

## DISTRICT – MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING

July 10, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard B., Vice Chair and Acting DCM, Ben H., Gene, Ron O., Rick, Margue, Shernie, Louise, Kari.

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

OPEN SERENITY PRAYER

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Richard B. (Vice Chair and Acting DCM), Ben H. (Treasurer), Kari (Secretary), Shernie (Archives Chair)

Shernie commented that she was not aware she was in charge of Grapevine newsletter. Gene volunteered to be in charge of it. Shernie moved and Rick seconded and all approved making Gene in charge of Grapevine. All agreed that the Spanish version of Grapevine needs to be available too.

TRADITION SEVEN/CONCEPT 5: Ben led the discussion. “AA needs to be fully self-supporting”. He shared his perspective, and reminded all that our primary purpose is to help the suffering alcoholic. Louise read Concept 5. Everyone’s opinion in AA matters – minority opinions count. Ron commented that it is a democracy. Gene said everyone is listened to and commented that AA moves slowly in making changes.

MINUTES: The minutes of the June 14, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Margue said she shared the action taken to provide District 9 support for the new Speakers group with her group, something approved on a case by case basis as noted in the minutes. Her group cited the “all groups should be self-sufficient” Concept. After a discussion, the position taken by Margue’s group was acknowledged as valid. Ron O.’s group also raised concerns. It was noted that District is not a clearinghouse for area distribution – GSO too – each group needs to do that. It isn’t the Treasurer’s responsibility. Gene moved that District will only handle contributions and expenses of the District, and that it isn’t a clearinghouse for expenses of groups. Margue seconded it. By motion made and seconded, it was approved. The meeting directed this action to be included in

the minutes for the July 2022 meeting. Gene moved approval of the minutes as amended; Ron O. seconded; the motion was approved.

TREASURER: Ben distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Report for the period of June 2022. He noted that the expenses exceeded revenue in June by \$64.80 because accounts receivable were not in the report. Gene suggested that a simpler report would be an Excel sheet. Ben agreed this was a good idea. Richard offered members the opportunity to suggest changes to Ben in writing. He said the deficit will be erased by the next report. Gene moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Rick seconded it. The motion carried.

OFFICER REPORTS: In the DCM absence, the DCM report was omitted. Richard said although he doesn't have a DCM report he does have several housekeeping items:

1) For future activities we should openly invite the Al Anon community, especially the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Gratitude dinner. A discussion followed. The point was made that Al Anon and AA have their own activities – the 6<sup>th</sup> Tradition was referred to as a reason not to mix the two. Others disagreed and said that the two organizations' websites have links to each other. Ron O. moved to invite Al Anon to these AA activities; Kari seconded. The motion carried with one nay vote.

2) CPC – Richard suggested that workbooks be purchased for PI/CPC. These workbooks cost \$14.00, although at present it is out of stock. Other workbooks costing much less, \$2.00, are in stock and available. PI and CPC workbooks are in stock and available, each costing \$2.00

. Gene moved to spend \$4.00 to buy 1 of each (PI and CPC), Shernie seconded. The motion carried. One will be provided to chair of PI and CPC committee.

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. Average June

attendance was 10 people on Mondays and 18 on Fridays. There were 3 newcomers. Coins were given for 1 month, 7 months, 9 months, 1 year, 9 years and 15 years.

- Watertower Group - Margue said it meets the third Friday of the month at 1:15 pm. 11 people attend on average. No coins awarded last month. Topic is always related to alcoholism. She reported that the majority of the group wished the preamble language to remain unchanged.
- Sunday Morning Eye-Opener - Gene reported that the format is 12 x 12 at this time; they meet at SonBridge at 10 a.m. In June 10 to 12 people attended; on average there is one newcomer and two coins are given. Covid has had a lasting impact on the group. The group wishes the preamble to remain unchanged. In the alternative, the group conscience was to allow each group to decide for itself which version of the preamble to use.
- Spiritual Tool Box – Ron O. reported that it meets in the Milton Seventh Day Adventist church at 7 pm on Tuesdays. Average attendance is 10 to 14 people although most recently it has been a little lower (7 to 10). No coins awarded in June. The format is Sharing From the Heart.
- Women’s Monday Night AA Group - Louise reported that it meets 6 pm at St. Paul’s on Mondays. On average 10 to 15 women attend, with 3 newcomers in June. Format is big book and 12 step – it is a closed meeting. She noted that the group invites all of its members to dinner at 4 pm on the third Monday of each month at a local restaurant. The business meeting is the 2nd Monday every quarter (3 months). There are many birthdays in the group.
- Wednesday Night First Step - Shernie reported that it meets at SonBridge at 7- 8:30 pm with 10 to 15 regulars coming every week. She commented that the preamble discussion was for home group meeting rather than a meeting topic – they’re a first step group, reading and group sharing.

Richard commented that as Vice Chair and Acting DCM he respects the autonomy of each group.

## COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

- Activities: Rick said 30 people attended the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in Wildwood Park with lots of food and good fellowship. Cost to the District was \$200 including park rental fee. Another activity coming up is the August 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting with the Area Delegate from 1 to 4 pm. Richard noted that the delegate is not staying over-night in Walla Walla so no lodging need be provided but we will cover cost of gas. All will be at SonBridge. Rick needs a District 4 contact since people are invited from the Tri-Cities, and there is some cost sharing for the speaker and event. It was noted that for future large group events (50 people or more) both St. Paul's and First Presbyterian in Walla Walla will be looked at since SonBridge charges a large nonrefundable cleaning fee. Ron O. reminded people that the Milton Adventist church has a large hall and kitchen.
- Archives: Shernie noted that the storage units contain a lot of stuff that is not District 9 related. One is a notebook of invoices and bank statements from 2007. There is material relating to Area and they have their own archive. Kari suggested getting rid of the old financial information. No need to keep it. And if material isn't related to District 9 it seems that that would mean it would be discarded.
- Corrections: Ron O. reported that Juvenile Justice has approved the meeting to start on Wednesdays from 3:15 pm to 4 pm. He asked for volunteers to help with this program – if interested ask for an AA clearance form. Volunteers are limited to two at a time. Women are invited to volunteer. The meeting commended Ron O. for his persistence and success in restarting the Juvenile Justice meetings.
- Literature: There were no sales this month reported Shernie. We have the same quantity of literature as previously reported.
- Treatment: Louise gave the Treatment report.
- Web Tech: Janet said website and flyers are in the process of being updated.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Preamble revision – It has been proposed that the preamble be changed to “people” from “men and women”. There were two objections to this change –

one that it was “politically correct” and the other being against change. The discussion included comments that no group has the right to tell another group what to do. The GSO has reviewed this issue in depth for 3 years. Gary P. was delegate to GSO about it. Richard suggested a motion that the new schedule should include the new preamble. Gene moved and Ron O. seconded this motion. All voted and the motion carried.

Richard noted that each group can use the preamble they prefer.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. with the Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Isaacson, Secretary