

DISTRICT – MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING

JUNE 12, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy M., Ben H., Gene, Ron F., Margee, Marc McC., Shernie, Megan, Ron O., Janet, Rick, Kari

Visitors: Elaine and Jenn.

DCM Judy called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at SonBridge and presided.

OPEN SERENITY PRAYER

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Judy M. (DCM), Ben H. (Treasurer), Megan (Alt. Treasurer), Kari (Secretary), Janet (Technology Committee Chair), Marc McC. (Tech Comm. Alt. Chair), Shernie (Archives Chair)

TRADITION SIX/CONCEPT 4: Margee shared her experience in Portland and as a nurse. Concept 4 is the Right of Participation. Megan summarized this right - all members of AA have the right to vote. "Right to Vote" is closely linked with "Right to Participation". Megan reviewed the history of getting to the current Concept 4. In the early days AA's board was more authoritarian; but the people responsible for doing the work had little. This was changed. Marc suggested that the DCM be allowed to vote. A brief discussion followed. Kari said most board chairs do not have the right to vote except to break a tie. But she doesn't know how AA's bylaws are written and it could very well be different than her experience.

MINUTES: The minutes of the May 1, 2022 meeting had been posted on the website rather than being sent to the Board. Few people saw them. Judy will send them to the list in the future. By motion made by Marc and seconded by Gene, the Minutes were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS: DCM - Judy participates in monthly online meetings for DCMS. She reviewed the activities planned for the summer. Rick is planning activities for the coming months. 1. The 4th of July observance at Wildwood Park. 2. District 9 is working with District 4 in the Tri-Cities to host Ben N, our Delegate, for his Report Back. This, along with the Gratitude Banquet in November and the New Years Eve Party are all being held at SonBridge Center in College Place.

TREASURER: Ben distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Report for the period of May 1st through May 31, 2022. Margee asked him to explain the report further which he did. The ending balance was \$3347.28 with no liabilities at the end of the month. There was an activities expense of \$40.00. Donations of \$280 were received. Ben paid the annual bill for the PO Box of \$166. When planning activities Rick noted that SonBridge charges a \$150 cleaning fee that is nonrefundable.

GSR REPORTS:

- Touch on Feelings - Rick said it is a share format, meeting on Mondays at SonBridge and on Fridays at a private home in Walla Walla. There have been as many as 15 to 20 people in attendance. The Monday meeting usually has 8 people; the Friday meeting is usually 4 or 5 people. In the last month two coins were given, one for 9 months and the other for 1 year.
- Watertower Group - Margee said in the last month there were 3 newcomers. Coins awarded were for 10 years, 36 years and two for three months of sobriety. The format is "AA Related Topics".
- Sunday Morning Eye-Opener - Gene reported that the format is 12 x 12 at this time. Usually 8 to 10 people attend. It is held at SonBridge.
- Dawg Pound - Ron said it meets Friday at 7 pm, and is attended by 6 people. The format is open format, Daily Reflections. He thought the attendance was low due to good weather.
- Thursday Night Open - Marc was filling in for the GSR. Average attendance is 8 to 12 people. In the last month there have been 4 newcomers. The business meeting is held on the third Thursday of the month. The group donated \$100 to the District to the 40/30/30 distribution ratio.
- Spiritual Toolbox - Ron said it meets Tuesday night and is attended by 10 to 14 people. Three birthdays were observed last month for 24 hours, 30 days and six years.
- Women's Monday Night AA Group - Judy substituted for GSR Louise - is held Monday night and attended by 15 women. On average four coins are

given each meeting. At the last one, coins were given for 34 years, 4 years, 1 year and 24 hours.

- Wednesday Night First Step - Shernie reported that it meets at SonBridge at 7- 8:30 pm with 10 to 15 regulars coming every week. In the last month there was 1 visitor, 3 newcomers and coins awarded for 30 days, 10 months and 1 year.
- Sunday Night Big Book - Megan said it meets at St. Paul's on Saturday at 7 pm and on Sundays at 8 pm. A coin marking 38 years of sobriety was going to be given to Cecil but unfortunately he was not present to receive it.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

- Activities: Rick said he has reserved SonBridge for hosting Ben N. for the Delegate Report Back. It is being planned for August 27th. District 9 is working with District 4 in Tri-Cities for this event. It is a snack-luck. If the event is attended by more than 50 people we have to pay a deposit. We do have full access to the kitchen. Other activities being planned are the Standing Committee Workshop on December 10th and the New Year's Eve party in November. According to the Treasurer's Report \$433.90 has been received for activities - is this enough? We expect to continue to receive donations for these activities. The Standing Committee Workshop will be held in December 2022 at SonBridge from 1-4. It's a potluck.

Coming up soon is the 4th of July Freedom Celebration at Wildwood Park - there's a sign up sheet. The District is providing hot dogs, hamburgers, condiments and water. No coffee - everyone bring your own coffee.

- Archives: Shernie has done a lot of work straightening out, disposing of irrelevant materials and cleaning the archives. She's emptied all the containers. She found an interesting book called "Our Stories Disclose". Material about the Alano Club which used to exist was found. That Club closed in 1990. She attended a large meeting via Zoom on Saturday about Archives.
- Cooperation with Professional Community or CPC: Ron said WWU called him and said we're on their list but have not been scheduled yet.
- Treatment: in the absence of chair Louise this report was skipped.

- Web Tech: Janet said all of the current flyers were distributed and may have to be reprinted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: District 18 - Richard spoke with Helen from Waitsburg who said they have zoom only meetings at this time. She seemed open to joining District 9 but wished to talk with her husband Bob. Richard will follow up with Bob.

NEW BUSINESS: See the list of activities above. More volunteers are needed for these events.

Archives funding - Shernie was asked what items she needs to store District 9 Archives in a reasonable manner? What is an estimated budget for these items?

The Web Tech committee raised the question of the Preamble, a topic covered at length at a recent District meeting. Janet suggested that the Preamble be updated in the flyers she prepares to "People" from "Men and Women". The meeting left it up to each District as to whether to change the Preamble or not. Gene moved to keep it "men and women" which was seconded by Ron O. A discussion followed. Isaacson disagreed and supported the term "People". Someone suggested "men and women and others" which was largely disagreed with. Marc moved to table this decision until the July 2022 meeting so GSRs can get each group's consciousness about the language. Isaacson seconded the motion. All favored tabling this decision until the July 10th meeting.

Jenn then was introduced as a member that had an idea that she wished the District to provide financial support for. Jenn said she is wanting to incorporate a speaker meeting and a potluck into the As Bill Sees It meeting on the first Saturday of the month. A speaker meeting has not happened in Walla Walla for a long time. Speakers will be invited from outside the District. The first meeting will be July 2nd. A motion made by Gene and seconded by Shernie approving of the incorporation of a speaker to this group was made. It was approved by the group. Jenn then asked if District 9 would agree to cover expenses if one of the speakers had expenses which this new Speakers' Group could not cover. After a lengthy discussion, Isaacson moved that on a case-by-case basis, District 9 would cover unmet expenses of a guest speaker's cost to travel to Walla Walla for this

purpose. Rather than setting a precedent for other groups' whose programs may incur expenses exceeding their donations, the "case-by-case" approach to covering these costs was emphasized. Further, the cost to District 9 should be informed 30 days in advance of the planned meeting, and approved by District 9 Board in advance. The goal is to support this new Speakers' Meeting, and at least in the beginning as the program gets going, District 9 will proactively consider underwriting part of the costs of the speaker as budgeted by the group. Jenn said she was confident that the costs would be covered, but the uncertainty is a barrier to getting started. Gene seconded the motion. After a lengthy discussion the motion was approved with the exception of Ron who will take the question to his group for their opinion.

CLOSING: Rick gave out his phone number as he needs volunteers for activities.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. with the Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Isaacson, Secretary