

# GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY

Area 55, Panel 70 NW Ohio & Southeast Michigan  
P.O. Box 401 Toledo, OH 43697-0401 [www.area55aa.org](http://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 6 Panel Officers counting the Area 55 Delegate. No Past Delegates were present. 28 other participants were present, including 15 GSR's, 1 Alternate GSR, 3 DCM's, 0 Alternate DCM's, 1 current DCMC, and 5 Area 55 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs. 3 guests were present, including the Chair of the Northwest Ohio/Southeastern Michigan Intergroup Association.

## MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Sherry S., Area 55 Chairperson, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. followed by the Serenity Prayer. Bonnie S., DCM-District 11, read the Mission Statement. Bill G., DCM – District 7, read the Second Tradition. Dawn F., Committee Chair – Multi-District Corrections, read the Second Concept. Panel 70 officers were introduced.

**New GSR's/Alternate GSR's:** Joan S., GSR – Maumee Thursday Night 12x12; Patty B., GSR – Living Sober; Melissa T., GSR – Trail Group

**New DCM's/Alternate DCM's:** Wendy H., Alternate DCM – District 3

**Intergroup Associations Present:** Northwest Ohio/Southeast Ohio Intergroup Association – Kevin B., Chair.

**Upcoming Conferences:** The 2021 Area 55 Virtual Mini-Conference will be held March 5-6, 2021; Registration for the Mini-Conference can be completed online at [area55aa.org](http://area55aa.org). Also, Area 55 will be hosting the 2021 Ohio State Convention in August 2021, which will also be held Virtually.

**Approval of January 2021 Minutes:** George C., Recording Secretary, presented the January 17, 2021 minutes. Bill G., DCM – District 7, moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Lorrie E., GSR – Mission for Traditions. The motion carried unanimously, and the January 17, 2021 minutes were adopted.

*Please note: Committee meeting minutes and District reports may also be submitted electronically by e-mail to [Recording.Secretary@area55aa.org](mailto: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 January 2021 Treasurer's Report:** Chris C., Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for January 2021:

**Operating Account:** Beginning Balance 1/1/21: \$8,671.73; Income: \$941.78; Expenses: \$2,203.38; Ending Balance 1/31/21: \$7,410.13.

**Prudent Reserve:** Beginning Balance 1/1/21: \$3,003.23; Interest: \$0.05; Ending Balance 1/31/21: \$3,003.28.

**2021 Mini Conference:** Beginning Balance 1/1/21: \$2,000.00; no income or expenses; Ending Balance 1/31/21: \$2,000.00.

**January Assembly Basket:** \$61.00

Marty C., GSR – New Hope, moved to approve the January Treasurer's report; seconded by Wendy H., Committee Chair - Grapevine. The motion passed unanimously, and the January 2021 Treasurer's Report was adopted.

## **COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**

**Multi-District Correctional:** Dawn and Geno F. / [corrections.chair@area55aa.org/](mailto:corrections.chair@area55aa.org)

Dawn F., Co-Chair, gave a brief report and submitted a written report. The Committee met on January 20, 2021 via Zoom, with 5 members present. All in-person commitments except the Driver Intervention Program are on hold due to COVID. Committee members have fulfilled all DIP commitments. The committee has released upcoming assignments for the DIP programs, located on the area55aa.org website. 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. *CTF-Men's:* The committee dropped 10 Big Books off 1-10-21 and they have started Zoom meetings every Sunday 1-2 p.m. (although the meeting date/time changed to Thursdays). *CTF-Women's & Work Release:* 10 Big Books were dropped off 1-8-21 and they have started Zoom meetings every Monday 7-8 p.m. *TCI-Prison:* The committee is working with the contact to providing names of those who may be interested in having their story on DVD. *Allen-Oakwood Correctional:* The committee is in discussions about online meetings, and an AOCI inmate recently connected with the committee to discuss virtual sponsorship; Chrissy Montgomery, DCM-District 14, is doing Zoom meetings on Mondays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. *Other facilities:* The committee will reach out to Monroe County Jail and CCNO to learn how they are conducting AA meetings.

The Committee also met on February 17, 2021 via Zoom, with 7 members present. All DIP commitments were fulfilled. *CTF-Men's:* The weekly Zoom meeting has changed to Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. *CTF-Women's & Work Release:* The weekly Monday Zoom meeting has been well attended. *TCI-Prison:* The contact at the prison is looking for DVDs of former incarcerated people. *If you are interested in participating in any of the Zoom meetings with correctional institutions, please contact the Corrections Committee first.*

The committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month pm via Zoom (ID: 834-6924-9046, Password: jail). The March meeting will be March 17, and the April meeting will be April 21.

*The Multi-District Correctional Committee has changed their meeting time. The Committee will now meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 /](mailto:cpc.pi@area55aa.org)

Mary Beth Danford, Chair, gave a brief report and submitted a written report. The committee met on January 20, 2021 via Zoom with 3 members present, as well as Jim S, Area 55 Delegate and Vito P., CPC Chair-Area 8 (San Diego). The Committee discussed forming a PI sub-committee and discussed large forums of sheriff and church councils that address several institutions with educational presentations. *University of Toledo:* the chair of the UT Department of Psychiatry recently was awarded a \$449,000 3-year grant from the Centers for Substance Abuse treatment. UTMC is also part of a collaborative Medicaid Quality grant, which would involve collaboration with UTMC, ProMedica, and Unison. The committee is discussing ways in which AA can be part of this collaborate effort. *Other entities:* The Committee has reached out to professionals at Lourdes University, Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, and the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County. *Rescue Mental Health & Addiction Services:* The CPC/PI scheduled an information presentation with the organization on January 27. *Warren AME:* The committee contacted Rev. Gordon Jr. about providing a CPC presentation for their Health & Wellness Ministry. Vito P., CPC Chair – Area 8 shared with the committee the GLIDE telephone app that allows them to link professionals to the CPC PowerPoint presentations via phone.

The committee also met on February 17, 2021 via Zoom, with 3 members present. The committee reviewed the Mini-Conference background materials for CPC and PI. The committee continues to follow up with UTMC and Rescue Mental Health & Addiction Services from their recent meetings.

The next CPC/PI committee will meet the day before the Mini Conference; and will meet again in April via Zoom ID 831-8766-3059, passcode: 530.

*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.*

**Archives:** / Billy S. / [archives.chair@area55aa.org](mailto:archives.chair@area55aa.org) /

Deborah A., Archivist – Area 55, gave a brief report. There have been no Archives Committee meeting due to the pandemic. The committee will be hosting a virtual “room” during the 2021 Mini Conference.

*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.*

**Accessibilities:** Matt A. / [accessibilities@area55aa.org](mailto: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.*

**Grapevine:** Wendy H. / [grapevine.chair@area55aa.org](mailto:grapevine.chair@area55aa.org) /

Wendy H., Chair, gave a brief report. There was no committee meeting held in January. The committee did meet on February 8 via Zoom with 5 members in attendance. Some members were new to the committee.

*December 2020 Financial Report: Beginning Balance \$151.62; Book sales of \$11.50; Ending Balance \$163.12*

Sherry S., Alternate Delegate - Area 55 moved to approve the report; seconded by Lorrie E., GSR – Mission for Traditions. The motion passed unanimously, and the December 2020 Grapevine Financial Report was adopted.

*January 2021 Financial Report: Beginning Balance \$163.12; Book Sales \$48.63; Ending Balance \$211.75*

Chris C., Treasurer – Area 55, moved to approve the report; seconded by Kimbrough P., DCMC – Area 55. The motion passed unanimously, and the January 2021 Grapevine Financial Report was adopted.

The next meeting will be Monday, March 8.

*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.*

**Group Services:** John C. / [groupser.chair@area55aa.org](mailto: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.*

**Website:** Nathan K. / [web.comm.chair@area55aa.org](mailto:web.comm.chair@area55aa.org) /

Wendy S., Chair, gave a brief report. The committee met on February 2 at 6 p.m. via Zoom with 3 members present. The committee continues to discuss changes to meetings and the schedule. The committee would ask all groups and DCMs to review the schedule to accuracy and report any needed changes to the webmaster at [webmaster@area55aa.org](mailto:webmaster@area55aa.org). The committee decided to link the live Google Sheets version of the Online meetings on the area website rather than the PDF-only version. The online registration for the 2021 Ohio State Convention is now available on the area website.

*January 2021 website statistics: 3,609 unique visitors; 5,956 total visits (1.6 visits per visitor). 78,383 pages visited (13.16 pages per visit).*

*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.*

**Northwest Ohio/Southeast Michigan Intergroup:** Dave G., Liaison for the Intergroup Association of Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan, gave a brief report. Intergroup met January 23 via Zoom. Many positions were filled, however there are still open positions. The Intergroup Newsletter Vice-Chair and the Anniversary Vice-Chair positions still need to be filled. The next meeting will be February 27 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**NOCYPAA Liaison:** Connor G. (Northwest Ohio Committee of Young People in AA)

Josh D., NOCYPAA Events Co-Chair, gave a brief report. NOCYPAA is hosting a virtual event “Eat with Pete” on March 20, where members will be given a list of ingredients and will cook-along with Pete M., and will be preceded at 5 p.m. with a meeting. There will be a planning meeting for that event on March 7. Jim S., Delegate – Area 55, invited NOCYPAA to conduct a skit during the 2021 Mini Conference and the 2021 Ohio State Convention.

**MONCYPAA Liaison:** Logan T.

No report was provided.

**Ad Hoc Area 55 Online Meetings Committee:** Josh D.

Josh D., Chair, provided a brief report. The committee met on February 18 with 5 members present. The committee discussed the future of the Ad Hoc Committee, including a potential merger with the Website Committee. The committee decided not to dissolve at this time but may in the future. The committee also discussed possible guidelines for creating an online district within Area 55. The committee decided not to create the guidelines at this time but will address the need for guidelines once there is interest in groups joining the service structure. The Ad Hoc committee discussed two newly revised forms, the *New Group Information Form*, and the *Current Group Information Change Form*.

Wendy S., Area 55 webmaster, discussed changes to the *New Group Information Form* and the *Group Information Change Form*. Both forms now can capture online meeting information, and both can be electronically signed and submitted to the Area 55 Registrar online.

The next meeting will be held March 18 via Zoom.

**Ad Hoc Area 55 Redistricting Committee:** John C. /

No report was given.

## **DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER (“DCM”) REPORTS**

**DCM Chair:** Kimbrough P., District Committee Member Chair

Kimbrough P., DCMC, gave a brief report. The DCM meeting was held February 21 at 11:30 a.m. with 4 districts represented. The committee discussed the importance of getting group information updated. District 7 is having a workshop February 27 – a Big Book Study. The committee is planning on hosting a Unity Day event in July. The committee is also looking for an Alternate DCMC.

**District 7:** Bill G., DCM – District 7

Bill G., DCM – District 7, gave a brief report, and submitted a written report. The District meeting was held January 7, with 4 people in attendance. There are no major changes regarding in-person meetings in the district. The next District 7 meeting will be held February 25 at 6 p.m. via Zoom. *District 7 is hosting a Big Book Study on February 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (room opens at 9 a.m.), Zoom ID 868-5366-3309, Passcode 088296.*

**District 16:** John P. – District 16

John P., DCM – District 16, gave a brief report. There are 8 live meetings in the District, 2 have Zoom. Will have a District meeting after agenda items.

**NEW DCM's:** Bridget B. is now the DCM for District 4. Vern M. is now the DCM for District 2. Both districts will continue to have combined meetings.

**DELEGATE'S REPORT:** Jim S. / [delegate@area55aa.org](mailto:delegate@area55aa.org) / (419) 708-4408

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

**Mini-Conference:** The next planning meeting will be February 27 at 10 a.m. Registrations for the Mini-Conference are available at [area55aa.org](http://area55aa.org). We do ask that everyone register for the free conference. Registering will allow the Area to make sure the proper platform can be used to accommodate the number of attendees. The Mini-Conference is March 5-6.

**East Central Regional Forum:** The East Central Regional Forum will be held virtually November 19-21, 2021.

**Ohio State Convention:** Area 55 is hosting the 2021 Ohio State Convention (virtual), and the planning committee meetings are being held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month via Zoom at 10 a.m.

**2021 General Service Conference:** Jim will be attending the Conference virtually April 18-24. Over 1,300 pages of background material are being reviewed; and have been distributed for certain agenda items to Mini-Conference committees.

**Group Discussions about Post-COVID:** Jim encouraged each group to have conversations with their group about how they will re-organize after the pandemic.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

\$47.00 was collected during today's February General Service Assembly PayPal basket. George C., Recording Secretary – Area 55, moved to keep the \$47.00 from today's basket within Area 55; seconded by Larry S., GSR – Eastside 12x12. The motion passed unanimously, and the monies received will be kept within the Area.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Jim S., Delegate – Area 55 Panel 70, discussed that Area 55 has saved monies by the Delegate and Alternate Delegate by not traveling during the pandemic, and that although \$3,000 is the Area's prudent reserve, there is over \$7,000 in the Area's bank account. Jim suggested that the Area send 10% of the bank balance to the General Service Office, who may be in more of need than the Area. Jim asked that members discuss with their groups, and we will bring the issue back up at the next Area Assembly.

## **NEXT GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: April 18, 2021, 1:00 pm via Zoom**

**Zoom ID:** 813-7037-7856

**Password:** 100

Traditions 3 & 4 will be read by Gale W., GSR - SST.

Concepts 3&4 will be read by Dion M., GSR – Starlight.

Chris C., Treasurer – Area 55, moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Bill G., DCM – District 7. The motion carried unanimously, and the Assembly adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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