

**GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY**  
**Area 55, Panel 66 NW Ohio & Monroe Michigan**  
**P.O. Box 401 Toledo, OH 43697-0401    www.area55aa.org**

<b>Delegate: John C.</b>	<b>419-340-9646</b>
<b>Alt. Delegate/Area Chair: Henry C.</b>	<b>419-472-1091</b>

**Meeting Minutes For July 17, 2016**

Henry C. opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Brian L. read the Mission Statement. Sherri S. read the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition and Melanie R. read the 7<sup>th</sup> Concept. Area 55 Panel 66 officers were introduced: Chris C. – Mailing Secretary, Jackie B.– Recording Secretary, Rachel W.– Registrar, Marty C.—Treasurer and John C.– Delegate. Signed In were: 21 GSRs, 5 Alternate GSRs, 2 DCMs, 1 DCMC and 1 Past Delegate and 1 Guest. There were no new GSRs introduced. Only GSRs, DCMs or their alternates may make motions or vote, although everyone has the right to be heard. We will from now on be using everyone’s first and last names at the meeting and in the minutes.

<b>RECORDING SECRETARY: Jackie B.</b>	<a href="mailto:Recording.secretary@area55aa.org">Recording.secretary@area55aa.org</a>
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June 2016 Meeting Minutes were presented by Jackie B. No errors were noted. Motion to accept the report was made by Tim D., Came To Believe and seconded by Sherri S., Reno Beach Sobriety. Motion carried. **Please note: Committee meeting minutes may also be submitted electronically by e-mail to [Recording.Secretary@area55aa.org](mailto:Recording.Secretary@area55aa.org). Reports need to be submitted the day of the Area Assembly for the mailing to be completed on time. Thank You!**

<b>TREASURER: Marty C.</b>	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@area55aa.org">Treasurer@area55aa.org</a>
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The report for June was presented by Marty C.

Checkbook

Beginning Balance May 31, 2016	\$2,617.22
Income	<u>968.11</u>
Total	\$3,585.33
Expenses	<u>698.22</u>
Total	\$2,887.11
Checkbook Balance June 30, 2016	\$2,887.11

Prudent Reserve Account

Beginning Balance May 31, 2016	\$3,001.03
Interest	.05
Ending Balance June 30, 2016	\$3,001.08

Mini Conference 2015

Beginning Balance May 31, 2016	\$ 500.00
Income	<u>0.00</u>
Total	\$ 500.00
Expenses	<u>0.00</u>
Ending Balance June 30, 2016	\$ 500.00

Motion to accept the report was made by Tim D., Came To Believe and seconded by Meladie S., 12 Step West. Motion passed.

**In June, of the 310 registered Groups in Area 55, 16 Groups made contributions this month or 5.16% and Year to Date 43 Groups or 13.54%.**

**Is your Group Helping Support Area 5 5 General Service?**

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

**ARCHIVES Committee: Patty B.**

[Archives.chair@area55aa.org](mailto:Archives.chair@area55aa.org)

The committee met at Central Office. Archives was displayed at the Young Peoples' Anniversary on June 27<sup>th</sup>, Sylvania Sunday Night on July 10<sup>th</sup> and Principles Before Personalities on July 14<sup>th</sup>. New members Mark H. and Jean L. attended and helped with the display. The committee is continuing to shred materials collected over the years—items with last names and doubles. Next committee meeting is July 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm at Central Office. There are no future commitments for the Archives display at this time. Respectfully submitted, Patty B., Chair

**CPC/PI Committee: John K.**

[CPC.PI@area55aa.org](mailto:CPC.PI@area55aa.org)

The committee met at Central Office. They had no commitments for July. They have been reaching out to the Toledo Public Schools to set up an underage drinking awareness panel—the committee has been contacted by a few schools trying to set up dates. The committee has three commitments for August at the Harbor Youth Fair on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and another on Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting will be July 20, 2016 at 7:00pm at Central Office. Respectfully submitted, John K., Chair

**MULTI-DISTRICT CORRECTIONAL CHAIR: Keith R.**

Report was given by Jim S. They made a goal to have at least two people on each of their weekly commitments and they have met that goal. The Driver Intervention commitments are monthly and need only one person. Updates on commitments as follows: Tuesday night Work Release—Steve S. and Beth P. No report at this time. Toledo Prison—Dale S. and Joe S. share this. Dale had a temporary pass that the Warden rejected so the committee is going to look into this. Lucas County Jail—Men—Keith R. has this. No update at this time. Work Release Friday Night—Jim S. and Nicole K. alternate weeks. No update at this time. Lucas County Jail Women's—Kim S. Kim just recruited another committee member so now there are two people covering this commitment. Holland Driver Intervention—Deb S. and Nick S. No update at this time. Rossford Driver Intervention—Eric H. is covering this. No update at this time. Zepf Driver Intervention—Michael L. No update at this time. Next meeting will be on August 15<sup>th</sup> at Central Office at 5:30pm. Respectfully submitted, Keith R., Chair

**GRAPEVINE Committee: Veronica N.**

[Grapevine.chair@area55aa.org](mailto:Grapevine.chair@area55aa.org)

The committee met on June 22, 2016 at Bay Park Hospital. Veronica N. was present. Other members could not make it. Their July meeting will be on July 28, 2016 at 6:00pm at Bay Park Hospital in the cafeteria and their August meeting will be on August 16, 2016 at 6:00pm at Bay Park Hospital in the same place. Respectfully submitted, Veronica N., Chair

**GROUP SERVICES Committee: Steven G.**

[GroupSer.chair@area55aa.org](mailto:GroupSer.chair@area55aa.org)

The committee met on July 12th at the Navarre Park Shelter House for their final meeting held there. They opened with the Serenity Prayer. In attendance were Jeff K., Steve G., Larnie P. and Herb R. All commitments for June were met. They discussed upcoming commitments for July which included Principles Before Personalities on July 14<sup>th</sup>. The next committee meeting will be at Central Office on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm and will be held there at 6:00pm on the third Thursday of each month from now on. Respectfully submitted, Steven G., Chair

**SPECIAL NEEDS/ACCESSIBILITIES: Jim L.**

Meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup> was called to order at 5:30pm with the Serenity Prayer. In attendance were Jeff C., Lynn S., Andre S., Bill W. and Denise Y. They reviewed past and current commitments. The committee is trying to work with each person's schedule. There are two changes to the Shut-In List: 1) Richard G.'s new address and 2) Donna K.'s family wishes us to send cards only at this time. There were no reported expenses for the month. Next meeting will be on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at Central Office. Meeting closed at 6:00pm with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Jim L., Chair

**INTERGROUP LIAISON: Derek L.**

No report as Intergroup will be meeting on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Respectfully submitted, Tim D.

**WEBSITE COMMITTEE: Josh D.**

[web.comm.chair@area55aa.org](mailto:web.comm.chair@area55aa.org)

The committee met at 11:30am at the Senior Center on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. In attendance were: Nicole K., Wendy S., Kenney and Deborah A. and Josh D. Deborah recently celebrated her AA anniversary and she and Kenney have upcoming leads. Deb attended the last Archives committee meeting and said the process has begun to start the digital archives. The committee discussed the need for new members and will try to bring visitors to our next meeting. The committee will be having a Unity Event on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> to come closer as a committee. Usage updates as follows: Past Month—957 users, 1743 page views and 23.5% returning users; Past Year—10,495 users, 19,662 page views. They had a decrease in users from July 2015 to Jan. 2016 but an increase in users from Feb. 2016 to present. If you are hosting an event, please email a flyer to [web.comm.chair@area55aa.org](mailto:web.comm.chair@area55aa.org) for inclusion on the Website calendar. The more events that are on the calendar means the more usage of the site. Also, adding a Web committee shout out to meeting formats could help drive increased use. Emails will now be forwarded to Josh's personal email which will accelerate response time. The next meeting will be held on August 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am at the Senior Center before the next General Assembly meeting. Respectfully submitted, Josh D., Chair

**OYPAA HOST COMMITTEE: Brian L./Lauren B.**

Matt G. spoke on Tradition 4 and Derek L. spoke on Tradition 5. Their last event, the Slip and Slide, grossed \$530.00. They are asking for donations of food, money and/or time to help with their Hospitality Room at their State Conference. Josh D., Program Chair, has a revised schedule—they will have many panels during the day and they need Chairpeople for them. Their room block is at full capacity. They are also looking for a local Area 55 speaker for their Sunday program, preferably someone who has a YPAA history. Adam G. will be their new Security Chair.

For their Shut In List, they have a new one and plan on bringing a meeting to those that would want one and still continue to send out cards. Josh D. said that they will start doing study halls to allow them to brainstorm and work as a team to more effectively carry the message. Their next meeting will be July 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm at Central Office. They will also begin meeting every Sunday at Central Office in August until their State Conference in September to get prepared for the Conference. The committee is hosting the Finance Committee Intergroup dinner next month. And their next event will be August 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. Respectfully submitted, Brian L., Chair

## **DCM REPORTS**

### **DCMC**

Jim S., DCMC, Area 55, said the DCMs met today and discussed what is going on in their districts as of now. District 3 will be having a workshop on October 1<sup>st</sup>, details to follow. District 4 will be having a workshop in September or October on the Internet and Anonymity. On August 11<sup>th</sup>, the Monroe District will have a meeting at the United Way Building in Monroe and District 5 will have their meeting at Central Office on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am—all are invited to attend.

### **District 3**

No report.

### **District 11**

Kristen T., DCM, District 11 said she is continuing to attend meetings in Fostoria and Tiffin to encourage members to come out to the District's next meeting on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Kristin is also attempting to update contact information, hand out the GSR pamphlet to members who might be interested and explain our service structure to anyone who will listen. The Area Delegate, DCMC and District 11's DCM will be visiting the Fostoria Tuesday Night Men's Group on Tuesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. The group's GSR has attended District meetings and wants us to share with his group some of the things he has learned about at past district meetings. Respectfully submitted, Kristen T., DCM, District 11

### **District 14**

Jean S., DCM, District 14 said they met on July 11, 2016. In attendance were: Jean S., Steve B., Amy H., Rick Z., John B., Chrissy M., Neal M., Pat D., Shane H., Jamie T., Jim S. and John C. Rick Z. read the Twelve Traditions, Chrissy M. shared on the Seventh Concept, the Declaration of Unity/Responsibility Statement/Communication Through The Structure was read by Pat D. and the Review of Voting Procedures/Discussion Procedures were read by Jean S. June Meeting Minutes were read by Amy H. and passed. June Treasurer's Report was read by Chrissy M. and passed. DCM Expenses of \$109.49 were submitted and approved. Jean's expenses for June were incorrectly reported—they were reported as \$109.29 and should have been \$109.49. DCM Report: Jean handed out "A.A.'s Cooperation with Treatment Settings" to GSR's and suggested they distribute to their groups. John C. is on the C.P.C. Committee and would like input from members on this issue. Group Reports: Steve B. from Sunday Morning Wakeup said summertime attendance down. John B. from the Oasis Group said the Oasis Group is one of the oldest meetings in Lima. Members are talking to Handlebar regarding adding material to Archives. Meeting is still discussing changing to a lead meeting instead of an open discussion as it is now. Rick Z. from Out of the Darkness said he and Steve B. were the only attendees this morning. They will "hold on" to see if attendance picks up. Chrissy M. from LDG Group said attendance is good. No follow up regarding the stolen group stamp. Neal M. from the Friendship Group/St. Rita's said their attendance is steady with Sunday

continuing to show strong attendance due to the selection of speakers. Pat D. from the Grace Group said their attendance has been steady. Jamie T. from Singleness of Purpose said that their attendance is down, only four people. Committee Reports: Corrections Committee: No report. Schedules: Pat D. said he has them. Jim S. has expressed interest in buying some for Area 55 District. Phone Rotation: Rick Z. will keep the phone for a third month. Website: Member support posting of flyer about new Alateen meeting that Neal M. is starting. Jean S. will send Billy S. the flyer. Old Business: None. New Business: John C. gave a Delegate's Report. He spoke of his experience at the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual General Service Conference and said that he was one of 134 voting members and that he was in 60 hours of meetings. The main topic was A.A.'s finances. He said there is a 24.8% shortfall in 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition support. He said we traditionally make up this shortfall through literature sales but those are down as well due to the availability of publications through the Internet and through e-books. He said the International Convention lost money because there were 7,000 more people in attendance than expected, which cost the Conference a lot of extra money. He recommended that members join the "Birthday Club" and contribute a dollar annually for each year of their sobriety. He also suggested a "Buck Up" Fund which each group would use to pay for their group's anniversary party as well as suggesting that we put more than \$1.00 in the basket as \$1.00 is worth \$0.13 now compared to 1935. Asked why GSO continues to remain in New York City, John C. said that studies have been done and New York continues to provide the best hub for our world services. He said that cost cutting measures have been taken including relocating the Grapevine office, saving \$1 Million annually. Next year's conference will focus on the future of A.A. He wants feedback from us on ways to strengthen A.A.'s finances and he encouraged us to attend the Area 55 Mini-Conference held in advance of the General Service Conference. Jim S. said "The answers come from us, not from New York."

Meeting closed at 6:43pm with the Responsibility Statement. Next meeting will be on August 8, 2016 at 5:30pm. Respectfully submitted, Jean S., DCM, District 14

**AREA DELEGATE: John C.**

[Delegate@area55aa.org](mailto:Delegate@area55aa.org)

John said that he and Jim S. are trying to get the Districts "lit up"—they are travelling throughout the Area. On July 11<sup>th</sup>, John and Jim went down to Lima to District 14 and gave them a report. This week, John and Jim are going down to a men's meeting in Fostoria with Kristen T. John wanted to thank all the DCMs for their hard work. He said that today at 4:00pm they are having District 3's meeting out at Reno Beach in case anyone was interested in attending. They are going to be discussing their next workshop. The Delegates from the East Central Region had a teleconference and John said that registrations for the State Convention are running at 35 but as alcoholics, we are all last second people so they expect that number to go up. All of our officers will be serving on panels at the State Conference. Marty will be speaking on the family afterward, Jackie will be on autonomy/freedom through AA, Rachel will be on the diversity/corrections panel and Chris will be on the Traditions 7 through 9 panel. John told us that the Corrections Coordinator in New York responds to over 6,500 letters from inmates per year and these letters often request literature and express thanks for the Big Books that are sent to the prisons. John is going to speak to the Corrections people in New York and get information to help Rachel with her service on the diversity/corrections panel. John encouraged everyone to get registered for the State Conference. In early August, Henry C. and John will be going to the East Central Regional Conference in Illinois. John will be on a panel focusing on where A.A. is going in the future. They have asked for a Young Peoples panel to be set up so that Young People can relay how being involved in General Service has affected them. Josh D., Nicole K. and Derek L. will be going down from Area 55 and John said he is going to try to get some of the past delegates to serve in the Hospitality Room for the OYPAA State Conference in September to thank the Young People for all they have

done for us. John said he is sending an email this week to Eva in the General Service Office to see who New York will be sending to our Mini-Conference and our Delegates/Past Delegates Conference next year. John said we will be taking care of the people's flights, hotel stays and food as well as for the expenses of our East Central Regional Trustee. The Delegates/Past Delegates Conference is on February 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Holiday Inn French Quarter and the Mini-Conference will be in March at the same location. John wanted to challenge everyone to join the Birthday Club to send in a dollar or two each year for all the years you've been sober. John thanked everyone for their support and said he will be looking into the Correctional Committee's problem that Jim S. mentioned earlier.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Ohio State Convention is August 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> and all of our officers will be at this so we will be moving our next General Service Assembly to August 28<sup>th</sup>. The Area Guidelines revision is still in progress with Nancy M. chairing this effort. David G. from Group Services gave a report about the overhead projector from last month. David was able to come across an expensive overhead projector for free because his son is an electrician at Lourdes University and they were installing new equipment and giving away the old. David said they are going to now have an Audio/Visual portion of Group Services that will operate the same way they do with the speakers and microphones. If a group needs to use the projector, they can just call the Group Services Committee and arrange it a couple weeks ahead of time. Jim S. said that we should purchase a replacement bulb for the projector ahead of time and David will check into the model and price of one and buy it if it is under \$100.00. Henry said that last month we discussed sending out Thank You notes to each group in January or February that contributed to General Service the previous year. Sherri Snider said that it is a "this is where your money went" type of letter and General Service in New York sends these out twice a year and maybe this will encourage group contributions. Henry asked Sherri to draft up a copy of a letter for us to use. Meladie S. said her group had a question as to how much this would cost. Chris C., our mailing secretary, said that so few groups contribute that it would cost probably less than \$20.00. We could also include the letter with our monthly mailing of our minutes or we could email it also. Danielle G. asked if she can give a copy of our minutes to her group members and Henry told her there is a copy on the Website that she can print off.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Last month, it was pointed out that we have no literature for sale at the General Service Assembly and Henry suggested we have the Intergroup Literature Committee be invited to General Service to set up a table each month. Tim D. said that other Areas have this set up and at least we would have literature at our meeting. Susan P. said that her group would benefit by having literature at our meeting. Ron S. said that when he served as delegate there used to be a table set up so it has been past practice. Ron S. said that he is from the Fostoria Men's group and that any Central Office is an hour away from his group so they would benefit from being able to buy literature at the General Service Assembly that they are coming in for anyway. Henry said he will go to Intergroup to extend the offer.

Henry asked what the body felt about putting time limits on people speaking at the General Service Assembly. Sherri S. said there might be a difference in giving a shorter verbal report and submitting a longer report for inclusion in the written minutes. Jim S. said that our meetings being a little longer might just be a matter of getting used to things so we should have some

patience and tolerance. Henry said for everyone to take it back to their groups and we will discuss it next month.

Henry asked us to designate \$200.00 to defray the costs of the Young People who are going to the Regional Forum in Illinois in August. This is to help them pay for their registration fees and their mileage. Tim D. made the motion and Patty B. seconded it. There was a majority with one opposed and one abstention. The opposing view declined to speak so the motion passed.

Henry wanted to tell all the committees to put in their report when they plan to spend money and approximately how much they are going to need. Then they need to tell us in their reports how much they were actually reimbursed. The Districts, on the other hand, need to come directly to the body and ask for whatever money they need. Henry said we need to have some controls on this so people are not just spending money and coming for reimbursement. We need to have some recordkeeping on this. Rachel W. asked how one would get paid in advance for a purchase for General Service if they did not have the money to pay for something themselves. Henry told her what they need to do is present a bill in advance of the purchase and our treasurer will write them a check.

**The General Service Assembly Meeting adjourned at 2:41 PM, closing with the Responsibility Statement.** Motion to close made by Meladie S., 12 Step West and seconded by Veronica F., Woodland Group.

**Next GSR Assembly Meeting will be held on August 28, 2016 at 1:00 PM at the Senior Center. Clean up for August is Eastside 12x12. Tradition Eight is Brian L. and Concept Eight is Melanie R.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jacqueline B., Recording Secretary Area 55, Panel 66, NW Ohio