

ROLL CALL: Present – Ben L. DCM, Kari I., Secretary, Rick, GSR and chair of Activities, Jen, GSR, Margue, GSR and Alt DCM, Gene A, webmaster and Alt Secretary, Barb H., GSR and Chair, Literature, Shernie, GSR and Chair, Archives, Janet S., GSR and chair, Treatment/CPC, Josh, GSR, Charles, GSR, Michael, GSR, Rose, alt GSR and visitor

CALL TO ORDER: 6:08 pm by DCM Ben L.

OPEN SERENITY PRAYER

TRADITION OF THE MONTH: Barb H. read Tradition 3 as well as questions from Grapevine for discussion.

OFFICERS REPORTS: In the absence of Treasurer Steve H., Ben gave the Treasurer's Report. He combined January and February 2024 financials (there was no District 9 meeting in January 2024). The February report was incomplete as it posted a negative year end balance. A gift was made of \$75.25 that erased that negative year end balance. If anyone had questions about the report he offered to remain after today's meeting to discuss further. By motion made by Kari and seconded by Barb, the Treasurer's Report was accepted. The group then reviewed the minutes of the March 10th meeting. By motion properly made and seconded the minutes were approved.

DCM Report: Ben said he has sought assistance of Dan, Alternate Delegate to Area on his role as DCM of District 9 and participating in Area on its behalf. The state committee meets next weekend and he will attend via Zoom. There are no action items on that meeting agenda but plenty of items up for discussion. Janet will send information to Gene for posting on website on how people can participate virtually.

COMMITTEES:

Webmaster – Gene will update website for April. He said he is the speaker for April 13th As Bill Sees It meeting (1 p.m. at Son Bridge, preceded by a potluck luncheon at noon). He asked GSRs to send him any changes for posting. He's updated the number that people can call for information. The meeting schedule is online as well as printed. Rose noted that the Saturday morning Friends of Bill W. group meets at First Congregational Church meets 9 to 10:30 am rather than 9 to 10 am.

Archives – Shernie reported it is doing fine.

Activities – Rick said nothing planned until 4th of July annual event. He asked about the income reported by Activities in 2023 on the financial report. He stated that there is sufficient funds for Activities. Ben confirmed, saying Activities is self-supporting.

Literature – Barb summarized the status of inventory which continue to be reduced as approved. She distributed a printout of current inventory, asking GSRs to take with them and share with their groups. There is only \$485 remaining of inventory. In another month it should be donated to CPC. She gave an in-depth report on the Grapevine and encouraged everyone to subscribe. It is available in Spanish. Grapevine welcomes stories from members.

Treatment – Janet S. said she has contacted all of the treatment facilities/programs on the list she received from Louise. Only one organization didn't want anything to do with AA. Richard and Jen helped her reach out to the VA since they won't let non-Vet visitors participate.

CPC – Janet S. went on to share an update of CPC, which is really part of the same committee as Treatment. Area chose District 9 to be involved with improving CPC. Four of the five items identified by Area have been completed. Area was exploring a pamphlet that would address the needs of both a homeless alcoholic and the professionals working with them. This will be workshopped.

Telephone Services- Charles, Josh and Ben described a new and innovative way to handle phone calls for help and information to District 9. District 9 has a new phone number to handle inquiries as the former answering service went out of business. Charles and Ben asked for volunteers to cover the hotline on a 24 hour basis – ideally eight people would sign up at any given time, four for male callers and four for female callers. Whoever on call picked up first would handle the call. There are a number of volunteers already but more are needed. Josh had a list of 13 volunteers from the Friday Night Meeting. The answering service simply forwards the call to the volunteer answerer – the gender of callers is pretty much 50/50 male/female. Most are looking for a meeting location and time. It was suggested that a script with FAQs be prepared and training made available to phone answerers. Charles noted that Area92.AA.org has relevant information online on how to do this. Josh was voted in as Chair of Answering Service. Ben will get information to him.

Corrections – Ben went to the penitentiary where he learned that units have been combined for the purpose of AA – this is a bigger weekly meeting than in the past. It's the oldest continuing AA meeting in the US system. (Since 1945). A national workshop on corrections will be held in 2025. Walla Walla is a possible location for this workshop.

GSR REPORTS

GSRs then gave reports of their groups for the month of February.

Early Birds – Michael said attendance 4 to 8; \$151 given to SonBridge since they are a daily program. They will be displaced May 16th to 20th due to a dental conference being held there (SonBridge has a large dental clinic for indigent people).

Friends of Bill W. – Rose reported 10 people with 2 newcomers. No coins. Their format is the Daily Reflections.

Thursday Night Open – Charles said 25 attend – 5 were new; 6 coins including 12 years and 13 years. Format is topic of choice.

Touch on Feelings (Monday and Friday) – Josh – topic-based discussion; 22 to 28 on average on Fridays; 4 were newcomers. Coins given for 8 month, 10 months, 22 years (Rick!!). Monday nights are attended by 9 people on average Gene said.

Sunday Morning Eye Opener – Janet S. said 2 coins were given including 26 years (Gene!!) and 12 years (Janet S!!). Format is 12 x 12.

Monday Night Women's Group – Barb said business meeting held 2nd Mondays; attendance 30 with 3 newcomers; coins were 6 months (Rose!! And Jen!!) and 12 years (Janet S!!). Format is Big Book and 12x12.

As Bill Sees It – Jen said it is on Saturdays – usually 17 people come; no coins have been given. Most recent monthly speaker was Chris R. from Pendleton.

Watertower – Margue said every 3rd Friday they have a business meeting. 20 usually attend; 30 in the past few weeks however with 6 newcomers. \$25 was donated to District. Format is Big Book and AA Literature. Three coins were given – 1 year, 3 months and 26 years.

Wednesday Night First Step – Shernie said its at SonBridge attended by five people usually with an occasional newcomer. Contributions to District were \$58. Format includes readings of AA literature and general sharing.

A general issue as to which meetings are open and which are closed took place. Josh noted that it is really up to each group's conscious whether to be open or closed. All agreed that this was an excellent discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

Ben has list of contact information for each officer and GSR. He will distribute to the group.

Answering Service – Ben asked whether volunteers answering calls should have a minimum length of sobriety. The group agreed that Josh as chair should make recommendations as to this requirement.

Standing Committee- Charles has a group conscience from his group re: homeless alcoholics. Another pamphlet is unnecessary.

Committee Budgets – Ben asked Committee Chairs to let him know whether any funds are needed to accomplish their mission for the year. Further, he asked whether District 9 should have a budget. Expenditures are approved as needed.

District Inventory – Charles asked for an update on the District Inventory of Fall 2023. Where are we with reviewing District Guidelines. After a discussion it was agreed that someone needs to lead this follow-up effort. Charles agreed to assume this role for an ad hoc committee. The discussion further clarified that the Guidelines have not been changed – that there was a proposed update but it was not approved or disapproved. Barb said the District Inventory made several recommendations, one of which was to review the Guidelines. We need to take this off the table and do. Rick suggested that everyone interested in reviewing the Guidelines join this ad hoc committee and have a separate meeting to address. All agreed that an ad hoc committee should be formed. It was agreed that this group will meet the first Sunday of the month at 6 pm at Son Bridge.

NEW BUSINESS

Bridging the Gap for people exiting treatment – Jen will handle.

Barb raised two questions:

- 1) Notifying AA of Change in GSR: Charles suggested going to World Service online directly to make changes. Michael said Area was informed of Craig's passing and his election to this role but that he had not received his GSR packet yet.
- 2) Simplified Roberts Rules of Order: Another recommendation of the District Inventory. This is still needed.

Janet moved that District pay \$19.99 for a year's subscription to "Everything AA" ; Barb seconded it. The motion was approved.

Shernie asked what GSRs should do once inventory of AA materials is gone – Barb described the process to obtain new materials for your group.

Charles brought up another group conscious about Plain English version of Big Book, a companion to the original. The group (thought) that it was a great idea.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari I., Secretary

