

GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY

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

Delegate: Jim S. / delegate@area55aa.org

Alternate Delegate / Area Chair: Sherry S. / alt.delegate@area55aa.org / (419) 309-0637

Recording Secretary: George C. / recording.secretary@area55aa.org / (419) 277-7804

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Treasurer: Chris C. / treasurer@area55aa.org / (419) 343-2543

Mailing Secretary: Karen W. / mail.secretary@area55aa.org / (419) 344-3544

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. 29 people were present on the video conference, including 5 Panel Officers including the Area 55 Delegate. 1 Past Delegates was present. 23 other participants were present, including 9 GSR's, 2 Alternate GSR's, 3 DCM's, 1 Alternate DCM, 1 current DCMC, 3 Area 55 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs, 1 Intergroup Liaison, and 3 guests.

MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

Sherry S., Area 55 Chairperson, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Wendy H., Committee Chair - Grapevine, read the Mission Statement. Tim D., Guest, read the Ninth Tradition. Chris C., Treasurer-Area 55 Panel 70, read the Ninth Concept. Panel 70 officers were introduced.

New GSR's/Alternate GSR's: Stacey K. was introduced as the Alternate GSR for Perrysburg Staying Sober.

Past Delegates: Ron S., Area 55 Panel 48 & Delegate Chair of the Policy & Admissions Committee.

Intergroup Liaison: Tim D., Chairman – Northwest Ohio/Southeast Michigan Intergroup Association and Dave G., Intergroup Liaison – Northwest Ohio/Southeast Michigan Intergroup Association.

Approval of August Minutes: George C., Recording Secretary, presented the August 16, 2020 minutes. Sherry S., Area Chair – Area 55 Panel 70, moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Chris C., Treasurer – Area 55 Panel 70. The motion carried unanimously, and the August 16, 2020 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 August Treasurer's Report: Chris C., Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for August 2020:

Operating Account: Beginning Balance 8/1/20: \$6,902.30; Income: \$615.56; Expenses: \$242.94; Ending Balance 8/31/20: \$7,274.92.

Prudent Reserve: Beginning Balance 8/1/20: \$3,002.98; Interest: \$0.05; Ending Balance 8/31/20: \$3,003.03.

2020 Mini Conference: Beginning Balance 8/1/20: \$2,000.00; no income or expenses; Ending Balance 8/31/20: \$2,000.00.

East Central Regional Conference: (Seed money for 2021 Ohio State Convention) Beginning Balance 8/1/20: \$1,500.00; no income or expenses; Ending Balance 8/31/20: \$1,500.00

Gale W., GSR - SST, moved to approve the August Treasurer's report; seconded by George C., Recording Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70. The motion passed unanimously, and the August 2020 Treasurer's Report was adopted.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

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

No report was given.

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 F. / corrections.chair@area55aa.org

Dawn F., Co-Chair, gave a brief report and submitted a written report for August. The Committee met on August 19 via Zoom, with 4 members present. All in-person commitments except the Driver Intervention Program are on hold due to COVID. Committee members have fulfilled all DIP commitments. For DIP's, only 4 AA's can participate due to social distancing; the Committee plans on 1 Committee member and 3 Home Group members to attend each commitment. If a group cannot fulfill their commitment, the Committee is asking that the group call the Committee Chair to inform them ahead of time, so that more Committee members may attend. To find the upcoming DIP dates and the groups assigned, they are on the Area 55 and the Central Office website (in Central Office Announcements).

The Lucas County Jail has no means of utilizing DVD's or CD's. On August 12, the Committee took a box of literature, books, and newsletters to the jail. CTF Men's facility may have the ability to do Zoom meetings – they are discussing internally and will get back with the Committee. The CTF Women's facility currently provides Central Office directories upon discharge. Currently, the work release programs (men's and women's) at CTF does not have any inmates. TCI (prison) received 5 different DVD's from the Committee on July 31. TCI has the ability to play the DVD's on an inmate channel for viewing inside each cell. Allen-Oakwood Correctional Institution (AOCI) in Lima is checking into what platform they can use to conduct online meetings. An AOCI inmate seeking a sponsor was connected to the Committee.

The Committee has also been invited to attend weekly International meetings related to corrections committee work. This meeting is held on Zoom, the first and last Sunday at 6 p.m., and the in-between Sundays at 11 a.m., meeting ID 239-990-5603, password 765110.

The next meeting will be September 16 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.

CPC/PI: Mary Beth D. / cpc.pi@area55aa.org /

Mary Beth D., Co-Chair, presented a brief report and submitted a written report. The Committee met on September 14 with 3 members present. The Committee is currently developing a contact list with professionals from different sectors of the community. As part of creating this list, the Committee is working with other Area 55 Committees and the Intergroup Hospital & Institutions (H&I) Committee to gather their list of contacts. Committee member Beau B. is working with colleges and universities in getting their contacts and seeking their willingness to do a presentation to students. Mary Beth D. is working with the media (Area 55 television and radio stations) to encourage them to run the public service announcements (PSA) provided from aa.org. The Committee is also working with active DCM's to get a list of contacts with law enforcement and court/probation departments within their district that they have a relationship with. The Committee has been in contact with the Toledo Municipal Court, Fremont Municipal Court, and the Wood County Adult Probation Department about accepting meeting stamps/verifications from in-person and online meetings. The Committee is also working with Midwest Recovery Center and hopes to provide a presentation to their clients. The Committee is also seeking to interact with the Northwest Ohio/Southeastern Michigan Intergroup Association's Hospital and Institutions Committee in gathering the contacts for various institutions. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom; Zoom ID: 831-8766-3059, Password: 530. (Please note that this meeting is a time change from 6:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

The CPC/PI Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:00 p.m., at Central Office; although during the pandemic their meetings will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom at 831-8766-3059, Password: 530.

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

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.

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

Wendy H., Chair, presented a brief report. The Committee did not meet in September. Wendy attended the District 16 Grapevine Committee workshop/meeting.

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

George C., Recording Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70 moved to adopt the financial report; seconded by Linda N., DCM – District 4. 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 C./ accessibilities@area55aa.org /

No report was given.

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 K. / web.comm.chair@area55aa.org

Tim D., Committee member, gave a brief report. The Committee met on September 1 and discussed the new layout of the website. Statistical numbers for the website were also reviewed.

*The Website Committee has **rescheduled** their meetings to the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Zoom meeting ID 273-332-805, password 830.*

Ad Hoc Area 55 Online Meetings Committee: Josh D.

No report was given.

Ad Hoc Area 55 Redistricting Committee: John C.

No report was given.

Ad Hoc Area 55 Guidelines Committee: Sherry S. / 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 G., Liaison for the Intergroup Association of Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan, presented a brief report. The Bylaws Committee for the Intergroup Association have presented 2 changes to be decided at the Intergroup meeting October 24. One Bylaw change proposal is to change the name of the Children's Christmas Party to the Holiday Christmas Party. Jackie B. also needs articles for the newsletter. The next meeting will be Saturday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

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

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

No report was given.

MONCYPAA Liaison: Logan T.

No report was provided.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER (“DCM”) REPORTS

DCM Chair: Kimbrough Polinsky, District Committee Member Chair

Kimbrough P. gave a brief report. The DCMC meeting was held today at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. The Committee discussed meetings and safety/CDC guidelines – making sure groups are staying safe. Unity Day is being planned for Saturday, November 14. Unity Day will feature three panels: (1) Tradition 7, (2) Tradition 3, and (3) Anonymity. There will be another Unity Day Planning meeting next Saturday, September 26.

District 11: Bonnie S., DCM

Bonnie mentioned that the District is focusing on staying united throughout the pandemic.

District 14: Christine M., DCM

Christine has been in contact with the Allen/Oakwood Correctional Center. Christine wrote an article for a newsletter that the Center publishes for inmates.

DELEGATE’S REPORT: Jim S. / delegate@area55aa.org

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

Mini-Conference Planning Committee: A conference planning committee needs to be formed for the March 5-6, 2021 Area 55 Mini-Conference. If you are interested in joining that planning committee, please contact Jim.

Ohio State Convention/East Central Regional Conference: Jim discussed the potential cancelation of the 2021 Ohio State Convention and the East Central Regional Conference, in which Area 55 is scheduled to host in August 2021. There are likely cancelation charges, but those can be minimized the earlier we choose to cancel. Jim is asking the conscience of the Area on how to proceed.

2021 General Service Conference: This has been scheduled to take place online again (not in-person in New York), and will be a longer conference than the abbreviated 2020 GSC.

General Service Office update: General Service Office has canceled all 2021 Regional Forums. Also, Box 459 and the Quarterly Report will not be mailed out in the next few months – they will be e-mailed. GSO has also unveiled a new literature website.

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.

DCM meetings: Jim and Sherry met with several DCM’s in their area (traveled to Lima, Findlay, Tiffin Port Clinton, and Bowling Green) and gave them a General Service Conference report.

Area 53 Election: On September 13, Jim and Sherry 77 people showed up, elected 12 service positions, each position there were 2 or 3 people running. Voting was done on an outside site to stay anonymous.

OLD BUSINESS

\$10 was collected during last month’s meeting. Chris C., Treasurer – Area 55 Panel 70 moved to keep the \$10 within the Area account; seconded by Bonnie S., DCM – District 11. The motion carried unanimously, and the \$10 will stay within Area 55.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim S., Delegate – Area 55 Panel 70, moved to cancel the in-person 2021 Ohio State Convention and East Central Conference and move it online; seconded by Karen W., Mailing Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70. Discussion was held on the matter. The Chair moved to call the question. The procedural vote to call the question passed 15-3. On the main motion (to cancel the in-person conference, it passed with 15 voting yes, 5 voting no, and 0 abstentions.

Tim D., Chairman – Northwest Ohio/Southeast Michigan Intergroup Association, asked the body about groups that are online – can they be a group and which District would they belong to. Sherry S., Area Chair/Alternate Delegate, mentioned that we will see what guidance the General Service Office has regarding this.

NEXT GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: October 18, 2020, 1:00 pm via Zoom

Zoom ID: 813-7037-7856

Password: 100

The Mission Statement will be read by Karen W. – Mailing Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70.
Tradition 10 will be read by Mary Beth D., Committee Chair – CPC/PI.
Concept 10 will be read by Dawn F., Committee Chair – CPC/PI.

Jim S., Delegate – Area 55 Panel 70, moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Christine M., DCM – District 14. The motion carried unanimously, and the Assembly adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

George C.
Recording Secretary
Panel 70, Area 55 - Northwest Ohio & Southeast Michigan