

**AA District 9 Minutes**  
**October 8, 2023 Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:04 pm by Ben H., Interim DCM

TRADITION: Ben H. read the 10<sup>th</sup> Tradition. He called for a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

ROLL CALL: Present – Ben H., Interim DCM and Treasurer, Kari I., Secretary, GSRs Shernie, Gene, Ron, Chris R., Margue, Louise, Christina and Rick. Committee chairs were Barbara H. (literature), Janet (Technology and webmaster), and GSRs (again) Ron, co-chair of Corrections, and Louise, chair of Treatment and Accessibility. Visitors Walt E., Tyler (alt. GSR of SMEO), Taylor were welcomed.

OFFICERS REPORTS: The Minutes of the Sept. 2023 District 9 meeting and the Treasurer's Report were reviewed. There was income of \$58.40 and expenses of \$15.60. The phone answering service cost \$5.60. Wednesday Night First Step donate \$13.00 from the Pink Can to District. By motion made by Janet, and seconded by Rick, the Treasurer's report was ratified. The group then reviewed the minutes of the last month. Chris moved and Rick seconded a motion to approve the minutes which was done.

**GSR REPORTS:**

Touch on Feelings – GSR Rick said it meets Mondays at 7 pm at SonBridge and Fridays at 644 Juniper also at 7 pm. Average attendance on Mondays is 12; on Fridays, 20. There have been a couple of newcomers. In September coins were given for 6 months, 7 months, 1 year and 17 years. The format is Topic Share. Business meetings are held as needed. District contributions were \$100. In January 2024 Josh will become GSR of this group.

Wednesday Night First Step – GSR Shernie reported that it meets Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 pm in the SonBridge conference room. Average attendance is 3. Format is general conversation and recovery oriented.

Night Owls – GSR Chris R. said it meets Saturdays at 9 pm. The format is daily reflections, Big Book, 12x12 and As Bill Sees It. Attendance is 3 people on average. No coins distributed. Business meeting is last Saturday of the month.

Sunday Night Big Book – GSR Christina said it meets at 8 pm at St. Paul’s with an average attendance of 10 to 15 people. Business meetings are as needed once a month. Format is Big Book study.

Thursday Night Open – Walt E. said it meets at FCC at 7 pm on Thursdays. Average attendance is 17 people; there were 3 newcomers. Eight coins were given but no more information available. Format is daily reflections. Business meeting is third Thursday of the month.

As Bill Sees It – No report.

Watertown – GSR Margee said they meet at noon on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays at First Presbyterian Church at First and Birch. Average attendance is 20, with 2 or 3 newcomers in the last month. Seven coins were given (no further detail provided). Business meeting is last Friday of the month. Kevin M. was elected alt. GSR for this group. He will become GSR when she completes her service.

Sunday Morning Eye Opener – GSR Gene said it meets every Sunday at SonBridge at 10 am. Average attendance is 12 people. Business meetings are held 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 9:30 am, just before the regular meeting starts. Format is 12 x 12 discussion. District contributions were \$100. Gene announced that as of January 2024 Janet will be the new GSR of this group.

Monday Night Womens’ Group – GSR Louise said it meets at St. Paul’s from 6 to 7:30 pm; average attendance is 15 to 20 people. Format is Big Book and 12 x 12. Business meeting is 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7 pm.

Toolbox – Ron, GSR, reported that it meets at 7 pm at the Adventist Church on highway 11 in Milton-Freewater. No birthdays this last month.

Tuesday Night Promises – GSR Ben H. said average attendance is 5 people including 1 to 3 newcomers. Format is Daily Reflection or topic of choice by the group. They meet at FCC from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Ben noted he is transitioning out of his GSR role at the end of the year.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Activities: Rick reported that the Inventory went well. He said the next activity is the annual Gratitude Banquet. It is usually held the second Saturday in November

which is Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> this year, Veterans' Day. Should the date be changed in honor of Veterans' Day. After a discussion, Gene moved to keep it on the usual day and Kari seconded. The motion was approved. The room has been reserved at Walla Walla Presbyterian Church, First and Birch (formerly First Presbyterian Church). Ben noted that the event will be further discussed under Old Business.

Answering Service: No report.

Archives: Shernie said no report.

Corrections: Ron is co-chair of Corrections. He said there was a change to Juvenile Justice program – there are now two groups. When there was only one large group the kids were playing off of each other instead of focusing on recovery. They split the group up and the kids are now taking it seriously. All five young people want phone lists and Big Books. There has been a lot of sharing from the heart once the small groups began.

Literature: Barb gave the literature report. Walt suggested that the AA Service annual be purchased for all of the GSRs and distributed in January when the new terms begin. This will be further discussed at a future meeting. Barb distributed copies of the updated literature inventory list. She submitted a proposal to do away with storing inventory at the district level which was attached to the meeting materials, and is attached to these minutes. She asked the group to think about the proposal, share with their groups, and we can then determine next steps at the November 12<sup>th</sup> District 9 meeting.

Web Tech: Janet gave the report and noted that she is stepping down as chair of this committee. She will update the website after tonight's election. She asked that any changes be sent to her. She has 500 copies of the most recent schedule.

Juvenile Justice: (See above under Corrections).

Treatment: Louise said Barb had obtained pamphlets for her to distribute.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Gratitude Banquet was discussed in detail. People shared what each group was bringing to the banquet: Margue said Watertower is donating a ham. Ben said beverages would be provided – coffee, water bottles. Rick said paper plates and disposable utensils should be used,

and there is a budget for that. Christine suggested a signup sheet for people who want to volunteer for it. Ben noted that the next District 9 meeting is after the Gratitude Banquet. The motion was made by Gene to fund the gratitude banquet costs as needed, seconded by Walt. It was approved by the group.

- District 9 Inventory Follow-Up: The next item was to begin implementing action items that were identified during the Inventory on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. Before implementation, it is the responsibility of GSRs to take the action items that came out of the Inventory to their groups and identify concrete actions, plans and priorities. Janet reviewed how the summary was finalized, noting that it and the raw notes are available on the website. Hard copies of the summary are available at tonight's meeting. The first review of the summary was by the inventory planning group following the 17<sup>th</sup> of Ben G (facilitator and chair of Area), Margue, Ben H., Barb and Janet who met via Google Meets. Now that the summary is completed, it is the responsibility of the GSRs to take to their groups to be prioritized and plans suggested. Once these are received from the groups then the DCM will appoint committees to implement. This is a large project which should be accomplished in pieces and by a Committee with representation from many groups, and input from across the District. Ben H. said he will schedule meetings via Good Meets which would start after the Gratitude Banquet and District 9 meeting on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>. People may volunteer for this committee at the next District 9 meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>. A discussion followed as to whether new Guidelines were needed or whether the current Guidelines should be rewritten or left unchanged. Janet reminded everyone that the group at the Inventory recommended re-examining the Guidelines, and recommending changes if needed. Its up to the groups. One of the Guidelines in question is who has the ability to vote at the District 9 meetings – GSRs only as is present guideline or GSRs and officers who are not GSRs. A variety of opinions have been expressed about this issue.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Election of officers and Committee Chairs for 2024 – 2025 term

Nominations were sought; people could self-nominate. Gene reminded everyone that if there were more than one candidate there needed to be a secret ballot. It was also noted that only GSRs could vote. After nominations were made the following officers and committee chairs were elected:

Ben H. – DCM

Alternate DCM – no one was nominated or volunteered. Barb noted that in the future we should consider electing an alternate DCM who would then become DCM at the conclusion of the two year term.

Secretary – Kari I.

Alternate Secretary – Gene

Treasurer – Steve

Activities – Rick

Corrections- Ron and Christina are co-chairs

Literature – Barb

Alternate Literature – Walt

Answering Service – No one was elected as Jen, the current chair, might continue. Kevin expressed interest in it.

Treatment and Accessibility –

Webmaster and Schedules – Gene

Alternate Webmaster – Janet (she was thanked for her past service as chair of Technology and Webmaster)

Archives – Shernie

Grapevine – It was agreed that this will become the responsibility of Literature. Barb agreed.

Information for the Good of the Order: Ben H. will be virtually attending the Area assembly October 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> in Spokane.

There being no further business to come before the meeting it was adjourned.

- Kari I., Secretary