

GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY
Area 55, Panel 70 NW Ohio & Southeast 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).

This meeting was held via Zoom Teleconference, Meeting ID 813-7037-7856, Password 100. 34 people were present on the video conference, including 4 Panel Officers and the Area 55 Delegate. 2 Past Delegates were present. 27 other participants were present, including 13 GSR's, 0 Alternate GSR, 3 DCM's, 2 Alternate DCM's, 1 current DCMC, 6 Area 55 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs, 1 Intergroup Liaison, and 1 guest.

MEETING MINUTES FOR JULY 19, 2020

Sherry Snider, Area 55 Chairperson, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Deborah Alexander, GSR – Downtown Group, read the Mission Statement. Mike Morse, GSR – Tuesday Night Oak Harbor, read the Seventh Tradition. Wendy Harris, Chair – Grapevine Committee, read the Seventh Concept. Panel 70 officers were introduced.

New GSR's: No new GSR's were present.

Past Delegates: John Carter, Past Delegate, Area 55 Panel 66 & Delegate Chair of the CPC Committee; and Ron Schudel, Area 55 Panel 48 & Delegate Chair of the Policy & Admissions Committee.

Approval of Minutes: George Calton, Recording Secretary, presented the June 14, 2020 minutes. Sherry Snider, Alternate Delegate & Assembly Chair – Area 55 Panel 70, moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Eva Slawson, GSR – Live & Let Live. The motion carried unanimously with 1 abstention, 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 *Corrected* April Treasurer's Report: Chris Carson, Treasurer, discussed the April 2020 Operating Account report being inaccurate due to incorrect group contributions. He presented a corrected Financial Report for the April 2020 Operating Account. No corrections were made to the Prudent Reserve, 2020 Mini Conference, or East Central Regional Conference accounts:

Operating Account: Beginning Balance 4/1/20: \$6,353.67; Income: \$1,082.55; Expenses: \$803.95; Ending Balance 4/30/20: \$6,632.27.

John Carter, Past Delegate – Area 55 Panel 66 moved to adopt the corrected April report; seconded by John Porter, DCM – District 16. The motion carried unanimously, and the corrected April Report was adopted.

Approval of Corrected May Treasurer's Report: Chris Carson, Treasurer, discussed the May 2020 Operating Account report being inaccurate due to incorrect April group contributions. The April ending balance was incorrect, causing the beginning/ending balance in May to be inaccurate. He presented a corrected Financial Report for the May 2020 Operating Account. No corrections were made to the Prudent Reserve, 2020 Mini Conference, or East Central Regional Conference accounts:

Operating Account: Beginning Balance 5/1/20: \$6,632.27; Income: \$268.10; Expenses: \$327.42; Ending Balance 5/31/20: \$6,572.95.

George Calton, Recording Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70, moved to adopt the corrected May report, seconded by Greg Donnelly, Alternate DCM – District 7. The motion passed unanimously, and the corrected May Report was adopted.

Approval of June Treasurer's Report: Chris Carson, Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for June 2020:

Operating Account: Beginning Balance 6/1/20: \$6,572.95; Income: \$161.40; Expenses: \$445.45; Ending Balance 6/30/20: \$6,288.90.

Prudent Reserve: Beginning Balance 6/1/20: \$3,002.88; Interest: \$0.05; Ending Balance 6/30/20: \$3,002.93.

2020 Mini Conference: Beginning Balance 6/1/20: \$2,000.00; no income or expenses; Ending Balance 6/30/20: \$2,000.00.

East Central Regional Conference: (Seed money for 2021 Ohio State Convention) Beginning Balance 6/1/20: \$1,500.00; no income or expenses; Ending Balance 6/30/20: \$1,500.00

John Porter, DCM – District 16, moved to approve the June Treasurer's report, seconded by Tarik Kadri, DCM – District 3. The motion passed unanimously, and the June 2020 Treasurer's Report was adopted.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

Archives: / Billy Sebring / archives.chair@area55aa.org / (419) 807-4554

Billy Sebring, Chair, gave a brief report. The Committee has not met since February. There have been no requests for the Committee as well. The Committee may resume interviews with members having 30+ years of sobriety.

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

Multi-District Correctional: Dawn and Geno Fleck / corrections.chair@area55aa.org / (419) 346-1552

Dawn Fleck, Co-Chair, submitted a brief report and a written report for June and July. The Committee met on June 17 via Zoom, with 3 members present. All in-person commitments except the Driver Intervention Program are on hold. The DIP programs resumed on May 16 and Committee members have fulfilled all commitments. The Committee continues to stay in contact with all facilities via phone and e-mail. PREA training continues to be on hold. The Committee encouraged its members to sign up with New York to be available for inmate letter-writing correspondence.

The Committee also met on July 15 via Zoom, with 7 members present. All commitments except DIP programs are still on hold. All the DIP commitments were fulfilled – the DIP is limiting attendance to 10 participants and 4 AA's (3 home group members and 1 Corrections Committee member). Dawn has received e-mails from other AA area Correctional Committee Chairs about how they are adjusting their Committees to the pandemic and still carrying the message. The Committee is planning on purchasing some DVD's or CD's for prison inmates to use in their cell. The Committee is also asking for DVD and CD donations (leads, Big Book, Joe & Charlie, etc.) that can be dropped off at Central Office for donations to the prison institutions. The next meeting will be August 19 at 6:30 pm via Zoom (ID: 834-6924-9046, Password: jail).

The Multi-District Correctional Committee has changed their meeting time. The Committee will now meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at Central Office; although the Committee is meeting via Zoom during the pandemic – for more information, visit area55aa.org.

Group Services: John Cannon / groupser.chair@area55aa.org / (419) 280-6780

No report was given.

The Group Services Committee meets the day of the General Service Assembly, at 11:30 a.m. at the Downtown Senior Center; although may be suspended during the Coronavirus pandemic.

CPC/PI: Dave Ferguson / cpc.pi@area55aa.org / (419) 343-1273

Mary Beth Danforth, Co-Chair, presented a brief report and a written report. The Committee has been staying in contact with each other via telephone, and recently submitted a request to have an online Zoom Committee meeting utilizing the Area 55 Shared accounts. The Committee has been in contact with the Adult Probation departments at Toledo Municipal Court and Fremont Municipal Court supplying them with live and virtual meetings that can be accessed from the area 55 website, and that verification of attendance is available for both online and in-person meetings. The Committee has also been in contact via mail and e-mail with the University of Toledo Medical Center, for AA information to students in the schools of College of Medicine and Life Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Health and Human Services including Psychiatric. The school previously covered recovery programs (AA, Racing for Recovery) in the curriculum, but due to time constraints, the information may be cut. The Committee has put together informational packets for students involved in the above programs.

The CPC/PI Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:00 p.m., at Central Office; although may be suspended or meeting online during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Grapevine: Wendy Harris / grapevine.chair@area55aa.org / (419) 508-6860

Wendy Harris, Chair, presented a brief report. The Committee has not met, but will be holding a meeting August 10, at 6pm, at the Pearson Park shelter house.

Financial Report: Beginning Balance: \$145.62; No Income or Expenses; Ending Balance: \$145.62

George Calton, Recording Secretary – Area 55 moved to adopt the financial report; seconded by Billy Sebring, Chair – Archives Committee. The motion passed unanimously, and the Grapevine Financial Report was adopted.

*The Grapevine Committee meets the 2nd Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m., Tim Horton's – 2621 Navarre Ave; Oregon, OH; although may be suspended during the Coronavirus pandemic. In **August**, the Committee will Meet August 10 at the Pearson Park Shelter House at 6pm.*

Accessibilities: Ynda Cappaltery/ accessibilities@area55aa.org /

Ynda Cappaltery, Chair, gave a brief report. The Committee has not met, but Ynda has stayed in contact with some Committee members. The Committee reported an addition to the shut-in list. The Committee has also contacted everyone on the shut-ins list to make them aware of online meetings. Of the shut-ins list, only 3 have access to a computer, 6 who do not have a computer, and 2 no answers. There is a balance in the Accessibilities Financial account of \$80.10.

The Accessibilities Committee meets the 2nd Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m., at Central Office; although may be suspended during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Website: Nathan Knieriem / web.comm.chair@area55aa.org / (419) 202-1880

Wendy Schimmoeller, Committee member and Area 55 Webmaster, presented a brief report and submitted a written report. The Committee met today, July 19, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom with 2 members present. The website's meeting schedule plugin was updated and now includes the ability to search for outdoor meetings. As of today, there are 11 outdoor meeting times listed on the area55aa.org website. The webmaster submitted an invoice for the website domain charges that are due in September. Since the last Committee meeting, several e-mails have been received from groups and intergroup regarding meeting updates. These updates include groups meeting in person after having been closed, groups closing temporarily, groups starting online meetings, and groups updating their online meeting ID's. As of today, all changes received have been made to area55aa.org and the Meeting Guide app. Meeting information changes may be submitted using the online form at <https://area55aa.org/update-your-meeting/> or e-mail to webmaster@area55aa.org. In June, there were 2,919 unique visitors to area55aa.org, 5,040 total visits (1.72 visits per visitor) and 66,039 pages visited (13.1 pages per visit average). The next Web Committee meeting is in the process of being rescheduled due to conflicts. The next meeting will be held on Zoom, Meeting ID: 482-088-376, password: 55.

*The Website Committee has **rescheduled** their meetings to the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Zoom meeting ID 482-088-376, password 55.*

Ad Hoc Area 55 Online Meetings Committee: Josh Davies / joshdaviesosu@gmail.com

No report was given.

Ad Hoc Area 55 Redistricting Committee: John Carter / jcarter51956@yahoo.com

No report was given.

Ad Hoc Area 55 Guidelines Committee: Sherry Snider / alt.delegate@area55aa.org

The Committee has not met. If you have any suggestions for the Area 55 Guidelines, please contact Sherry.

Northwest Ohio/Southeast Michigan Intergroup: Dave Gloria, Liaison for the Intergroup Association of Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan, presented a brief report. Intergroup will be having a Zoom meeting on Saturday July 26. The Entertainment Committee is planning on having a picnic on August 30, subject to any COVID regulations.

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

NOCYPAA Liaison: Nathan Knieriem (Northwest Ohio Committee of Young People in AA)

Connor Gavin, Committee member, presented a brief report. The Committee held an in-person event yesterday, July 18 – an “Ice Cream Social Distancing” event at the Church of St. Andrews on Heatherdowns. 21 people were in attendance. The next NOCYPAA meeting will be Sunday, July 26, at 3pm. The Committee may try to meet in person with the possibility of joining members in via Zoom.

MONCYPAA Liaison: Logan Thornsberry

No report was provided.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER (“DCM”) REPORTS

DCM Chair: Kimbrough Polinsky, District Committee Member Chair

Kimbrough Polinsky gave a brief report. The DCMC meeting was held today at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Unity Day is still being planned – the Delegate will give a lead and there will be breakout rooms and topics. There will be a Unity Day Planning Committee meeting on August 2 at 10a.m. via Zoom. The meeting is open to all who are interested.

District 3: Tarik Kadri, DCM

Tarik reported that District 3 met, and they are planning to host a Tradition 7 Workshop November 14th either in-person or via Zoom.

District 14: Chrissy Montgomery, DCM

Chrissy Montgomery reported that all of District 14 groups are back to meeting in-person. 1 group that met daily has reduced its meetings to only 3 per week. The Singleness of Purpose group is hosting their annual “Wing-Ding” event at the end of August. The District Committee meetings are held every three months on a Thursday night, with the next one in August; although it may be re-scheduled from a Thursday night due to scheduling conflicts.

DELEGATE’S REPORT: Jim Snider / delegate@area55aa.org / (419) 708-4408

Jim Snider, Panel 70, Area 55 Delegate, and Alternate Chair of the CPC Committee presented the Delegate’s Report:

2020 Virtual International Convention: The A.A. General Service Office is currently providing the fellowship with a Virtual International Convention at <http://aa.org> throughout the month of July. Members can simply sign up on the site and pick the activities you wish to attend.

2020 Virtual Ohio State Convention: Area 54 has decided to host the Ohio State Convention virtually on August 21-22. It will take place from 7:00 pm to 9:30pm both evenings.

GSO Audit: The audit has been completed of the General Service Office. Our Delegate will attend a presentation on the full financial report tentatively scheduled for August 15.

7th Tradition: 7th Tradition Donations can be mailed to: Area 55 Treasurer; PO Box 401; Toledo, OH 43697-0401; or can be made online at <https://area55aa.org/make-a-contribution/>. The receipt for the area55aa.org will say ‘Ohio State Conference’ as this is the old (but active) PayPal account. For General Service Office donations, you can mail to: G.S.O.; PO Box 459; Grand Central Station; New York, NY 10163-0459. Jim encouraged groups or members within Area 55 to send a check for \$55.

Meeting Changes: This is a challenging time, and groups are striving to open under many different circumstances. If your group changes how, where, or when they will meet, please make every attempt to let all entities that serve your meeting know.

Trustee Openings: Mark E., our East Central Regional Trustee, has entered his final year of service, and will need to be replaced. Also, the Trustee-at-Large for the US will be rotating out at the same time. Both positions could be filled by past Delegates from our Area. Resumes must be turned in by January 1, 2021.

Area 55 Committees: Committees are encouraged to begin or continue meeting on a regular basis either online or in an outdoor socially distanced setting. The work of committees must focus on keeping the heartbeat of our solution alive.

OLD BUSINESS

Collections received virtually at the June 14 Assembly meeting totaled \$50. Sherry Snider, Alternate Delegate and Assembly Chair, moved to add \$5 to the total, and to donate \$55 to New York. John Porter, DCM – District 16, seconded the motion. 24 voted yes, 3 voted no, with 1 abstention. The motion passed and Area 55 will send \$55 to New York.

Collections received during today's Assembly will be reported next month, and the Assembly will vote next month on how to direct any funds received online during the Assembly.

The Assembly also discussed resuming the monthly mailings for Assembly minutes, Treasurer's Report, and agenda. The system in New York that syncs with the Registrar list is not live yet. Also, the Area 55 Registrar had printer issues this month. The goal of the Area 55 Panel 70 officers is to resume mailing as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Ron Schudel, Past Delegate – Area 55 Panel 48, nominated John Carter, Past Delegate – Area 55 Panel 66, to represent Area 55 in seeking the AA East Central Regional Trustee position. Kimbrough Polinsky, DCM Chair, seconded the motion. John Carter accepted the nomination. The Assembly unanimously approved John's nomination. *Good luck John, Area 55 is behind you!*

Chris Carson, Treasurer – Area 55 Panel 70, moved to have an anonymity-protected version of the Area 55 Treasurer's Report posted monthly to the area55aa.org website in addition to the physical mailing, seconded by George Calton, Recording Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70.

- Upon unanimous consent of the body, the motion was amended to only include an anonymity-protected version of the Treasurer's Report on the area55aa.org (not in the physical mailing).

The amended motion passed, with 24 voting yes, 2 voting no, with 0 abstentions. An anonymity-protected version of the Area 55 Treasurer's Report will be posted monthly to the area55aa.org website.

NEXT GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: August 16, 2020, 1:00 pm via Zoom

Zoom ID: 813-7037-7856

Password: 100

Tradition 8 will be read by Lorrie Eckman, GSR – Mission for Traditions.

Concept 8 will be read by Gale Ward, GSR – SST.

The Area 55 General Service Assembly adjourned at 3:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



George Calton

Recording Secretary

Panel 70, Area 55 - Northwest Ohio & Southeast Michigan