

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 / (419) 708-4408

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

Recording Secretary: George C. / recording.secretary@area55aa.org

Registrar: Tim D. / registrar@area55aa.org

Treasurer: Chris C. / treasurer@area55aa.org

Mailing Secretary: Karen W. / 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. 30 people were present on the video conference, including 6 Panel Officers including the Area 55 Delegate. No Past Delegates were present. 24 other participants were present, including 14 GSR's, 1 Alternate GSR, 1 DCM, 0 Alternate DCM's, 1 current DCMC, and 5 Area 55 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs. 2 guests were present, including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Northwest Ohio/Southeastern Michigan Intergroup Association.

MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 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. Mary Beth D., Committee Chair – CPC/PI, read the Twelfth Tradition. Chris C., Treasurer – Area 55 Panel 70, read the Twelfth Concept. Panel 70 officers were introduced.

New GSR's/Alternate GSR's: No new GSR's or Alternate GSR's were present

Past Delegates: No Past Delegates were present

Intergroup Associations Present: Northwest Ohio/Southeast Ohio Intergroup Association – Tim D., Chairman; David G., General Service Liaison; Bruce M., Alternate General Service Liaison

Approval of November Minutes: George C., Recording Secretary, presented the November 15, 2020 minutes with 1 correction. Bill G., DCM – District 7, moved to approve the minutes with 1 correction; seconded by Larry S., GSR – Eastside 12x12. The motion carried unanimously, with 1 abstention, and the November 15, 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 November Treasurer's Report: Chris C., Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for November 2020:

Operating Account: Beginning Balance 11/1/20: \$8,239.76; Income: \$498.67; Expenses: \$475.85; Ending Balance 11/30/20: \$8,262.58.

Prudent Reserve: Beginning Balance 11/1/20: \$3,003.13; Interest: \$0.05; Ending Balance 11/30/20: \$3,003.18.

2020 Mini Conference: Beginning Balance 11/1/20: \$2,000.00; no income or expenses; Ending Balance 11/30/20: \$2,000.00.

East Central Regional Conference: (Seed money for 2021 Ohio State Convention) Beginning Balance 11/1/20: \$1,500.00; no income or expenses; Ending Balance 11/30/20: \$1,500.00

November General Service Assembly Basket: \$40.00

Bill G., DCM – District 7, moved to approve the November Treasurer's report; seconded by Larry S., GSR – Eastside 12x12. The motion passed unanimously, with 2 abstentions, and the November 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 F. and Geno F. / corrections.chair@area55aa.org

Geno F., Co-Chair, gave a brief report and submitted a written report for November. The Committee met on November 18 via Zoom, with 9 members present. All in-person commitments except the Driver Intervention Program are on hold due to COVID. Committee members have fulfilled all DIP commitments, although only 2 of 3 groups have fulfilled their part. The committee has released an assignment for the DIP programs for the remainder of the year. 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 website and the Central Office website (in Central Office Announcements).

The committee purchased six Grapevine subscriptions on October 29 – one for each facility (two for the Lucas County jail) that the committee works with. The committee also mailed packets to facilities on December 8, including a cover letter, "Sharing behind the Walls" brochure, a correspondence form, and a pre-release contact form.

Committee members have been attending a weekly international meeting held on corrections work. A committee member donated several boxes of books, CD's, and Grapevine issues. The committee will be sorting through the donated material and will be delivering items to facilities soon. A committee member has also been making DVD's of member leads for Toledo Correctional Institution. The next meeting will be December 16th at 6:30 pm via Zoom (ID: 834-6924-9046, Password: jail). The January meeting will be January 20.

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., Chair, gave a brief report and submitted a written report. The committee met on December 16 with 2 committee members and 2 guests (Guests were Jim S., Area 55 Panel 70 Delegate and Vito P., CPC Chair – Area 8 – San Diego). Mary Beth has been attending the Area 8 CPC Committee meeting to share ideas with Area 55. Upon Vito's suggestion, the committee will start attending DCM meetings to generate support for the committee. Vito also connected the committee with Diana L. at the General Service Office to obtain a PowerPoint presentation that can be used as AA informational sessions with local professionals. The committee discussed having Jim S., Area 55 Panel 70 Delegate, reach out to other delegates across the country via MAILMAN (delegate communication tool) to find innovative ways other Area CPC committees are functioning. The committee also discussed having a co-chair and a technical representative for the 2021 Mini-Conference. The committee discussed potential Mini-Conference Agenda items, including a proposal for an AA interactive LinkedIn page, a proposal for a new mental health pamphlet, and a proposal to eliminate the pamphlet *To The Community*. A new committee member is a student in the UTMC medical college and will develop contacts for professors, department heads, and medical students at the college. The committee currently has contacts for several correctional facilities, including Work Release, CTF, TCI (Toledo Correctional Institution), and Allen-Oakwood Correctional. The committee plans on attending the Area 55 Multi-District Correctional Committee meeting on January 20 to coordinate efforts. The next CPC/PI committee will meet January 20 at 5:30 p.m. 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.

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.

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

Wendy H., Chair, gave a brief report. The committee is currently NOT meeting in-person or via Zoom due to COVID. Wendy attended a forum and received ideas for the committee. The AA Grapevine Committee currently has a national campaign called "Carrying the Message" where prisons/inmates can request subscriptions to the Grapevine – members or groups can fulfill those subscription requests for inmates/institutions that are outside of the Area. The committee recently donated ten back-issues of the Grapevine to the Toledo Correctional Institution.

November Financial Report: Beginning Balance: \$145.62; \$6.00 in sales; no expenses; Ending Balance: \$151.62

Kimbrough P., DCMC - Area 55 Panel 70, moved to adopt the Grapevine Committee November financial report; seconded by Dave G., GSR – Oregon Men's. The motion passed unanimously, with 1 abstention, and the 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.

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.

Website: Nathan K. / web.comm.chair@area55aa.org

Nathan K., Chair, gave a brief report. The committee met on December 8. The committee discussed helping with getting technical-oriented persons to help with the Area 55 2021 Mini-Conference, as the conference and meeting rooms will be held via Zoom. The committee also discussed taking on the ongoing responsibilities formed by the Area 55 Ad Hoc Online Meetings Committee once the Ad Hoc Committee is dissolved. The next Website Committee meeting is January 5th at 6:00 p.m.

*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. Due to the holidays, the Association met on the third Saturday, December 19. Committee reports were postponed due to the group holding elections. There are four committee vice-chair positions that still need filled, including the Children's Christmas Party Committee, the Finance Committee, Hospital & Institutions (H&I) Committee, and the Newsletter Committee. The Intergroup Association is asking anyone interested in the vacant positions to please get active and attend the next meeting. The Association announced the following elections: Ryan O., Vice-Chair; Tracy O., and Central Office Committee Vice-Chair. Kevin B. will rotate into the Chair position. Melissa M. will rotate in the Anniversary Chair position, Jackie B. will rotate into the Newsletter Chair position, Lisa H. will serve as the Central Office Committee Chair, and Wendy H. will serve as the Children's Christmas Party Chair. The next meeting will be on the fourth Saturday in January at 6:30 p.m.

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

Connor G., Chair, gave a brief report. NOCYPAA held elections on November 23. The newly re-organized committee met on December 13 with 11 in attendance. The committee is planning on hosting a Trivia Night for the Intergroup New Year's Eve event. All NOCYPAA events are still online due to COVID. The next event for NOCYPAA will be a game night and meeting on January 15. The committee is planning on hosting an online Yoga event in February. The next meeting will be December 27 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom - ID 588-428-583, password is 300.

Ad Hoc Area 55 Online Meetings Committee: Josh D.

Josh D., Chair, provided a brief report. The committee was recently given the charge to develop recommendations for Area 55 regarding online groups joining the Area 55 service structure. The committee met December 17th at 8:00 p.m. with 5 members present. The committee will be hosting an open Sharing Session January 14th at 8:00 p.m. via zoom. Background information for the sharing session is on the Area 55 website. Any member is encouraged to attend the Sharing Session. *The January 14th 8:00 p.m. Sharing Session will be via Zoom, ID 951-9242-9351, Passcode 800.* The format for the Sharing Session will follow AA service manual guidance. The committee will hold its next business meeting January 21st at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom.

MONCYPAA Liaison: Logan T.

No report was provided.

Ad Hoc Area 55 Redistricting Committee: John C.

No report was given.

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

No report was given; however, the updated guidelines are now on the Area website.

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 December 20th at 11:30 a.m. with 4 districts representative. The districts reported different meeting changes. The committee discussed county-by-county restrictions and COVID information that may impact AA meetings. The committee also discussed taking an active part in the 2021 Area 55 Mini Conference. The Alternate DCMC Linda N. has resigned; anyone interested in serving as the Alternate DCMC should reach out to Kimbrough.

District 7: Bill G., DCM – District 7

Bill G., DCM – District 7, gave a brief report and submitted a written report. The district committee met on November 19th with 4 people in attendance. There are no major changes regarding in-person meetings in the district. One group may potentially be closing in the district. District 7 is also planning on doing a workshop/Big Book study via Zoom and looking at February dates.

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:

Area 55 Registrar: Jim appointed Tim D. to serve as the Area 55 Registrar to fulfill the remainder of the Panel 70 term. Tim attended the special training provided by the General Service Office regarding the new membership software database.

Group Concern – Preamble: Jim received an e-mail from Central Office regarding a group/club in Defiance who had made changes to the AA preamble. They were informed that the preamble document was the property of AA Grapevine and is copyrighted. Jim shared with the group the process necessary to change our literature.

Mini-Conference Planning Committee: The first planning meeting for the 39th Area 55 Mini-Conference was held December 12th. The registration form for the Mini-Conference is already on the Area 55 website (under Upcoming Events in the March 2021 calendar). Members are encouraged to get registered now. The next planning meeting will be January 9, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Sharing Session – Online Groups/Service Structure: The Ad Hoc Online Meetings Committee has taken on the responsibility of developing recommendations to Area 55 regarding online meetings being able to join the Area 55 service structure. The committee is hosting a *Sharing Session* on January 14th at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom.

U.S./Canada Forum-East: The forum was held December 5 via a virtual platform. This was the first forum held virtually and had 2,036 participants. It covered dozens of topics.

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

Ohio State Convention/East Central Regional Conference: Area 55 is hosting the 2021 Ohio State Convention (virtual), and the first local planning meeting will be held Saturday, January 23, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

OLD BUSINESS

\$40.00 was collected during November’s General Service Assembly PayPal basket, and \$60.00 was collected during today’s assembly (\$100 total). Larry S., GSR – Eastside 12x12, moved to keep the \$100 within Area 55; seconded by Geno F., Co-Chair, Area 55 Multi-District Corrections Committee. 20 voted in favor of the motion, 1 voted no, and the motion was adopted – the \$100 collected will stay within Area 55.

NEW BUSINESS

Chris C., Treasurer – Area 55 Panel 70, discussed with the Assembly the potential need to obtain a climate-controlled storage unit to store Area 55 equipment and other items, including printers, sound equipment, records, and paper. Currently the Senior Center holds some items, and the sound equipment is at a member's house. Stacey K., GSR – Perrysburg Staying Sober, moved to grant authority to the Area 55 Treasurer to research storage units and costs, and to report back to the Assembly for further action; seconded by Karen W., Mailing Secretary – Area 55 Panel 70. The motion passed unanimously, and the Treasurer will investigate storage units and report back to the Assembly.

NEXT GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: January 17, 2021, 1:00 pm via Zoom

Zoom ID: 813-7037-7856

Password: 100

Tradition 1 will be read by Larry S., GSR – Eastside 12x12.

Concept 1 will be read by Mandy F., GSR – Raising the Bottom.

Mary Beth D., Area 55 Committee Chair – CPC/PI, moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Bill G., DCM – District 7. 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