

# 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)

---

**Delegate:** Jim S. / [delegate@area55aa.org](mailto:delegate@area55aa.org)  
**Alternate Delegate / Area Chair:** Sherry S. / [alt.delegate@area55aa.org](mailto:alt.delegate@area55aa.org)  
**Recording Secretary:** George C. / [recording.secretary@area55aa.org](mailto:recording.secretary@area55aa.org) /  
**Registrar:** Tim D. / [registrar@area55aa.org](mailto:registrar@area55aa.org) /  
**Treasurer:** Chris C. / [treasurer@area55aa.org](mailto:treasurer@area55aa.org) /  
**Mailing Secretary:** Karen W. / [mail.secretary@area55aa.org](mailto:mail.secretary@area55aa.org) /

*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. 28 people were present on the video conference including 5 Panel Officers plus the Area Delegate. 1 Past Delegate was present. 21 other participants were present, including 12 GSR's, 0 Alternate GSRs, 2 DCM's, 0 Alternate DCM's, 1 current DCMC, 4 Area 55 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs and 2 guests, including the Chair of NOCYPAA.

## MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 13, 2021

Sherry S., Area 55 Chairperson, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. followed by the Serenity Prayer. Larry S., GSR – Eastside 12x12, read the Mission Statement and Tradition Six. Bill G., DCM – District 7, read the Sixth Concept. Panel 70 officers were introduced.

**New GSR's/Alternate GSR's:** No new GSR's or Alternate GSR's  
**New DCM's/Alternate DCM's:** No new DCM's or Alternate DCM's  
**Past Delegates:** John C., Past Delegate – Area 55 Panel 66

**Approval of May Minutes:** George C., Recording Secretary, presented the May 16, 2021 minutes. There were a couple of corrections. Larry S., GSR – Eastside 12x12, moved to approve the May 2021 minutes as corrected; seconded by Mary Beth D., Committee Chair – CPC/PI. The motion carried unanimously, and the May 16, 2021 minutes were adopted as corrected.  
*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 May Treasurer's Report:** Chris C., Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for May 2021:  
**Operating Account:** Beginning Balance 5/1/21: \$7,515.97; Income: \$1,128.58; Expenses: \$511.81; Ending Balance 5/31/21: \$8,132.74.  
**Prudent Reserve:** Beginning Balance 5/1/21: \$3,003.43; Interest: \$0.05; Ending Balance 5/31/21: \$3,003.48.  
**Area 55 Mini Conference:** Beginning Balance 5/1/21: \$2,000.00; No income or expenses; Ending Balance 5/31/21: \$2,000.00.  
**May Assembly Basket:** \$50.00  
**May Group Contributions:** \$858.58

Wendy H., Committee Chair - Grapevine, moved to adopt the May 2021 Treasurer's Report; seconded by George C., Recording Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70. The motion passed unanimously, and the May 2021 Treasurer's Report was adopted.

## **COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**

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

Billy S., Chair, gave a brief report. The Archives Committee is starting back up, with the next meeting on Monday, July 19, at 6:00 p.m. at Central Office. The Committee will be undertaking a task of interviewing “long-timers.”

*The Archives Committee may be changing their normal meeting time.*

**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 May 26 with 4 members present. The Committee fulfilled all three of the commitments for the Driver Intervention Programs (Groups are no longer asked to attend due to the limit of 2 A.A.’s per program). The Talbot DIP’s limit of 2 A.A.’s is not COVID related, but due to the staff’s concern that groups go beyond the 1-hour time limit. The CTF-Men’s campus is working on physical facility updates and, upon completion, will focus on getting men to attend meetings. Currently the CTF-Men’s facility has an A.A. meeting via Zoom on Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. that is closed to CTF men and Correctional Committee members only. The CTF-Women’s weekly meeting on Mondays from 7-8 p.m. has had up to 20 attendees per week. The Work Release facility has not been open during the pandemic. At the TCI-Toledo Prison facility, Committee members have been attending three meetings per week, held Monday evenings and twice on Wednesdays. The Committee had \$40 donated through the Area 55 Mini-Conference as earmarked funds for the Corrections Committee. The Committee spent \$89.94 on June 1 for Big Books and 12x12’s requested by a Committee member who began taking meetings in-person to TCI in May. The Committee still needs help to fill the meetings at the TCI facility. At the Allen-Oakwood Correctional Institution in Lima, Chrissy M., DCM – District 14, has been attending Zoom meetings on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. with inmates of the facility. Dawn, Committee Chair, will be attending the CPC/PI Teams presentation for prison administrators on June 9. The next Committee meeting will be June 16 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

*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.; the Committee may meet at an alternate location – for more information, visit [area55aa.org](http://area55aa.org).*

**CPC/PI:** Mary Beth D. / [cpc.pi@area55aa.org](mailto:cpc.pi@area55aa.org) /

Mary Beth D., Chair, gave a brief report and also submitted a written report. The Committee met on May 5. On June 9, committee members Mary Beth D. and Karen W., and Corrections Chair Dawn F. attended the Northwest Recovery Services Supervisors meeting, which included supervisors from the area correctional institutions. At that presentation, Karen W. presented a 15-minute segment about A.A., followed by questions and answers. Most questions were centered on how A.A. can help the inmates at the facilities. At that meeting, the topic of “lifers” not having an opportunity to be a part of an outside A.A. group came up. Dawn e-mailed the group the A.A. Group Handbook and encouraged members inside a prison to run an A.A. meeting. The CPC/PI Committee agreed to provide the supervisor’s group a presentation that illustrates the traditions for a meeting. The Committee has reached out to the Chemical Dependency Specialists within the Adult Parole area. The next meeting of the CPC/PI Committee will be June 16 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

*The CPC/PI Committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.*

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

No report was given.

*The Accessibilities Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. The Committee did not meet in April, but did meet in person in May at Pearson Park. The Committee will not meet in June, as they will be meeting at an A.A. group anniversary at Living Sober on June 14.

**March Financial Report:** \$211.75 beginning balance; Book Sales of \$56.00; ending balance \$267.75. Larry S., GSR – Eastside 12x12, moved to approve the report; seconded by Lorrie E., GSR – Mission for Traditions. The motion carried unanimously, and the March Grapevine Report was adopted.

**April Financial Report:** \$267.75 beginning balance; Book Sales of \$66.00; Book purchase of \$234.50; ending balance \$99.25. George C., Recording Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70, moved to approve the report; seconded by Mary Beth D., Committee Chair – CPC/PI. The motion carried unanimously, and the April Grapevine Report was adopted.

**May Financial Report:** \$99.25 beginning balance; no income or expenses; ending balance \$99.25. Lorri E., GSR – Mission for Traditions, moved to approve the report; seconded by Karen W., Mailing Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70. The motion carried unanimously, and the May Grapevine Report was adopted

The next meeting of the Grapevine Committee will be Monday, July 12, at 6:00 p.m. at Rudy's Hot Dog on Monroe Street in Toledo.

*The Grapevine Committee meets the 2nd Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m., although may be suspended during the Coronavirus pandemic.*

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

John C., Chair, gave a brief report. The Group Services Committee has been tasked with helping groups as they transition from online meetings back to in-person meetings. If your group needs any help, please contact John. The Committee will resume meetings, starting Monday, July 26, at 6:00 p.m. at Central Office.

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

Wendy S., Area 55 Webmaster and member of the Website Committee, gave a brief report. The Committee met Tuesday, June 1, with three members present. The Committee is requesting any group changes (meeting in-person now, changed meeting locations, etc.) to please utilize the change forms on [area55aa.org](http://area55aa.org). The Committee discussed adding specialized district pages and including the definition of a district to the website. The district pages could also include district meeting minutes.

*May Website Statistics:* 3,573 unique visitors; 5,747 total visits (1.6 visits per visitor); 75,472 pages viewed.

The next meeting of the Website Committee will be Tuesday, July 6 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

*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:** No report was given

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

Connor G., Chair, gave a brief report. The next event for NOCYPAA will be in July, more details will be coming soon. The Ohio Young People in A.A. (OYPAA) will be doing a Mid-Summer camping event near Logan, Ohio June 25-27, with several Area 55 members attending. NOCYPAA will also be participating in the Ohio State Convention. The next business meeting for NOCYPAA will be today, June 13, at 3:00 p.m.

**MONCYPAA Liaison:** Logan T.

No report was provided.

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

*This Committee has been dissolved.*

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

**DCM Chair:** Kimbrough Polinsky, District Committee Member Chair

No report was given. The District Committee Member meeting was held at 11:30 a.m. today.

**District 7:** Bill G., DCM – District 7, gave a brief report and submitted a written report. The Thursday Maumee 12x12 8:00 p.m. is meeting in-person and online (hybrid). The New Beginnings Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Big Book meeting is back to in-person meetings at Providence Lutheran, but in a different room (Family Life Center). The Maumee Sunday Night Open Lead 8:00 p.m. meeting will resume in-person effective June 13.

**District 14:** Christine M., DCM – District 14, gave a brief report. The Friday 7pm meeting, Oasis Group, has resumed in-person meetings. The next district meeting will be the fourth Wednesday in July at Grace Fellowship Church (Elm and Nixon in Lima).

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

Jim S., Delegate – Area 55 Panel 70, provided the Delegate's Report.

**A.A. Anniversary:** Jim wished a happy 86<sup>th</sup> birthday to our fellowship

**Updates to Meetings:** As groups begin to re-open, or no longer meeting, it is important that the group updates the information through Tim D., Area 55 Registrar. The change forms can be found on the area55aa.org website. Also please fill out this form if the GSR has changed.

**Committee Meetings:** Jim has requested that Area 55 Committees resume in-person meetings starting in July as Central Office has decided to allow the facility to be used for that purpose.

**Ad-Hoc Online Meetings Committee:** The Ad Hoc committee has been dissolved, with any responsibilities being absorbed into the Website Committee. Jim thanked the Ad Hoc Committee and its members for doing a great job.

**General Service Assembly:** The Area continues to look for ways to return to in-person General Service Assembly meetings.

**65<sup>th</sup> Ohio State Convention:** The convention, *Our Great Responsibility*, is planned for August 20-22, 2021, and will be held virtually. You can register for free at area55aa.org.

**Group Services Committee:** The Committee, headed by John C., is able to help groups making a transition back to in-person meetings. Several challenges, including changing locations, can be assisted via the Committee.

**Website Committee:** The Chair of this committee is vacant. Jim has reached out to a member to see their interest in chairing the committee.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The Assembly Discussed the Ad Hoc Online Meetings Committee's official recommendation to modify the Area 55 Guidelines to include the following:

**For Incorporation into the Area 55 Guidelines**

**Online Group Representation within the Area 55 General Service Structure**

Online-only groups, as part of AA, are entitled to have a voice in the Area 55 General Service Assembly, in accordance with AA Traditions.

**District within the Area**

These groups have the autonomy to either share their voice as part of an Online Group District (District 0), or choose a district based on the general geography of its members.

**Eligibility of Online Groups to Participate within the Area 55 Service Structure**

In order for an online group to be represented in the General Service Assembly:

- The group must consist primarily of members residing in Area 55.
- Membership of AA's living outside of Area 55 does not disqualify the group from sharing its voice.
- The elected GSR to Area 55, should reside within Area 55,
- The elected GSR should be the only GSR representing the group's voice - the group should not also have a GSR for a different Area.

**Area 55 General Service Assembly**

To allow representation of online groups in General Service Assembly, the GSA will make every effort to establish a hybrid meeting model to allow those with accessibility issues the right of full participation, as guaranteed in the Concepts.

George C., Recording Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70, moved to adopt the Ad Hoc's recommendation and incorporate them into the Area 55 Guidelines; seconded by Jim S., Delegate – Area 55 Panel 70. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously (18 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions) and the above guidelines will be incorporated into the Area 55 Guidelines.

The Assembly discussed potential sites for in-person General Service Assembly meetings. The Assembly also discussed rotating Assembly meetings throughout the Area. No action was taken.

There was \$20 collected for today's Assembly basket. Mary Beth D., Committee Chair – CPC/PI, moved to keep today's basket within the Area; seconded by Wendy S., GSR – Ottawa Open Discussion. The motion carried unanimously, and today's basket of \$20 will be kept in the Area.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was presented.

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

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

**Password:** 100

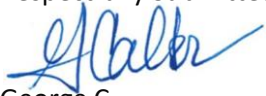
The Mission Statement will be read by Lorrie E., GSR – Mission for Traditions

Tradition 7 will be read by Wendy H., Committee Chair - Grapevine.

Concept 7 will be read by Gale W., GSR - SST.

Larry S., Eastside 12x12, moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Wendy H., Committee Chair - Grapevine. The motion carried unanimously, and the Assembly adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



George C.

Recording Secretary

Panel 70, Area 55 - Northwest Ohio & Southeast Michigan