

## **AA District 9 Minutes**

### **November 12, 2023 Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:05 pm by Ben H., Interim DCM

TRADITION: Ben H. read the 11<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, Steve, Treasurer elect, Kari I., Secretary, GSRs Louise, Gene, Margue, Rick, Jason, and Charles. Committee chairs were Barbara H. (literature), Janet (Technology and webmaster), and Marc (Area Corrections). Committee chairs who are also GSRs were Activities (Rick), Treatment and Accessibility (Louise). Josh, who is a GSR elect, also attended the meeting.

OFFICERS REPORTS: The Treasurer's Report was presented. The Pink Can revenue line was negative due to a large purchase of literature at the end of October. Gene said \$25 donated by Sunday Morning Eye Opener group was for Activities. By motion made by Kari and seconded by Louise, the Treasurer's Report was ratified. The Minutes of the Oct. 8, 2023 District 9 meeting was then reviewed. By motion made by Charles and seconded by Louise, the minutes were approved as presented

#### **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 20 to 25; on Fridays, 12. There have been several newcomers. In October coins were given for 6 months, 7 months and one 24 hour coin. 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 – no report

Night Owls – no report

Sunday Night Big Book – no report

Thursday Night Open – Charles W. said it meets at FCC at 7 pm on Thursdays. Business meetings are the third Thursday of the month from 8 to 8:30 pm. Average attendance is 20 people; there was 1 newcomer. Four coins were given but no more information available. Format is daily reflections and Big Book Topic.

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 newcomers in the last month. Two coins were given both for one year. Business meeting is last Friday of the month. Topic is Big Book, carrying the message to still suffering people.

Sunday Morning Eye Opener – GSR Gene said it meets every Sunday at SonBridge at 10 am. Average attendance is 12 people; the number of newcomers varies. 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.

Monday Night Womens' Group – GSR Louise said it meets at St. Paul's from 6 to 7:30 pm; average attendance is 20 people. Format is Big Book and 12 x 12. Business meeting is 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7 pm. She announced that the group will have a Holiday social event to exchange ornaments on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>.

Toolbox – no report

Tuesday Night Promises – GSR Ben H. said average attendance is 6 people including 1 to 2 newcomers. Two coins were given in October, both for 30 days. Format is Daily Reflection or topic of choice. They meet at FCC from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Business meetings are held as needed.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Activities: Rick reported that the Gratitude Banquet was a success, with donations of \$588. The 50/50 raffle produced \$265. Marc raised an issue concerning a misunderstanding regarding reimbursement of travel expenses by the guest speaker, Jason. He traveled across the state from Port Orchard to be the guest speaker. Reimbursement for travel cost (gas) wasn't in the approved Activities budget, but Jason was told it would be. The topic was tabled until New Business. It was noted that the church has not yet been paid \$100 for the use of the facility. Ben will follow-up with the church contact (Bill).

Answering Service: No report.

Archives: No report.

Corrections: No report.

Literature: Barb referred everyone to the proposal, a copy of which she distributed, to have individual groups order their literature rather than the District having significant dollars invested in inventory. She had made the proposal at the October District meeting. At present there is an estimated \$1000 worth of inventory. Further discussion of the proposal was tabled until Old Business.

CPC: Louise asked for assistance in distributing literature to treatment centers and programs.

Web Tech: Janet said the website continues to be updated. 500 schedules were printed at a cost of \$168. She was informed by the printer that there is a national shortage of some of the colors the District uses for schedules on a certain size of paper. These colors are available in a larger sheet size. The printer would cut the larger paper to the correct size at no charge but the cost of the larger paper is about \$20 higher than the regular size. Several people asked whether we really needed so many copies of the schedule, or if they could be printed on smaller paper.

Juvenile Justice: no report

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Literature Proposal: Barb summarized her proposal, and distributed a detailed report of the year to date Literature expenses and revenue. The year began with \$1058 worth of inventory, the additions to inventory during this time which resulted in increased inventory valued at \$1362 at the end of October. Her proposal offered several options: Keep the current inventory until depleted; allocate needed literature to committees that use it (Corrections, Treatment, PI/CPC); sell the inventory back to the AA Intergroup Bookstore in the Tri-cities which they have agreed to purchase at least some of; or to donate the

literature to approved organizations recommended by the above mentioned outreach committees. A concern was raised about having zero literature available, which was addressed by Barb. After a discussion, by motion made by Barb and seconded by Louise, the motion to sell the inventory back to the AA Intergroup Bookstore was approved (four yes with one no).

- District Elections – Ben said there are several open positions. GSRs were asked to take this to their groups.
  - Alt DCM position – Margue said her group has nominated her to be Alt DCM.
  - Alt. Activities Chair – By motion made by Ben and seconded by Louise, Charles was elected Alternate Activities chair and will assist Rick.
  - Treatment Committee Chair – by motion made by Charles and seconded by Louise, Janet was elected.
  - Answering Service Committee –It was noted that a chair was still needed.
  - Alt. Archives Chair – it was noted that this needed to be filled.
  - Alt. Delegate to Area – Brian is the new delegate from District 9; an alternate would be helpful.
- District 9 Inventory Follow-Up: Ben said the GSRs had been asked to consult with their groups about implementation of the recommendations made at the Inventory. Louise distributed a copy of the Monday Night Women’s Group recommendations. The group recommends that an ad hoc committee should be formed to revise District 9 Guidelines to include budgeting guidelines and clearer service position descriptions/requirements/rotation for each officer and committee chairs. Further, in order to increase public outreach efforts to reach the still suffering alcoholic the Treatment Committee should be expanded and more active. The committee’s scope should be extended to doctors’ offices, hospitals, schools, shelters, etc. And finally, the group recommends that service workshops should be established for GSRs, Committee chairs and AA members. Margue said Watertower’s feedback was to ensure that District 9 servant leaders remain open to input from the groups. After a discussion, by motion made by Ben and

seconded by Louise, these recommendations were approved. GSRs were asked to take this information back to their groups. Ben will schedule a follow-up meeting of the Inventory Committee using Google Meets in the next few weeks. The Ad Hoc Committee on Guidelines Revision should meet in early 2024.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Gratitude Banquet was discussed in detail including the possible reimbursement of travel expense (gas) for the main speaker, and another misunderstanding that Gene had heard about disgruntled church custodians who felt that the group should have done more to clean up. Rick said this was not for lack of willingness by volunteers but were prevented from doing more that evening. He will speak with the contact with the church to clarify. District 9 board then turned its attention to the issue of whether to reimburse the guest speaker for mileage. A lengthy discussion followed about mileage reimbursement, past practices and other issues. Following the discussion, by motion made by Charles and seconded by Louise, reimbursing Jason with \$300 for mileage was approved 4 to 1. It was noted that District 9 Guidelines Revision Committee needs to clarify this policy. Barb also suggested that groups be asked for additional donations to cover this unbudgeted cost, or at least make that opportunity available at the New Years Eve Party. On another topic, Charles suggested that the Guidelines Revision Committee also address whether GSRs' travel cost should be covered for GSR Training. It was pointed out that the training is available online, and is interactive.
- New Years Eve Party – Gene moved that District 9 have a New Year's Eve party, and Louise seconded the motion. Part of the discussion was the location of the party – it was agreed to be at First Presbyterian on First and Birch. The evening's activities were discussed. Ben will put together a sign up sheet so GSRs can circulate among the groups. Everyone is asked to bring food. The website will be updated to include a "Save the Date" for the auspicious date of 123123 or 12/31/23.

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

- Kari I., Secretary