

# District 33 Business Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2014

(corrected version)

**Open:** Serenity Prayer

**Introductions:** Doug C, Kelsey B, Jennie P, Tomi H, Matt F, Anne A, John R, Scott Z, Rob G, Phil C, Pam C, Mary T, David H, Newton P, Geneviève B, Tom A, Charles T, Dave C, Carl G, Tim Z, Ed M, Sam H, Lynda H, Maggie S, Evan C

**Administrative:** August Business Meeting Minutes approved.

## Committee Reports

**DCM – Jennie P:** Summer committee meetings updates. During the summer committee meetings, Area Committee voted on what will be on the agenda for the Area 51 Fall Assembly. There are 7 items, which include: voting on adding language to AA pamphlet re making AA meetings a safe place, voting on where the “Freedom from Bondage” conference will be held, establishing positions of interpreter and translator, adding a get help button to the Area 51 website, approving the proposed 2015 Area 51 budget, special needs coordinator will be established, supporting the hospitality room in future convention, Ad Hoc committees regarding manual for area (what kind of items will go in it and how it will be updated).

The Area 51 Fall Assembly will be October 17-19 at the North Raleigh Hilton.

---Elaborated on safe meeting environment: from grapevine issue article “Keeping the Rooms Safe” Motion to bring it up as an agenda item at the GSO conference in New York so that it can be added to an AA pamphlet re AA meetings.

---Unity rally has a panel formed on the subject of Service. The rally will be Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Big Barn in Hillsborough.

**Alt DCM – Tom A:** last few meeting minutes haven’t been getting into the district archives, get the ball rolling on that. GSR talked to Alt DCM about getting a trip organized to look into going up to Akron, Ohio for Founders Day next year. Getting info on that to possibly present to district. Helping Jennie with the unity rally.

**Telephone Answering Service – Ed M:** family health issues have kept him busy the last 6 months (apologizing for absence). The TAS seems to continue to do well. Received questions on Spanish meetings, gathered a list of Spanish speaking meetings in North Carolina so that the TAS can have the information. Welcomes any questions or comments on how the service has been going: will be creating a folder on the TAS on how it works so as to deliver the information to AA groups he will be visiting. In the spirit of rotation, will be looking for someone to take over eventually.

**Grapevine – Tim Z:** had surgery, hasn't done much the last 6 weeks.

**CPC/PI – Lauren C:** not here

**Corrections – Angel S:** not here; Tom A gives report: Angel met with the Alamance County Jail in Graham. Said the meeting was promising. Currently no corrections program at the jail, but is waiting to hear back from the guy in order to bring AA meetings to the jail.

→ Charles T says that they will also need males AND females. The sheriff's department will need to provide equal access for males and females. Unclear exactly on that message meaning-Jennie will follow up with them.

→ Ed M says District 32 asked us about how the TAS service works because they're not happy with the way theirs has been going. If anyone receives a call from Terrell and in any way experiences conflict or harassment, please contact Ed and he's going to tell Southern Voices so we do not get calls from him anymore.

**Website – Jim H:** not here

**Treatment – Shane B and Scott T:** skip till Old Business

**Treasurer – Maggie S:** current account balance is \$4,777.95, which is \$2,458.9 in excess of our prudent reserve. We had \$700.64 come in from group contributions. Had regular bills (seen on report), Unity Rally, DCM travel budget used, CPC/PI expense (business cards that say "Have a drinking problem? Call " \_\_\_\_\_ " to distribute in various locations. Asks everyone to remind their groups' treasures to include their group name on any checks (or on the envelope) given to

Maggie. Will correct where money was misplaced (confusion due to lack of group's name on the check).

Slightly shorter to where our budget should be, but were pretty close. We've budgeted a lot more money than we've spent so far. She calculated 2 different numbers at the bottom of the treasurer's report to show that if we continue to receive income and if everyone spends the appropriated budget, we'll be right on track. However, if people continue to spend LESS than their budget allows, we might have a \$3000 excess to send up. Please don't hesitate to use the money appropriated in your designated budgets.

---The Hillsborough Sister Circle bought literature with money from district, and has the money to return to district. Grateful to support.

### **Other Business**

**Concept:** Kelsey reads concept 5; Anne A will be presenting concept 6 next month.

**Anniversary Recognition:** Maggie S celebrates 13 years on Sept 4. David H celebrated 7 years on Sept 6. Each person shared their experiences on their first meetings.

### **Old Business**

- 1.) Nominations for Secretary – Geneviève is the sole runner for position
- 2.) Election of Secretary – unanimous vote. Geneviève is the new secretary.
- 3.) Update on treatment center chair – do we have one person or two?  
We had Shane and Scott But we haven't seen them— district member reports that Scott has stepped down. Tom thinks that last we heard, Shane wasn't interested anymore.
- 4.) Guideline for how to handle consecutive absences for District Committee Chairs?  
Decision made to contact them first and see.  
-- How long do we wait if we haven't heard from them? Anne had an experience where someone asked her about help for their teenager and said that Scott was immediately on it, and helped gather the information. BUT, the issue is that we don't know at the district level what's going on; the point of a district chair is as a liaison to the district.  
→Tom moves that we make an effort to contact them and then we can try to fill position: Motion passes  
→Ed M makes a suggestion that people volunteer for alternates so that we can always have someone here if people cannot be here.
- 5.) Storage and distribution of quad folds.  
Carl got them to district. We're going to keep them here and distribute them as needed.  
→Tom brings up that we haven't set up a mechanism to pay for them. CPC/PI is supposed to be in charge of distribution (came from CPC/PI budget).

→ Pam brings up that we did vote that we were going to charge for them, either 10 or 20 cents apiece. Wants to point out that we have such an excess of funds that maybe if we're going to discuss them, we can instead discuss distributing them because it's been 6 months, and there is a lot of new information. Plus they're going to have to be reprinted.

→ Sam says originally they were to be used in the professional community (not provided to home groups because there is a printable version online) several years ago we never had extras, so this is new.

→ Lynda says that Lauren (in charge of the brochures) dropped some off at the hospital and they were distributed. We were originally going to reprint at 6 months, which we are past. Lynda asks for at least 75.

→ Kelsey makes a motion to give half of the quad folds to Lynda and the other half to whoever wants them: motion passes.

→ Sam says since we have to discuss new budget soon, that we can wait and talk about this via adding in a line item in the budget.

Further discussions were had about whether or not we will, in the future be providing quad folds out to all of the home groups at the districts expense; concerns made that we're taking away the message to the newcomers and they're important.

No one claims that they're not important, but that it is an item to discuss when we talk about the budget.

Conversation tabled for Business Meeting in which we talk about the budget.

## **New Business**

1.) Feedback on Area 51 Unity Fund: there is an excess in funds at the Area Level, and the idea behind this fund is that the Area would pay for DCMs' travel expenses (for Districts that CAN'T afford to pay for their DCM to travel to the assembly) because there are a lot of DCMs that currently don't make it to the Assemblies. The Budget/Finance Committee member wanted Jennie to bring this topic back to the district for feedback. Things the committee is trying to address are tradition 1, tradition 7, and unity.

→ Newton says that in the Area Inventory it was talking about GSRs going to the Assemblies as well as the DCMs. Not a lot of information on the specifics; just throwing out the idea and trying to get a general feedback on the idea itself.

→ Ed M asks whether or not there was any discussion on the Area being split into 2. Jennie says the idea was floating around but nothing formal was made/decided.

→ Newton says that it's a huge undertaking that would have to go through GSO.

Jennie wants to let the group think about the aforementioned concept until the next district meeting

- 2.) Tomi Hackett brings up new meeting “Q-Noon” and says that they need chips and stuff because the money they do get goes to coffee and supplies like that. There was a new meeting form that had been started but not sent yet.  
-It was pointed out that the welcome packet from GSO will take a couple months, so we told Tomi to come back next month with a proposal and a dollar amount so that we can vote on appropriating the funds. She will contact GSO and register the meeting; then we can put it on the meeting list.
- 3.) Matthew Fox brought up a Tuesday noon meeting on campus (was already registered with GSO – only the time has changed. So we will add the meeting with the new times onto the meeting list, and Matthew will contact GSO and have the dates changed etc).
- 4.) David Brookes brought up another meeting: Adjustable Wrench (already registered with GSO), has been receiving all district info. JUST needs to add that meeting to the meeting list.

We will get the information for new meetings to Jim H for the website.

### **Announcements**

TRICYPAA: Business Meeting meets at the Triangle Alano Club the first Sunday of each month. At 1:00pm there is a Service Manual study, then at 2:00pm the committee meeting starts.

Area 51 Assembly (election assembly) will be October 17-19 at the North Raleigh Hilton. All GSRs need to be there to vote.

Unity Rally – “Service in Sobriety” is October 26 from 1-4pm at the Big Barn in Hillsborough, NC.

New Meetings:

“The Adjustable Wrench” meets at the Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church (269 Mann’s Chapel Rd, Pittsboro, NC). It is an Open AA Meeting, held on Thursdays at 8pm, and the format is Topic/Discussion.

“Q-Noon” (LGTBQ meeting) meets at the Carrboro United Methodist Church (200 Hillsborough Rd, Carrboro, NC – the meeting is in the little white house adjacent to the church). It is a Closed AA Meeting, held on Sundays at 12pm, and the format is Topic/Discussion with a Speaker/Discussion on the last Sunday of the month.

“The Campus Group” meets on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus in the Student Union, Room 2422. It is an Open AA Meeting, held on Tuesdays at 11am, and the format is Topic/Discussion.

**Close:** Serenity Prayer.