Alt DCM – Tom A:** Tom will be helping out with the food for the Unity Rally, and will also be attending the assembly. Points out that GSRs can go to the Area 51 website to get the agenda items in order to get a voting consensus from their home groups before the assembly.

→Sam asks whether or not there is a Unity Rally flier. Jennie says that the flier is on the District website and can be printed out from the website.

**Telephone Answering Service (TAS) – Ed M:** Not here. No one else has any updates.

**CPC/PI – Lauren C:** Lauren met with Lynda H and gave her a lot of the District 33 quad fold meeting lists, as well as to a woman who works in the emergency room at UNC Hospital.

--- At Sam's suggestion, she also printed out some business cards that has the TAS phone number (see September minutes under Treasurer's report), District 33 website information which are good for police stations, law offices, etc. She also received an email from Pastor Mindy Douglas, who wanted to offer space in her church for AA meetings to be held; if anyone is interested in starting a meeting in Chatham County, Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church has space available.

→Kelsey says that she dropped off meeting lists in Siler City and Pittsboro, as well.

→Jennie asks where Lynda is distributing the meeting lists. Lauren says Lynda is distributing them in Alamance County, which is the county she's in charge of.

**Treatment –Scott T:** Scott not here.

**Corrections – Angel S:** Says that he needs about 500 more quad folds. It is suggested by someone in the group that he can print out the quad folds off of the district website using the Corrections budget.

--- If you're interested in volunteering at Caswell County Correctional, you can give him your name. He says that, sometime this month, Orange County Correctional in Hillsborough might be able to start accepting volunteers. Alamance Detention Center has approved for us to bring AA meetings into that detention center. However, they want to have males and females separated; they also said that there MUST be males AND females in order to bring a meeting into the center because the center wants to keep opportunities for the inmates equal. For those who want to volunteer at the Alamance Detention Center, they will perform CIS (background check) and have PREA training. When Angel gets the applications from them, he will contact us.

→Tim Z asks about whether we should be announcing that corrections volunteers are wanted at meetings. Angel encourages it and says to make sure that they're serious about volunteering.

---Angel also says that they're building a new detention center in Chatham County, which will be completed sometime in December. Unfortunately, he says, that's all of the information he has regarding that new center.

→Leighton expands on the aforementioned new detention center: Richard Webster was a friend of Leighton's and upon running into each other, had a long conversation about Webster's desire to bring an AA meeting into the county jail. Webster said that everything was going

digital, there was a new facility, and that they would love to have access to AA meetings in the new place. Leighton agreed to get back to Richard about the details at the end of the year.

---Angel announces that the Corrections Committee (at the district level) was talking about a correctional conference, that he's trying to use the funds he has, but may or may not need more.

→Jennie says that if any of the committee chairs have something that they want to spend money on, and it exceeds the budget, to bring it to district; if it seems reasonable, we can vote on it and appropriate more money.

---Angel also announces that, within Corrections, the Durham district and our district have talked about wanting to have a Corrections workshop (Corrections districts are drawn out differently—by regions—than the districts in Area 51, so part of our Corrections, extends into Durham). He says that Corrections in Raleigh does a workshop, and they would like to do something like that here too. He also has a bill to give to the Treasurer.

---Angel asks that if anyone has any Grapevines to donate, to give them to him because he could use them; they appreciate any Grapevine donations. Also announced a potluck and passed out flyers (see Announcements section).

**Treasurer – Maggie S:** not here. Tom A gives report: Southern Voices is a little high this month (they bill every 28 days). We had a good month in group contributions—over \$1,000. Regarding our spending, we are still WAY under budget. We have a lot of money we can spend, or it will just end up being sent up. Maggie still doesn't have Leighton's check correct on the sheet because the check she gave him didn't have the group name on it.

→Leighton says it's the Belmont Group, and that he wasn't at the last business meeting to receive the question. Tom says he will relay the information to Maggie.

**Website – Jim H:** Jim added four new meetings to the website, and the Unity Rally information is up. Hits on the website continue to number between 150 -200 a day; so the website is doing well. If you have any events, contact him so that he can put them up on the website.

**Grapevine – Tim Z:** Tim says he still has his (the allocated Grapevine budget) budget to spend, and intends to help Angel out, possibly by ordering a few grapevine subscriptions. Tim says that they're getting ready for the Unity Rally, the Hawfield anniversary celebration, and the Fun Fest retreat (see Announcements section for details).

→Leighton says that he was under the impression that the Grapevine budget was allocated for buying inventory to sell at different home groups.

→Tom says that from what he understands that it's just a future thing to sell the Grapevines.

→Leighton clarifies that the money was to buy the Grapevines in bulk, for cover prices, and to replenish the inventory; says he wants to make sure it hasn't been lost in time.

→Tim says that they have a lot regarding inventory.

→Sam says the \$500 was a separate line item budget for Grapevines to be sold to groups, and when they sell the Grapevines to the group, the money gets put back into the fund.

→Jennie asks if in the current year, they have enough inventory to sell and replenish the budget, then what could Tim use the money for?

→Sam reiterates that as well as replenishing the budget, he could buy materials and Grapevine CDs.

The consensus from this discussion is that it is not ok to use the Grapevine money from the budget to purchase Grapevine subscriptions to give to Corrections.

## **Old Business**

### 1.) Issue of Treatment Chair(s):

---Jennie contacted Scott. He said that he wants to do it; due to his schedule, he can't make it to business meetings but can pass on reports to us via someone else at district. It is agreed that he can continue to be the liaison and send the reports to district with someone else.

---Jennie wants to find a second treatment chair because since the district is so big, and we have one chair in the Alamance section, we should have a second chair in the Orange/Chatham section of the district.

→Sam says he talked to Shane; he said that he's working and doesn't have the time to do it.

→Kelsey asks what the position entails.

→Jennie says it involves communicating with the meetings that are at treatment centers.

→Doug says the name "H and I" (Hospitals and Institutions) might spark your memory on what we do with that position. He says that we had meetings at Holly Hill, APC, Dix Hill, etc. The job is to bring meetings into facilities that are either short term or long term to carry the message of recovery.

→Jennie suggests we make a motion to get a second Treatment Chair.

→Leighton suggests that we just stay the course, asking that it be put in the minutes that there's a call for a second Treatment Chair at the district level.

→Kelsey volunteers.

→Geneviève makes a motion that Kelsey becomes the second Treatment Chair. The motion passes.

---Kim M will be putting Kelsey in touch with Scott.

→Leighton asks that it be put in the minutes that the district is calling for volunteers to go to the treatment centers; contact Kelsey if interested.

## **New Business**

### 1.) Taking meetings to UNC Hospital:

---Jennie brings up that the Chapel Hill Carrboro group has been taking a meeting to UNC Hospital on Sundays and Wednesdays. Jennie expresses that even though bringing more meetings to the hospital is a big commitment and would require more planning, she's putting the word out for the Chapel Hill Carrboro group in case people are interested in bringing more meetings.

→Doug points out that that is what the Treatment Chair is for. If people want to volunteer to bring meetings to UNC, they should contact Kelsey.

→Sam says that normally it takes a home group to sponsor a meeting being brought, that people have to be screened, receive vaccination, require special parking permits, etc—and that groups should be able to give a 2 year commitment to bringing a specific meeting.

→Tom suggests that our Treatment Coordinator, Kelsey, find out what, specifically, the Chapel Hill/Carrboro group is looking for regarding expanding the hospital meetings. Because they had to get around 10 people to commit long term before they were able to bring the meetings.

---Kelsey says that the case manager at Chatham Hospital also wants a meeting brought in. Asks what parts of the hospitals require meetings.

→Jennie says that it's not just to get AA awareness out, but to allow for short term hospital stays (i.e. psych ward) to have exposure to meetings.

### 2.) Excess Funds:

--- Leighton suggests that we use excess funds to purchase Grapevine subscriptions to donate to Corrections.

→Angel points out that Corrections has appropriated literature money for prisons, but not jails; Angel wants to pump the grapevines into the jails because every county has a jail. Leighton will see if the Chatham County Jail will have Grapevines available online (since everything will be online in that facility).

→Angel asks for 20 subscriptions. Says they are \$28.97 per subscription which would cost \$579.40 total.

---Leighton makes a motion that, with some of our excess funds, we order 20 paper Grapevine subscriptions for Angel to distribute among jails.

→Tom asks if we have to wait until the next business meeting to vote on it so that we can talk to our home groups.

→Sam point out that we are trusted servants, representing our home groups. We just need to make sure that the Grapevines stay within our district lines. Angel says that is not a problem.

→Jim H says that we should check with the Grapevine about a special ordering price.

---Kelsey brings up her concern because she's had trouble passing out Grapevines within the jails. Angel says that he's been able to do it and that the volunteers have been able to as well.

→Jennie says that in her experience it's up to the individual institutions as to what we can or can't bring in/distribute.

---Attention directed back to the motion on the floor: that we use some of our excess funds to order 20 Grapevine subscriptions to be distributed among the county jails within District 33. Motion passes.

---Tim will find out how much they cost to order.

→Someone asks whether Tim should bring back the cost to the group after he finds out so that we can approve it BEFORE they are actually ordered.

→Tom proposes that we allow our trusted Grapevine representative to find out the cost, purchase the subscriptions, and then have the treasurer cut him a check.

---The Grapevines will be ordered by our representative, and they will be shipped to his address.

### **Other Business**

**Concept:** person bringing the concept is not here. We will see if she comes next month.

**Anniversary Recognition:** Angel celebrated 16 years on October 8; Joe N celebrated 9 years on September 28. Each person shared what their first AA meeting was like.

### **Announcements**

The Hawfield Group is celebrating their one year anniversary on October 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be a potluck at 6:30, a speaker at 7:30, and a raffle at the end of the evening; the speaker will be Haywood L.

Fun Fest is a regional retreat that will take place the weekend before Thanksgiving at the Ramada Inn in Burlington.

**Close:** Responsibility Statement