

GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY

Area 55, Panel 72 NW Ohio & Southeast Michigan
P.O. Box 401 Toledo, OH 43697-0401 www.area55aa.org

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

Alternate Delegate / Area Chair: Kimbrough P/ alt.delegate@area55aa.org / (419) 575-9166

Recording Secretary: Melanie R / recording.secretary@area55aa.org

Registrar: Karen W / registrar@area55aa.org

Treasurer: Larry B / treasurer@area55aa.org

Mailing Secretary: Bridget B / 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 at the Senior Center; 2308 Jefferson; Toledo, OH 43604. 68 people were present including 4 Panel Officers, 1 Area Delegate, 0 Alternate Delegate, 4 Past Delegate(s), 37 GSRs, 9 Alternate GSRs, 3 DCMs, 1 Alternate DCM, 1 current DCMC, 0 Alt. DCMC, 6 Area 55 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs, 5 guest(s).

MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 16, 2023

Sherry S, Delegate, (*Kimbrough P, Alt. Delegate absent*) Area 55, Panel 72, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Mission Statement was read by Ashley L, Alt. GSR, Principles Before Personalities; Don K, GSR, Perrysburg AM, read Tradition 3 and 4; Nancy C, GSR, Oregon St. Charles, read Concept 3 and 4. Panel 72 officers were introduced.

New GSRs/Alternate GSRs: Mary M, Maumee How It Works, GSR; Matthew V, OYPAA, GSR; Jody H, Perrysburg A.M. Online, GSR; Cody R, Free Spirit, GSR; Lorriane M, Maumee Noon Big Book, Alt. GSR; Matt B, Outright Mental Defectives, Alt. GSR; Mardy B, Alt. DCM, District 10.

Past Delegates: Jim S, Past Delegate, Area 55, Panel 70; Henry C, Past Delegate, Area 55, Panel 68; John C, Past Delegate, Area 55, Panel 66; Bob S, Past Delegate, Panel 62.

Approval of February Minutes: Melanie R, Recording Secretary, presented the February 19, 2023, minutes.

Motion to accept: Wendy H, DCM, District 5; Seconded by Glen W, Monday Nite Men's. Motion moved.

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 February and March 2023, Treasurer's Report: Larry B, Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for February and March 2023.

Operating Account: Beginning Balance: 2/1/2023: \$5,113.39; Income: \$4,253.54; Expenses: \$6,325.74; Ending Balance: 3/31/2023: \$3,041.19.

Prudent Reserve: Beginning Balance: 2/1/2023: \$5,005.86; Interest: \$0.08; Ending Balance: 3/31/2023: \$5,005.94.

Area 55 Mini Conference: Beginning Balance: 2/1/2023 \$2,898.40 Income: \$5,232.56; Expenses: \$3,394.60; Ending Balance: 3/31/2023 \$4,736.36.

Mini Conference Summary: Beginning Balance: \$2,000.00: Total Income: \$6,537.56 Total Expenses: \$3,801.20 Ending Balance: \$4,736.36

Group Contributions for YTD. 2023: \$4,663.00 **Total Income Received YTD. 2023:** \$5,692.16

Total Expenses YTD.: \$5,952.74

February / March Assembly Basket: \$ 252.00

February/March Group Contributions: \$3,884.38

February/March Individual Contributions: \$0

Motion to accept the financial report made by: Kalen C, District 7; Seconded by: Jim S, Past Delegate

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

Due to the committee members' scheduling conflicts, there was no meeting of the committee, Monday, February 20, 2023, and no invitations to group anniversaries in February. At the Area 55 Mini Conference, the Archives committee displayed featured information and photos of our AA founders, Central Offices, and newspaper articles. Four committee members staffed the display table. Our delegate, Sherry S, asked the committee to facilitate discussions on various topics assigned to the committee at the conference attended by delegates from across A.A.

On March 20, 2023, committee meeting we reviewed the collection of CD's and recorded names of leads and interviews for the long timer interviewing process. Attended the April 2nd Oregon Happy Hour anniversary, set up the archive display. We are pursuing groups to update their history, including the Covid period. The Oregon Happy Hour has provided their history and it has been added to the Group Histories binder. Sherry Snider, Area 55, Delegate has provided a narrative explaining the Area's approach to the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Next meeting is April 17, 6:00 p.m. at Central Office.

Area Archivist: / Deborah A / archives.chair@area55aa.org

The Archives Committee meets the 3rd Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m., at Central Office.

Multi-District Correctional: Kenneth G/ corrections.chair@area55aa.org

All the commitments are being fulfilled.

The Driver Intervention Program will no longer meet at the Holland Courtyard Marriott; it will only meet at the Rossford Courtyard Marriott. The commitments for DIP in March have been met. Bryon F. has resigned from the Correctional Committee, Val is rotating out and Jennifer R. took her place.

Next meeting: April 19, 2023, Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at Central Office

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; the Committee may meet at an alternate location – for more information, visit area55aa.org.

CPC/PI: Michael D / cpc.pi@area55aa.org

The committee met March 15, 2023, at Central Office.

March 24th to present to UTM residents and medical students from 12-1 p.m., Toledo Hospital Legacy Building, reviewed Power Point presentation. No response from Glenn C, Director of Employee Benefits at TPS. Discussed sending follow up emails to probation departments. Discussed emails sent to various media outlets in the area regarding PSA's.

Questions:

Kenney A, DCM, District 4 went to the floor to ask if there is anything that can be done regarding the number of people from Midwest Treatment Center that come to their meetings. Michael, Chair, has made contact in the past with Midwest regarding this issue. Discussion of several ways groups can use to handle their situations in their meetings. Reminded the body that our primary purpose is to carry the message of AA.

Next meeting April 19, 2023, 5:30 p.m. at Central Office

The CPC/PI Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:30 p.m., at Central Office

Grapevine: Nancy C, Co-Chair / grapevine.chair@area55aa.org

The committee met on Monday, April 10, 2023

Finance report March/April 2023; Beginning balance \$379.22; Book Sales \$86.00; Book Orders \$305.49; Ending balance \$152.75 Overage/Short: \$-6.98

Motion to accept: Wendy H, DCM, District 5; Seconded by: Jennifer J, GSR, Open Minded

Reviewed financial report. Completed Mini Conference commitment. No commitments up and coming. Reminded members to announce Grapevine will visit home groups for their anniversary.

Next meeting: May 25, 2023, at 5:45 p.m., Memorial United Church of Christ

The Grapevine Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 5:45 p.m., Memorial United Church of Christ, 1301 Starr Ave., Toledo

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

The committee met February 27, 2023, at Central Office. We discussed the upcoming Mini-Conference and the North Baltimore Tuesday Night anniversary. We agreed not to hold a meeting in March. The meeting ended at 6:15 p.m. We are discussing changing our meeting location/time and will announce any updates at the May assembly meeting. Our committee received a new meeting notice from the delegate, and have made contact via email with the group, Addicts Against Addiction as of today. We are currently in search of an alternate chairperson who can step in as chairperson for Panel 74, contact the committee chair Chris C if interested.

Next meeting: April 24, 2023, 6:00 p.m., at Central Office

The Group Services Committee meets the fourth Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Central Office

Accessibilities: Bev Z / accessibilities@area55.org

Discussed updates of the members we are reaching out to. At the Mini-Conference we gave out referral form, flyers about what our committee does. Updated shut-in lists. Sold a large print Big Book and a Daily Reflections for \$20.00 total and that will be added to our budget total. The committee only carries these items as a convenience to AA members. We have 2 new referrals. The budget total as of February 19, 2023, is \$89.35

Next meeting: April 26, 2023, 5:30 p.m. at Memorial United Church of Christ

The Accessibilities Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:30 p.m. Memorial United Church of Christ, 1301 Starr Ave. Toledo

Website: Bill G / web.comm.chair@area55aa.org

We discussed an email forwarded by Sherry S, Delegate, that appeared to be from an unrecognized email and chose to ignore replying to it. I advised Wendy of an outdated link on the website. At the last General Assembly Wendy and I both tested the Wi-Fi connection in the main meeting room. We both determined it will be strong enough to conduct a hybrid assembly. Bill will review his preview research for a laptop and web camera needed to hold hybrid assembly meetings. We will determine a date for the hybrid ad hoc committee to meet to finalize our final report to present to the assembly in May. If your group has an event or anniversary that you would like to be added to the calendar, please email web.chair.comm@area55.org

Next meeting: May 2, 2023, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

The Website Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom. Meeting I.D. 273-332-805 password 800

Northwest Ohio/Southeast Michigan Intergroup Liaison: Kellie S

Balance: \$19,866.57. Central Office: There is a part-time position open. 128 calls, 82 visitors, 13 twelve step calls. Balance of funds \$43,078.56. Anniversary Committee: Looking for a Vice Chair. The anniversary dinner will be held at St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Church in Sylvania, OH on October 6, 2023, more details to come. Children's Christmas Party: The event will be held at the Echo Meadows Church, more information to come. Entertainment Committee: Need committee members. Still looking for a date for the Intergroup Picnic. Finance Committee: A pig roast in July. Literature sales at the Mini-Conference were \$289.00. The Prom dinner/dance is May 13, 2023, tickets sold at the door for \$15.00 p/p. Looking to host a dance in August. Hospital Committee: All commitments have been kept. The committee needs more women. Newsletter Committee: Funds are low, balance \$167. Asking members to renew their subscriptions.

Newsletter Liaison: vacant

OCYPAA: Matthew V, GSR / We had a Spaghetti Dinner on April 8th at Church of St. Andrews on Heatherdowns, made at least \$1,800.00 which made enough for our conference this October at the Holiday Inn Perrysburg, October 13-15, 2023. Our focus is outreach. Need to get the word out to as many people as possible and we are open for membership. We appreciate your support to help with this outreach. Activities coming up is a Dodge Tournament at Christ Presbyterian Church. Our annual Summer Kick-Off Bonfire, May 23, 2023, at University Church, 1:30 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

MONCYPAA Liaison: Franklin S, Chairperson/ We have held 3 events so far this year. Co-hosted with OYPPAA the Spring Formal on March 25, 2023. Two game nights which has generated approximately \$1,000.00. The working balance is \$586.43. Next event will be held July 8, 2023, at Munson Park, Monroe, MI. "SLIP AND SLIDE KICK BALL"; flyers are coming. We are bidding for the MCYPAA Conference. Currently there is a Young Peoples meeting in Monroe, MI on Friday nights at 10:00 p.m. "Outright Mental Defectives. "

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER ("DCM") REPORTS

DCMC Chair: Chrissy H, District Committee Member Chair

Alt. DCMC: George C, Alt. District Committee Chair

DCM Monthly Report: There were 4 districts represented at the meeting. District 4, working on finding a time and day for their meeting, looking for an Alternate DCM; District 5, a district picnic on June 17, Saturday. Discussed open house for New Year's.

District 7, Had a meeting in January. March Mini-Conference. Next meeting is Sunday, May 2, 7:00 p.m. at Panera in Sylvania, OH. The first Sundays planned there for now. District 10, Grace Church meetings moved to Lacklip, in Lima, OH.

Topics for Unity Day: Have 2 panels, one for Young People Association, you are our future, etc. and one panel for Sponsorship. The other topic is a Round Table about "How to join a committee?" Each table will have a secretary to take notes. Secretaries will be needed.

Next meeting: May 21, 2023

The District Committee Meeting meets at the Senior Center prior to the General Assembly Meeting at 11:30 a.m.

DELEGATE'S REPORT: Sherry S / delegate@area55aa.org

Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to Area 55's General Service Assembly. I have placed on the tables near the door the results of Area 55's mini conference evaluation. I wish to thank you all for your attendance and participation this year. We exceeded the number of participants that we had last year, and it was wonderful to see you all participating. I received a kind thank you note from Eileen Allers stating in part that Area 55 sure knows how to make a person feel welcome. She asked me to pass on her gratitude.

There is a flyer for the East Central Regional Forum, which is going to be held in Independence, OH (Cleveland) at the Doubletree on Nov. 17-19, 2023. There is no cost to attend this forum, but registration is required and there is a room rate if you want to stay overnight.

There are letters from the General Service Office in New York reminding of the 2025 International Convention in Vancouver BC Canada in July and a notice of a Trustee resignation.

We received an acknowledgement and a thank you for the contribution of \$1,800.00 for expenses at the 73rd General Service Conference. This is \$7,258.00 less than the actual expenses incurred for the Delegate. Last year the total cost was \$9,058.00 for the conference.

I've placed a few registration forms for the East Central Regional Conference to be held June 23-25, 2023, in South Bend IN. You will find Proposed Agenda Item forms. These forms become part of the background used by the Delegates when addressing proposals passed on by the Trustee's Committees for the General Service Conference. If you have questions about the form, please see me after this meeting.

Now I must address a more urgent and pressing matter before Area 55. Kimbrough P, Area 55's Alternate Delegate, was involved in a very serious automobile accident on March 10th.

The panel members and I met on March 14th to decide on a temporary but immediate path forward. While it is the delegate's added responsibility to assume the duties of the area chair, I am in the process of preparing to attend the General Service Conference and will be leaving for New York in 5 days. Both Melanie Reichart and Karen Woods indicated their willingness to act pro tem as Area Chair for the purposes of this assembly; and for the time being, we will figure it out as we go along.

I have spoken with Kimbrough, and she feels that she will be able to resume the duties of Alternate Delegate and, going forward, the duties of Delegate. So, I am suggesting to this body that Kimbrough be given a few months to continue healing and we can better determine what we need to do. I need to know if there is a general sense from this body that you are willing to wait regarding the current situation and accept Melanie R and/or Karen W acting as pro tem Alternate Chair?

If you haven't heard already, Kimbrough left the Hospital Rehab facility and headed home yesterday after her tragic accident. She was in good spirits when Jim and I visited her on Saturday.

I also wish to point out that this is the exact reason it is important to have an alternate for each panel position. Going forward I believe this body should adopt the practice of electing the second highest candidate as the alternate for each panel position.

I leave for New York on Thursday. I received a loving invitation to present a five-minute talk from the dais on Our Common Perils and Common Solution. I also learned that I was randomly selected to participate in the selection process for the

Northeast Regional Trustee position. This is in addition to my committee requirements. I can tell you I reviewed all 1,021 pages of background information so that I am familiar with the subject matter should it come up for vote. I have heard your voice regarding the agenda items discussed at the Area 55 Mini Conference. I feel prepared to fully participate in my committee assignment of Treatment/Accessibilities/Remote Communities. I hope you will ask me to share my experiences when I return from the 73rd General Service Conference.

OLD BUSINESS

Collection: There was \$119.00 collected for today's Assembly basket. Motion made to keep in our account by John C, Past Delegate.

Seconded by Joe Y, DCM, District 3. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The body voted in favor of Melanie R, Recording Secretary and Karen W, Registrar to become pro tem Alternate Delegate/Chair in the absence of Kimbrough P, Alternate Delegate.

Henry C, Past Delegate, Area 55, Panel 68, inquired about the action taken regarding the body not being informed of the Articles of Incorporation that occurred when the checking account was moved to the Huntington Bank. Sherry, Delegate, addressed the issue. For this body to open a bank account we are required by the Secretary of State to file Articles of Incorporation. At the February General Assembly meeting the body approved that we change banks, which gave the authority, to open a new account. Without the Articles of Incorporation, no bank would allow the General Service to open a checking account.

Henry C stated that he felt the body should have been informed about the Articles of Incorporation prior to acting, also be aware of who the Agent of Record is. We are registered with the Secretary of the State as a non-profit organization. Sherry, Delegate, will bring the information to the next General Service assembly meeting for clarification to the body.

John C, Past Delegate, recommended that the Delegate be allowed to have a credit card.

Audit report presentation for 2022 by Kevin B, Maumee Thursday Night 12x12:

April 5, 2023

To The Attention of The Area 55 General Service Assembly:

At the request of the General Service Delegate, the Area 55 General Service Audit Committee reviewed financial reports and the corresponding bank statements for the months of January 2022 through December 2022.

We found no discrepancies and so agree with the Treasurer's ending balance for Dec. 31, 2022.

Our audit of the financial statements for the year did, however, show that expenses exceeded donations in 2022. Our checkbook balance as of Jan. 1, 2022, was \$9,938.75 and our balance on Dec. 31, 2022 was \$4,867.77, a difference of \$5,070.98. Our expenses obviously were much greater than our donations coming in. Although we have no specific recommendations on the matter, we believe it is clear that the body must find ways to either increase donations or reduce expenses, or both, if it expects to remain solvent.

Jim S, Past Delegate, - Made a motion to consider creating a Literature Committee; seconded by John C, Past Delegate

Discussion:

Mike Z, GSR, Walbridge Park- He is going to go to the Intergroup Association, Finance Committee, and speak with them about attending the General Service Assembly meetings with literature.

Bob S, Past Delegate -Let GSR's and DCM's take back to their groups and inform the Intergroup representatives. He requested to table the motion till next month, seconded by (did not identify themselves). The motion has been tabled till next month's General Assembly meeting. Vote taken; motion carried.

Chris C, Group Services Chair, requesting a guideline change to consider the cost of mileage reimbursement be reduced. (Non-profit organizations) from .55 to .34 per mile.

Motion by Chris C, Group Services, Second by Chrissy H, DCMC

Discussion:

John C, Past Delegate, - Delegate needs to be reimbursed for the long travel, wear, and tear on their vehicle.

A vote count ensued. Roll call was in order.

GSR's, DCMs, Officers, Past Delegates, Committee Chairs, (Alt. GSR's if GSR is not present.), DCMs are eligible to vote.

Favor 26 Opposed 20 The vote does not have substantial unanimity, the motion fails.

NEXT GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: May 21, 2023, 1:00 pm the Senior Center (corner of Jefferson Street and 23rd Street; Toledo, OH)

The Mission statement will be read by Mitch M GSR, Principles before Personalities

Tradition 5 will be read by Matthew V, GSR, OYPAA

Concept 5 will be read by Kellie S, GSR, Womens Road to Recovery

Cleanup for the May meeting will be Maumee Friday Noon Big Book

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by: Joe Y, GSR, 12 Step West

Seconded by: Kellie S, GSR, Womens Road to Recovery

Closed with A Declaration of Unity

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie R

Recording Secretary, Area 55, Panel 72