

District 33 Business Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2014

Open: Serenity Prayer

Introductions: Tom A, Kelsey B, Geneviève B, Dave B, Leighton L, Doug C, Carl G, Maggie S, Kim M, Anne A, Pam C, Jim H, Linda H, Rob G, Scott Z, Phil C, John R, Dave H, Tomi H, Evan C, Newman P, Charles T.

Administrative: Previous Meeting Minutes read and approved by vote.

Committee Reports

DCM – Jennie P: (Jennie out of town, Tom A gives the report that Jennie sent him via email):

Jennie attended the Fall Area Assembly (summary included in email she circulated along with today's district meeting agenda). Sam H is the new CPCPI Coordinator for the Area. All of the agenda items were passed; if you want, you can look on the Area website for the listed agenda items that were passed. Tom can email you the username and password to access the information on the Area website. Two new ad hoc sub committees were formed (one regarding research in area policies and procedures; the other was formed regarding the Area service structure).

--- The Unity Rally went well, and Jennie thanks everyone who helped. Homer was one of the speakers. Tim and Jose brought Grapevines, and Tom did a wonderful job with the food. Attendance was between 50-60 people, and Jennie says the feedback on the Unity Rally was positive. In the December meeting, Jennie wants to discuss how best to deal with the fact that we ended up going about 70 dollars over the budget.

→Leighton: was it the revised budget?

Tom: yes.

Maggie: she was under the impression that the amount spent was actually under the budget.

→Carl: what was the total budget?

Maggie: \$500. According to her calculations we're approximately \$50 under budget.

Alt DCM – Tom A: Tom seconds what Jennie said about the Assembly and the Unity Rally being a success. He will be in charge of it next year, and if you want to do something different next year you can let him know.

Telephone Answering Service – Ed M: Not here.

Grapevine – Tim Z and Jose S: Not here.

CPC/PI – Lauren C: Not here; Tom gives report for her:

She bought some more “Drinking problem?” cards and continues to distribute them throughout the district. One of her friends gave some to Freedom House. She says that she could use some help getting more cards out in the Alamance area. If anyone can, please contact Lauren:

laurencioelpc@gmail.com

Corrections – Angel S: Not here; Tom gives report for him:

Angel says he can always use more Grapevines to distribute to the prisons and jails. He is still waiting for an answer regarding the application for Alamance Graham County Jail. As soon as he receives the application, he will notify the district. He also says that “supposedly” Orange Corrections is receiving inmates back into the unit that had burned down.

→Leighton: Alamance okayed us to bring meetings into their facility, but there is paperwork that has to be completed. There will be two AA meetings brought in (one for men and one for women).

→Linda: mentions that the Rule 62 group has two volunteers for corrections, and that if Angel wants to contact her, she can pass along their information.

→Pam: says that she has some used grapevines. Anne says she will give them to Angel.

Website – Jim H: The website is still maintaining its hit rate; on good days we have at or over 200 hits. If anyone has anything to put on there (Paul says he has something), email it to him and he will put it up.

→ Geneviève: brings up the fact that the chairs’ names on the district website need to be updated.

Jim: Chairs need to give him their emails and contact him so that he can update it because there is a password for each chair’s email.

→Leighton: brings up the space that allows for the chairs to describe what their position does (mission statement for each committee chair). He encourages that each person makes sure it says what they want it to say, in addition to getting their email addresses to Jim.

Tom: theoretically we only have to do that every two years, but we have new people.
Leighton: to the best of his knowledge, it hasn't been done since the website was put up a few years ago. We set it up so that no one outside could contact a specific individual.

Tim: you can have the emails [sent via the email address on the website] forwarded to you, or you can enter into the Gmail interface and go to your service spot.

Leighton: we want people to be able to reach the chairs.

Treatment – Shane B and Scott T: (Scott not here) Kelsey passes out the “Bridging the Gap” papers (which include information on what the program is and a sign-up sheet for volunteers) to all the GSRs. She asks that the GSRs help her to get phone numbers of volunteers so that she can create a phone number list to give to treatment facilities. Bridging the Gap is looking for temporary (emphasis on the word temporary) sponsors for their clients; the treatment center will give the client a phone number of someone in AA to call, so that the client can be introduced to AA upon leaving the facility. The plan is to get phone numbers from people in each county.

→Leighton: asks how do individuals being released get the phone numbers?

Kelsey: they will call her or Scott, and they will pass on an appropriate number (respectively male or female). The treatment center will give the client Kelsey or Scott's number. She adds that this is kind of a new thing and wants to try to get it implicated in order to help people leaving treatment get integrated in AA.

Leighton: how many people?

Kelsey: not sure, it depends on whether people do it or not.

Leighton: says that it has failed in the past, and that in order for it to work (1) we need someone heading it up—which Kelsey now is. (2) we need to make the treatment centers aware of this option for their outgoing clients because a lot of facilities maintain their own lists.

Kelsey: this is just more formal than what we've been doing.

→Pam: asks if Bridging the Gap is an Alcoholics Anonymous program?

Kelsey: Yes.

Pam: could we get copies of the hand-outs?

Geneviève: If Kelsey can email me the attachment, I will attach the handout to the minutes when I send out today's minutes.

Kelsey: will do.

Treasurer – Maggie S: We paid rent for October, and had the usual phone expenses. Angel and Lauren used part of their budgets for service positions. Travel expenses were paid to Jennie for attending the Assembly. Contributions were down a bit at \$507.99, our ending balance was \$5,140.57, which put us about \$2,300 above our prudent reserve. We are about \$860 dollars below were we expected to be this year [as of now] regarding contributions, however we still have surplus money that has already been budgeted out—the biggest part of that is the travel expenses still to be used.

→Kelsey: her and Scott were talking about buying books. Does she need to ask Maggie?

Maggie: you can spend the money, and then be reimbursed via check from Maggie, or Maggie can pay for it beforehand by directly giving the sum to the person we order books from.

→ Geneviève: mentions that Jennie is still planning on making rounds to all the meetings within the district (regarding travel expenses).

→Maggie: asks when we need to have a proposed budget for next year?

Tom: unsure.

Leighton: it's just about now—within the next few months we need to have it.

New business for next month should include beginning to make the proposed budget for next year

Other Business

Concept: Anne A to present. Anne is here, but says she forgot and will deliver it next month.

Anniversary Recognition: No one present had had an anniversary since the last district meeting.

Old Business : None.

New Business: Nothing listed in the agenda. Tom asks if anyone has anything.

(1.) Leighton: Tom and he have had several short discussions about proposing a group trip to go to Akron, Ohio for Founder's Day. Points out that since a lot of people are already going to the International Convention in 2015 (which would be about the same time), we should forget about the trip for that year and instead try for 2016 if we would want to do it. Leighton said he will head this up as long as there is a preliminary interest from people in doing this. He said that we would stay the night in some dorms there and be fed. He thinks that we can make it financially feasible if we had at least one bus of around 80 people. Leighton will head up the initiative on this if there is any interest in it happening.

--GSRs should ask around and see if people are interested in this. He wants feedback on whether there is a general interest before he starts looking into all of the details. It would be in 2016 during the first weekend of June.

→Tom: we're just looking at interest gathering right now. We just want to see if people are even slightly interested in doing this.

→Leighton: thinks that if this was to work financially, it would have to be cost less than \$200 per person (including food and overnight stay in the dorms).

Tom: thinks busses only take a maximum of about 50 people, but says it would be a really cool experience.

--People ask several questions regarding the specifics on the cost of the trip, and the schedule of the trip, and other specific questions.

→Leighton: the package would be less than \$150 per person for food and board only (not including gas, etc.). He just wants to know if people would be interested in going to Akron for Founder's Day for less than \$200 a person, and if so, he will follow-up on more details.

→Maggie: shares her experience on a trip she made to Akron for Founder's Day, and says that if we went straight there we could probably catch the late night Friday meetings. Says that it is a very packed weekend, so even for a short stay, you can get a lot out of it.

(2.) Leighton brings up that we have 6 standing committees, and says that next year he would like to have workshops regarding those committees. He thinks it would be a good platform of information of what individual members can do if they're interested in that area of service).

→Tom: workshops in lieu of the Unity Rally?

Leighton: not in lieu of...maybe just a different schedule at the Unity Rally where we could have a break-out session in which people can gather information [at the Unity Rally] in workshops format...like a service unity workshop. He points out though, that

the Big Barn in Hillsborough wouldn't be a very good place to have the venue if that was the format. So we would need to find a new place.

Announcements

---TRICYPPA has settled on an official location for monthly meetings: the Alano Club in Cary (the TAC). The meetings are held the first Sunday each month, with the business meeting at 2pm, and a Service Manual study at 1pm. The Service Manual study will be chaired by a GSR who has been involved with the content of the Service Manual alongside a past Delegate. These meetings are open to anyone; if you are interested in how AA stays alive, that is the way to get that information. Currently they are on the Introductory essay written by Bill Wilson on Service.

---The Tar Heel Midwinter conference is January 15-18, 2015 in Raleigh, NC. *A flier is attached to the minutes*

---The Spring 2015 Area Assembly is May 15-17, 2015. Location: the North Raleigh Hilton, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, NC 27609.

---Geneviève: At some point, I will send out request for each specific group's information so that I can update the contact spreadsheet. Also, apparently some people are not getting the treasurer's report or the agenda. I will ask Maggie to send that to me and then I will attach it with the district minutes when I send them out. I will also ask Jennie to send me the agenda beforehand instead of sending it out to everyone, so that I can send it out to people on the email list I have.

Close: Responsibility Statement.