

GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY

Area 55, Panel 70 NW Ohio & Monroe Michigan
P.O. Box 401 Toledo, OH 43697-0401 www.area55aa.org

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Only GSRs, DCMs, (GSR/DCM Alternates may make motions and vote in their absence), Committee Chairs, Elected Officers and Past Delegates may make motions or vote, although everyone has the right to be heard. Business conducted normally requires substantial unanimity to pass (2/3 vote on most items).

Present were 5 Panel Officers, 28 GSR's, 2 Alternate GSR's, 7 DCM's, 2 Alternate DCM's, 5 Committee Members, 1 Past Delegate, and 1 Guest.

MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2020

Cheryl S., Area 55 Chairperson, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Gale W. read the mission statement. Dion M. read the 2nd Tradition. Patience K. read the 2nd Concept. Panel 70 officers were introduced.

New GSR's: Lori N., GSR, Women's 12 Steps to Courage; Ivan S., GSR, Live & Let Live; Katie B., Alternate GSR, Women's 12 Steps to Courage; Brad P., GSR, Warm Heart Serenity; Gale W., GSR, S.S.T Group; Jeffrey C., GSR, Swanton Thursday Night; Justin H., GSR, Wayne Group; Darcy B., GSR, Walbridge On the Right Track; Scott D., Alternate GSR, New Hope.

New DCM: John P., DCM, District 16

Past Delegate: John C., Past Delegate, Area 55 Panel 66

Approval of Minutes: George C., Recording Secretary, presented the January 19, 2020 minutes. A couple of clerical corrections were made. Marty C., GSR – New Hope, moved to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by Gary M., GSR – Downtown Group. The motion carried unanimously and the minutes were adopted.

Please note: Committee meeting minutes and District reports may also be submitted electronically by e-mail to Recording.Secretary@area55aa.org. Reports need to be submitted by or on the day of the Area Assembly for the mailing to be completed on time.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: Chris C., Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for January 2020:

Operating Account: Beginning Balance 12/31/19: \$7,745.68; Income: \$1,525.65; Expenses: \$3,936.45; Ending Balance 1/31/20: \$5,334.88.

Prudent Reserve: Beginning Balance 12/31/19: \$3,002.78; Interest: \$0.05; Ending Balance 01/31/20: \$3,002.83

2020 Mini Conference: Beginning Balance 12/31/19: \$2,000.00; Income: \$1,494.50; Expenses: \$110.00; Ending Balance 01/31/20: \$3,096.50

East Central Regional Conference: (Seed Money for 2021 Ohio State Convention) Beginning Balance 12/31/19: \$1,500.00; No Income or Expenses; Ending Balance 01/31/20: \$1,500.00

Larry B., GSR – Sunday Serenity made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by Lori N., GSR – Women's 12 Steps to Courage. The motion passed unanimously, and the January 2020 Treasurer's Report was adopted.

Chris also presented the Assembly a Report showing Budgeted Amounts vs. monthly and YTD Actual Expenses.

Is your group supporting Area 55 General Service?

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

Archives: / Billy S./ archives.chair@area55aa.org

Billy provided a brief report. The Committee has fulfilled all the commitments to-date. The last meeting was held January 27, with 2 members present and guest Cheryl S. (Archivist). A smaller display was brought and is planning to be set up – this display can more easily be moved around. The Committee is also looking for a person to conduct interviews with AA members with 30+ years of sobriety. The Committee is also looking at fireproof cabinets. The next meeting will be Monday, February 24.

The Archives Committee meets the 4th Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m., Tim Horton's – 2621 Navarre Ave; Oregon, OH.

Multi-District Correctional: Dawn F. and Geno F. / corrections.chair@area55aa.org

Dawn F., Co-Chair, presented a brief report and submitted a written Committee report. The Committee met on January 21 at 5:30 pm at Central Office with 11 members present. The Committee is working on getting members approved for each facility. 4 members are approved for the jail, with 8 applications pending. 2 members have completed the application for service work in the prison – background checks and PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) training will be their next steps. The Committee has a goal of having 2 members attend each commitment. The current commitments are to Toledo Correctional Institution (TCI – Prison), Lucas County Correctional Center (jail), Drivers' Intervention Programs (DIP) in Rossford and Holland, Work Release, Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF), and the Work Release through CTF. CTF is on hold until members can be trained through the PREA program – The Chair spoke with CTF on January 22 and was told that CTF would be scheduling a training session and would contact the Committee. Currently, a previous member of the Committee is providing a meeting at CTF, since he has PREA training. Work Release and DIP programs are group commitments with one Correctional committee member attending in case a group doesn't show up. The Committee is also looking at facilities that were done in the past, such as Ohio Link, Stryker-CCNO, Paulding Correctional, and Wood County jail. The Committee will see if District 14 is covering Allen & Oakwood Correctional, Allen County jail, and Worth Center. The Committee also had 2 members at a Coalition for Re-Entry event at the Government Center, held the first Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The next Committee meeting will be Tuesday, February 18, at 5:30 p.m. at Central Office.

The Multi-District Correctional Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 5:30 p.m., at Central Office.

CPC/PI: Dave F. / cpc.pi@area55aa.org

Dave F., Chair, presented a brief report and submitted a written Committee report. The Committee met on January 15 with 4 members in attendance. They continued to read from the CPI/PI Workbook. A commitment was honored at CTF on January 19. The Committee ordered pamphlets and will order a suitcase for their travel agendas. They will have a table at the Mini Conference. The next Committee meeting will be Wednesday, February 19, at 5:00 p.m. at Central Office.

The CPC/PI Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:00 p.m., at Central Office.

Grapevine: Wendy H. / grapevine.chair@area55aa.org

Wendy H., Chair presented a brief report and submitted a written Committee report. There was no meeting in January. All commitments were met. The Committee is also asking for \$100 to stock up for the Mini-Conference. Wendy presented the Committee's financial report:

Financial Report: Beginning Balance: \$135.77; Income: \$132.00; No Expenses; Ending Balance: \$267.77

Billy S., Archives Committee Chair, moved to accept the financial report, seconded by Wendy S., GSR – Ottawa Open Discussion. The motion was approved unanimously and the Grapevine Financial Report was adopted. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 10.

The Grapevine Committee meets the 2nd Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m., Tim Horton's – 2621 Navarre Ave; Oregon, OH.

Group Services: John C. / groupser.chair@area55aa.org

John C., Chair, presented a brief report and submitted a written Committee report. The Committee met on February 9 at 11:30 a.m. at the Senior Center downtown with 2 members in attendance. Drivers and transportation were organized for the next three scheduled events, which are a group anniversary in Rossford on February 13, a workshop in Monroe on February 15, and the Mini Conference in Bowling Green March 6-7. The next meeting will be April 5, 11:30 a.m. at the Downtown Senior Center.

The Group Services Committee meets the day of the General Service Assembly, at 11:30 a.m. at the Downtown Senior Center.

Accessibilities: Ynda C./ accessibilities@area55aa.org /

Ynda C., Chair, presented a brief report. The Committee will be purchasing one or two ASL Big Book DVD's. The Committee brought Valentine's Day cards to today's General Service Assembly so members can sign – those cards will be mailed to members on the Shut-Ins list. The Committee is also requesting volunteers (men and women) to volunteer to visit AA members in local nursing homes. Ynda also provided an update for the ASL Interpreter-provided meeting in Whitehouse – currently one female member is attending every week, and the interpreter is also attending every week, although Area 55 only pays for one week a month. The Committee will also work on getting a flyer out to the deaf community, getting it to the Accessibility Center and will also have ready by the Mini Conference. Ynda presented the Committee's financial report:

Financial Report: Beginning Balance: \$144.00; Income: \$100.00 from General Service; Expenses: \$100.00 for ASL Interpreter for December/January; Ending Balance: \$144.00

Lee J., GSR – Eastside 12x12 moved to approve the Committee Financial Report, seconded by Tarik K., DCM – District 3. The motion was approved unanimously and the Committee's Financial Report was adopted. The next meeting will be Monday, February 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Central Office.

The Accessibilities Committee meets the 2nd Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m., at Central Office.

Website: Nathan K. / web.comm.chair@area55aa.org

Nathan K., Chair, presented a brief report and submitted a written Committee report. The Committee met on February 9, at 10:00 a.m. at Black Kite Coffee. The Committee discussed the upcoming Mini Conference and the presentation for today's General Service Assembly. Much progress has been made to add the District information to each meeting on the meeting schedule. For January, there were 6,141 unique visitors to the Area 55 website, 8,751 total visits, which averages out to 1.4 visits per visitor. A total of 67,254 pages were visited in January, averaging 7.68 pages per visit. The next Committee meeting will be Sunday, April 5, at 10:00 a.m. at Black Kite Coffee.

Wendy S., Area 55 Webmaster, presented the Assembly with highlights of the Area 55 website.

The Website Committee meets the day of the General Service Assembly, at 10:00 a.m., Black Kite Coffee – 2499 Collingwood Boulevard; Toledo, OH

Intergroup Liaison: Tim D., Chair, Northwestern Ohio and Southeastern Michigan Intergroup Association

No report was provided.

Newsletter Liaison:

No report was provided. *There is not currently a Newsletter liaison.*

NOCYPAA Liaison: Nathan K. (Northwest Ohio Conference of Young People in AA)

Nathan presented a brief report. The next NOCYPAA event will be on February 29 – a Leap day event, with a panel discussing “leap into the steps” and a “leaping over boredom” game night. The event will be 4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Church of St. Andrews United Methodist Church at Heatherdowns & Byrne, there will be a \$5 suggested donation. The Committee is also planning a “SereDIPity” event on March 21, where attendees can bring their best homemade dip and different prizes will be awarded. The next Committee meeting will be held today – Sunday, February 9, at 3 p.m. at Central Office.

MONCYPAA Liaison: Logan T., Chair, MONCYPAA+ (Monroe County Conference of Young People in AA+)

Logan provided a brief report. The Committee re-formed during their January meeting, and renamed the group MONCYPAA+, adding the “plus” after the name to encompass members living outside Monroe County. MONCYPAA's next event will be Saturday, March 7 – a “Game Night and Snack Luck” in Tecumseh, MI. There will also be marathon meetings where attendees can get one stamp per hour if needed. The next Committee meeting will be in 1 week in Dundee, MI.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER (“DCM”) REPORTS

DCM Chair: Kimbrough P., District Committee Member Chair

Kimbrough P. gave a brief report. The DCMC meeting was held at 11:30 a.m. on February 9. Items discussed were the International Convention Volunteer workshop, encouraging DCM's to get members to attend the Mini Conference. The Committee also discussed having a General Service Responsibility/GSR workshop area-wide rather than in their district. The Committee also discussed Unity Day, in which the Committee is looking at Saturday, August 15.

District 7: Bill G.

Bill G., DCM – District 7, gave a brief report. District 7 is sponsoring a bus trip to the AA International Convention on July 3. There are flyers that were brought to today's General Service Assembly – the bus will be picking up at Springfield Schools. The next District 7 Committee meeting will be Thursday, February 20, 6:00 p.m. at Central Office.

District 16: John P.

John P., DCM – District 16 gave a brief report. Nooners in Port Clinton anniversary is March 20 which will be at 5:00 p.m. Port Clinton Thursday Anniversary will be in May and will request Grapevine, Archives, and Newsletter Committees.

DELEGATE'S REPORT: James S. / delegate@area55aa.org / (419) 708-4408

Jim S., Panel 70, Area 55 Delegate, presented his report to the assembly. He thanked Wendy S. for her website presentation. The Mini Conference registration is going well.

Mini Conference Update: There are 50 paid registrations, \$250 in food donations, \$250 in scholarship donations. More rooms have been added to the hotel. Jim has received the General Service Conference agenda items, and those will be distributed to the Mini Conference Committee Chairs, and will be posted on the website – the idea is for groups to get the conscience of their home group, and help the Area decide on which items will be discussed. The specific agenda items will be determined at the next Mini Conference Planning Committee on February 22. The background materials won't be out until February 15, and will be distributed to the Planning Committee Chairs.

2020 International Convention Update: The International Convention will be held July 2-5, 2020. There are still some hotel and dorm rooms available.

Other Items: The Area purchased some printers and traded one in, and this will save the Area money by printing our own items. Jim also created an "AA Group" PowerPoint for District 2/4, specifically what is our group responsibility, and would be willing to share with groups or Districts. He also challenged the Group Services Committee to get back into educating groups on the responsibilities of the AA Group. Jim and Alternate Delegate Sherry Snider will be attending the Delegates & Past Delegates Conference in Novi, Michigan next week.

OLD BUSINESS

The money collected in today's basket is \$52.25. Larry B., GSR – Sunday Serenity moved to keep the collections from today's basket, seconded by Logan T., DCM – District 12. The motion was approved unanimously.

The next Mini Conference Planning meeting will be Saturday, February 22, at 10:00 a.m. at Central Office. Agenda items for the Conference will be decided.

John C., Chair of the Area 55 Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee has 2 volunteers for his Committee, and is asking for more volunteers. He needs a lot of DCM input.

A second Area 55 Ad Hoc Committee to Revise Current Guidelines has also been established. If anyone is interested, please see Alternate Delegate Sherry S.

For the Mini Conference, AA East Central Regional Trustee Mark E. and GSO Staff Member Jeff W. will be both presenting their lead and a report. Billy S., Archives Chair, is also offering transportation for Toledo members needing a ride to Bowling Green for the Conference.

Rachel W., GSR - Trail Group moved for Area 55 to set aside up to \$1,000 to be used by Past Delegates of incurred expenses to attend the East Central Regional Conference or the Delegates/Past Delegates Conference, as long as the Past Delegate meets the Area 55 requirement of attending 3/4 of the last 12 Area General Service Assemblies. The motion was seconded by Lorrie E., GSR – Mission for Tradition. The current provision only allows reimbursement of \$100. John C., Past Delegate, spoke on the importance of having Past Delegates at these conferences, and how other Areas utilize funds to send Past Delegates. There were 31 in favor of the motion, 2 were opposed, the motion passed by a 2/3 vote. The minority opinion was expressed. Bill G., DCM – District 7, expressed his desire to change his vote. The Assembly then considered a motion to reconsider the motion. There were 10 in favor and 16 opposed, so the motion to reconsider was defeated. The original motion stands adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

To volunteer for the 2020 International Convention in Detroit, members can register at <https://2020ic.volunteerhub.com>. There is a volunteer meeting May 16 at the TCF Center in Detroit.

NEXT GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: April 5, 2020

District 16 has volunteered to cleanup for the April 5, 2020 General Service Assembly.

Traditions 3 and 4 will be read by Billy S., Archives Chair

Concepts 3 and 4 will be assigned.

Billy S., Archives Chair, moved to adjourn the Assembly, seconded by Tarik K., DCM – District 3. The motion passed unanimously and the General Service Assembly adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

George C., Recording Secretary Panel 70, Area 55, NW Ohio/SE Michigan