

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. 38 people were present including 4 Panel Officers, 1 Area Delegate, 1 Alternate Delegate, 2 Past Delegates, 18 GSRs, 1 Alternate GSR, 3 DCMs, 0 Alternate DCM, 1 current DCMC, 1 Alt. DCMC, 7 Area 55 Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs, and 2 guest(s).

MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 15, 2022

Kimbrough P, Area 55, Alt. Delegate Panel 72, Chairperson, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Mission Statement was read by Jim S, Past Delegate Area 55 Panel 70, Glenn W, Monday Nite Men's West read Tradition Five, Joe Y, 12 Step West read Concept Five. Mandy F announced that her group, Raising the Bottom, has supplied the chili for lunch today regarding thankfulness and service. Panel 72 officers were introduced.

New GSRs/Alternate GSRs: Kenneth G, Inner City GSR, Ricky L, Singleness of Purpose

New DCMs/Alternate DCMs:

Past Delegates: Jim S, Past Delegate, Area 55 Panel 70; Henry C, Past Delegate, Area 55 Panel 68

Approval of April Minutes: Melanie R, Recording Secretary, presented the April 10, 2022, minutes. Dave F, North End, moved to approve the April 10, 2022, minutes as presented; seconded by Melissa T, Trail Group.

The motion carried unanimously, and the April 10, 2022, 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 April 22, 2022, Treasurer's Report: Chris C, Pro Tem Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for April 2022.

Operating Account: Beginning Balance: 4/1/22: \$7,355.33 Income: \$2,611.09; Expenses: \$3,805.91; Ending Balance: 4/30/22: \$6,160.51.

Prudent Reserve: Beginning Balance 4/1/22: \$5,003.97; Interest: \$0.04; Ending Balance: 4/30/22: \$5,004.01.

Area 55 Mini Conference: Beginning Balance: 4/1/22 \$3,872.34; Income: - Expenses: \$1,872.34; Ending Balance: 4/30/22 \$2,000.00

Group Contributions for YTD. 2022: \$5,700.47 **Total Income Received YTD. 2022:** \$8,376.81

Total Expenses YTD.: \$11,164.77

Approx. Excess 2021: 0

April Assembly Basket:

April Group Contributions: \$1,844.97

Motion to accept the financial report made by: Bonita F, seconded by Carrie C; Motion passed.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

Accessibilities: / Bev Z/ [accessibilities@area55aa.org/](mailto:accessibilities@area55aa.org)

Shut-Ins: There are 7 people currently. Our goal is to visit each one this month to find out what their recovery needs are.

Zoom Meeting: Reno by the Lake at 2:00 p.m. It is our understanding that this zoom meeting was initiated by General Service to fulfill a need during the pandemic. It was chaired by the Accessibilities Committee by the past chair. There was much discussion about whether the present committee could realistically chair this meeting every Saturday. Until the next time we meet, we will seek more information such as: average attendance, is there still a need for this meeting, how the meetings have been run, is there an alternative way to keep this meeting going without this committee chairing it, etc.

Goal to be focused on is the deaf/hard of hearing and other possibilities.

Receipt of \$21.00 from sale of Big Book large print at Mini-Conference. Cash given to chair. Chair is requesting \$100.00 as allowed by budget for cards, stamps, mileage. There are 5 active members on the committee. Working on recruiting new members.

Next meeting: May 18, 2022, 5:30 p.m. at Eastside 12x12 location

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

The April 18, 2022, meeting was a snowy, raining, evening and showed conflicts for all but the chair Eva S. Put together 2 more copies of the 2019 Archives Workbook. Processed some donated items from the family of a deceased AA member. The committee has no upcoming anniversaries to attend with the display. Meeting closed at 7:00 p.m. The committee is requesting partial reimbursement for travel to more distant meetings, \$47.30 to be paid to committee chair and \$7.95 for plastic folders for the updated Archives Workbooks. **Next meeting is May 16, 2022 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/](mailto:corrections.chair@area55aa.org)

Kenneth G has had a breakthrough; they are now able to get into The Toledo Corrections Institution. Made contact with the new director. There are 5 members who will be taking the PREA training, 5 members taking training in the CTF, 5 members taking training in the prison system and 6 members taking the PREA training for the prison system.

Next meeting May 18, 2022, 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 meeting was on April 20, 2022, at Central Office. Michael and Mary Beth gave a presentation via zoom to three probation officers with Fulton County Adult Probation on April 13, 2022. Another presentation will be to the Bowling Green Adult Probation on April 21, 2022, 9:00 a.m. Waiting on responses from Lucas County Adult Probation and other responses that have been emailed in the area. UTMC -We are still identifying education coordinators for each department.

PSA's ongoing, 2 new PSA's at aa.org. Multi-Faith Council- Invitation to attend their April Board meeting but did not receive zoom information until 10 minutes before meeting started. Waiting for another invitation.

Motion to reimburse Mary Beth \$9.25 for postage paid to mail information to Fulton County Probation offices.

Next meeting May 18, 2022, Central Office, 5:30 p.m.

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

Grapevine: Lisa C/ grapevine.chair@area55aa.org

The meeting was on May 13, 2022, at Eastside 12x12

Made plan to drop off Lavina literature to Aurora Gonzales Community Center. Discussed Intergroup presence for Grapevine(again). Motion made and passed not to attend monthly/will attend quarterly. Motion made to remind and make announcement at all meetings that Grapevine is available for anniversaries and or special events. Discussed who will attend future commitments. Attended one commitment. A new book is available "Having Fun in Sobriety."

Finance Report: Starting balance: \$132.25; Book Sales: \$ 79.00 Book orders: 0; Ending balance: \$211.25

Motion to Accept: Bonita F, DCM District 14; Seconded by: Bev Z, Open Minded

Next meeting for Grapevine is June 8, 2022, 5:45 p.m. at Eastside 12x12

The Grapevine Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 5:45 p.m., Eastside 12x 12

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

The committee is actively seeking to find new committee members. There is no sobriety requirement to be on the committee currently. New group, 6 months old, will be visited by Chris to pick up their GSO form to be registered.

Commitment for the District 3 workshop on May 14, 2022, for audio/av equipment.

Meeting closed at 6:15 p.m.

Since our last meeting contact has been made to the new zoom group "Zoombirdz", assisting them with decision making to stay as a zoom meeting or an AA group. Gave them my contact information. Information was sent to the webmaster to be added to the meeting guide. Steps to Recovery group registration form has been obtained. Contact has been made to a new meeting, The Firehouse Group in Grand Rapids, OH opening May 24, 2022.

The next meeting will be May 23, 2022, 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.

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

Updated meeting changes that we were aware continuing to ensure the most accurate meeting information gets posted on the website. The events calendar page has been updated removing old events and adding new events that were requested by groups. There are two new power points on the website from the General Service Conference. To have any events or anniversaries posted to the event calendar please email web.comm.chair@area55.org

If you need to make any changes, go to www.web.chair.com

Next meeting, May 3, 2022

The Website Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. on

Zoom. Meeting I.D. 595-694-351 password 800

Northwest Ohio/Southeast Michigan Intergroup Liaison: Jim S

Upcoming Events: Anniversary is Oct. 15, 2022. Intergroup picnic is September 10, 2022, at the IEW Hall in Rossford, OH.

Newsletter articles June is Sponsorship, July is Out of Town meetings. Central Office is hiring, Office manager 20 hours, Assistant Office Manager 20 hours, Backup Secretary. Pig Roast (Finance Committee) July 16, 2022. Intergroup has \$16,427.15.

Central Office has \$33,502.16. No dinner for the month of June.

Next Intergroup Meeting is May 21, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Bethel Lutheran Church, 1853 South Ave. Toledo, Oh

Newsletter Liaison: No Liaison. Carrie Colvin gave an update. Contact for newsletter is: area55news@gmail.com

June issue is finished. July issue is articles from "Out of Town Meetings." August issue "Service" articles.

NOCYPAA Liaison: Carrie C (Northwest Ohio Committee of Young People in AA)

Great turn out for dodgeball event. Talked about interests in selling food/drinks. Bonfire Event May 21, 2022, at 4747 Hill Ave.

1:30 p.m.-11:00 p.m. Talked about a tree purchase of \$50.00 has been ok'd. for memorial garden on University Church.

Selling shirts still for \$20.00. Hoping for a good turn out on May 21st.

Next meeting June 12, 2022, Sunday 3:00 p.m. Central Office

MONCYPAA Liaison: Logan T

No report was provided.

Announcement from the Floor- Melissa T

Trail Group Annual Old Timer's Meeting, June 14, 2022, Doors open at 6:00p.m. Meeting at 7:00 p.m. St. Charles Catholic Church, 1842 Airport Highway. Group will provide beverages and cookies. No food to be brought to the meeting.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER ("DCM") REPORTS

DCM Chair: Chrissy H, District Committee Member Chair

Alt. DCMC: George C

6 districts represented; present: Sherry S, Delegate, Area 55, Panel 72; Alt. Delegate, Kimbrough P, Area 55 Panel 72; Jim S, Past Delegate, Area 55, Panel 70 (Ad Hoc Committee); Larry B, Treasurer, Area 55 Panel 72; Karen W, Registrar Area 55 Panel 72; Charlie H-9; Bonita F-14; Kenney A-5; Wendy H-3; Kalen C-6; Rickey L-14

Wendy H District 3: They had their meeting with 6 GSR's present and 2 guests. Workshop was a success with 32 attendees. Planning next workshop for 2023. District picnic scheduled for Sept. 10, 2022, 7-3 p.m. Wendy reports that there is an issue with Women helping Women meeting, they are not registered, but are in the directory. District reports no concern with the redistricting plans.

Kenney A District 5: There are 2 active GSR's

Kalen C District 6: No attendance at May meeting. Next meeting June 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Panera Bread in Sylvania.

Charlie "Bear" H District 9: July 2022 meeting, date TBA

Bonita F District 14: Meeting was held May 9, 2022. Finalized Sidelines App, this will allow the district to have a phone number again. App should be up and running by June. "Ice Cream Grapevine Social" is set for May 21, 2022 at 1:30, Grace Fellowship Church, 1606 Elm St., Lima, OH. The purpose is to unify the groups of the district and bridge the gap between district 14 and Area 55, introduce opportunities for service such as Grapevine and other committees. District reports no issues with the redistricting plans. Next meeting is June 9, 2022, 5:30 p.m., 1606 Elm St., Lima, OH.

The proposed new boundaries for Area55 were presented and discussed. Motion made by Ad Hoc Committee Chair, Jim S, to have a sharing session at the next General Service Meeting. A sharing session via zoom in August to vote was discussed. Motion seconded by Bonita F; motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Bonita F to put new boundaries on website and via zoom to be reviewed. Charlie H, seconded. 4 for, 1 abstention.

Old Business: Group contact information must contain an email. New spreadsheets of group information have been made.

New Business: Unity Day tentative dates are July 9, 23, 30, or August 20, 2022. Participation rates could be a good topic. August 5-7, 2022 is the Ohio State Convention.

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

Sherry S, Delegate – Area 55 Panel 72, provided the Delegate's Report.

I know you're all anxious to hear my report back to you about the 72nd General Service Conference held in Brooklyn New York. It was spiritual in its nature from the time I responded "Present" to when I listened to the Trustee of CPC/Treatment/Accessibilities give her departing speech saying "Goodbye" after having served Alcoholics Anonymous for six years. The 72nd Conference was well attended. There were 133 voting members present consisting of Class A Trustees; Class B Trustees: Non-Trustee Directors and staff from the General Service Office: as well as Delegates and two Alternate Delegates attending in place of the Delegates from their respective areas. I flew in on Friday April 22nd. I arrived at the hotel and checked in around noon. I turned around from the front desk and standing there, behind me, was the Delegate from Area 56 waiting patiently to check in herself. It was nice to see a friendly face immediately upon my arrival. We arranged to meet after settling into our rooms. We found a local grocery store and bought some snacks and large bottles of water to have in the rooms. We needed to find the nearest pharmacy, close by restaurants, the UPS/FEDEX/POSTAL Service facilities that were nearby, and to get our bearings of the area. We met later for dinner where we ran into some Panel 71 Delegates that had arrived days earlier to enjoy some of New York City before beginning their first in-person conference. The Conference did not begin on Saturday, but there were events scheduled. If you take 12 steps times 12 traditions times 12 concepts you come up with the 1728 meeting held before the Remote Communities meeting. The Pre-Conference Remote Communities Meeting held presentations and round-table discussions. We discussed who these communities are and how to reach them. Many good questions were raised. Does a remote community consist of refugees living in the United States or Canada having arrived from another ethnicity or culture living around the corner in your city? I learned that in Chicago and New Jersey there are remote communities of Polish speaking A.A. members. Or is a remote community someone living in Alaska or Nova Scotia? Maybe the remote community we are familiar with now is the group living in an assisted living facility unable to attend in-person meetings. The focus was directed to what are the challenges and solutions to carrying the A.A. message to a Cultural, Geographic, or Linguistic community. So much to question and consider and that was the pre-conference day! Dinner was served and I moved into a Delegates Only Meeting with a welcome delivered by the Alternate Delegate from Panel, Area 79, British Columbia/Yukon. I was provided with an overview of Conference Week, Orientation Presentations about Service Experience from Panel 71 Delegates, and a presentation regarding Bill W's and Dr. Bob's essay, "Your Third Legacy, Will You Accept It?" and the conference had not even started! On Sunday Registration began at 8:00 a.m. There was buzz and excitement in the air. Conference Day One was filled with confusion, remember hardly anyone had participated before. So,

this line for name tags; that line for clickers to vote; and, of course, standing to say “present” as roll call was taken. I felt the spiritual nature of the Conference. The opening session started at 9:00 a.m. with a Welcome from the Chair of the General Service Board, Linda C, an opening, and a roll call.

It was my humble privilege to state “Present” when my name was called. There were Greetings, an Overview of the Agenda/Manual, A Keynote Address and a Workshop packed into the morning session. Then off to an East Regional Luncheon with Cathi C, Trustee and fellow regional members from Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio (Fourteen Delegates total; with some Panel 71’s and some Panel 72’s). The Sunday afternoon session consisted of going over the mechanics of the conference, presentations, and discussions, a closing of the afternoon session. Beginning at 5:00 p.m. I entered a joint meeting between the Trustees Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)/Treatment/Accessibilities and the Committee bearing the name Treatment /Accessibilities. It felt like an invasion, the room went from nine people to no seats left and 19 people at the table. At 6:30 the day ended with the Opening Dinner. A meeting followed. There was a Chairperson, a Leader and five Speakers ending with the Responsibility Statement at 9:30 p.m. I had survived my first day of the conference! On Monday beginning at 9:00 a.m. we entered Conference Committee Meetings until noon when we broke for lunch. Our committee met with the Professionals retained to assist with the development of military audio clips. Their names? Tom and Jerry, a representative from the United States and a representative from Canada. After lunch, we heard reports from the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. Board, and the A.A. Grapevine Board. Dinner followed and meetings resumed at 7:00 p.m. We received the Finance Report and there was a general sharing session held-“What’s on Your Mind?” While Monday’s sessions ended at 9:30 p.m., I still had to review and digest the reports given that day and fill an electronic Conference Evaluation Form. Tuesday started at 9:00 a.m. with Conference Committee Meetings where the Equitable Distribution of Work (EDW) agenda items were discussed at length. All committee members participated and stated their respective viewpoints on the agenda items we were asked as a committee to review. Lunch followed and again the entire Conference met in the Grand Ballroom to hear presentations on “Going Beyond Fear”; “How do A.A.’s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify, and Serve?”; and “How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere.” There was also a special Board Presentation “Participation of Online Groups in the US/Canada Service Structure”. With a short break in between, there was a presentation on “The Warranties-Our Promise to the Fellowship and the World” and then dinner time. Tuesday evening was a Delegates Dinner and Delegates Only Meeting and the Trustees held a separate dinner meeting. Wow, I’m at Wednesday already! How did that happen? The conference is already halfway over. Little did I know, now the work started. 9:00 a.m. Committee Reports began. Wednesday through Friday we heard thirteen committee reports presented. Agenda, CPC, Literature, and Finance were the first to be heard. There were eleven recommendations from those committees. All recommendations passed that day. Day 2 Public Information, Grapevine/LaVina, Policy and Admissions and Trustees. There were fifteen recommendations from these committees. Fourteen passed and one failed to reach substantial unanimity. The recommendation that failed was returning the last paragraph in the story “Freedom from Bondage” to the next printing of the Big Book. Finally, on Friday Report and Charter, Treatment and Accessibilities, Corrections International Conventions/Regional Forums, and Archives. There were three recommendations passed. Total number of recommendations was thirty-three. Total Passed Recommendations was thirty-two and one Failed. During these three days, two of them started at 8:30 a.m. with Thursday ending at 10:30 p.m. and Friday ending at 11:00 p.m. During the conference there was an outbreak of Covid which hit Delegates, Trustees, and staff. People had to be isolated in their rooms, and committee reports had to be delivered by the Alternate Committee Chairs. Covid Rapid Tests were available as were masks and sanitizers. Everything to keep us safe. Audio was set up so that isolated delegates, trustees, and staff could listen to what was happening on the floor from their rooms. Delegates asked for and received a count of those isolated so that delegates continued to maintain 2/3rds majority voting status. There were nine floor actions presented to the conference members and provided to the Conference Secretary to be heard following the agenda items recommended for action by the various committees. Five floor actions the conference declined to hear, one recommendation passed, and three other recommendations failed. I assure you these were fully debated and discussed and hammered out on the anvils of experience. There are thirteen Committee Chair positions and thirteen Alternate Committee Chair positions. Our Region fared well as Two Committee Chairs and two Alternate Committee Chairs were elected from the East Central Region. I am humbled to tell you I was selected as the Alternate Chair of the Treatment and Accessibilities Committee for the 73rd General Service Conference. Respectfully and gratefully submitted in love and service, Sherry S Delegate/Alt. Chair Treatment/Accessibilities Area 55 Panel 72

OLD BUSINESS

Collection: There was \$52.75 collected for today’s Assembly basket. Eva S, Live and Let Live, made motion to send to General Service. Seconded by Henry C , Past Delegate, Panel 78. Motion carried.

Re-Districting Boundaries- Jim S, Ad Hoc Committee; The DCM’s have approved the changes of the boundaries. Proposed

maps will be put online for groups and districts to view. Voting will take place at the next General Service meeting

NEW BUSINESS

The General Assembly meeting will be cancelled for the month of June due to the conflict of Founder's Day and the Al-anon and Al-ateen Conventions.

Motion: Henry C, Past Delegate, Area 55 Panel 68; Seconded by Wendy H; One abstention.

Chrissy M- DCMC, indicated that it would affect the planning of Unity Day. They will have a zoom meeting on June 5, 2022, for the organizing and planning of Unity Day.

Dave F, North End Group would like to see the General Assembly Meeting travel to outlying areas. Discussion from the floor included waiting until the redistricting is finished, let the Assembly "be invited" so the groups in those areas would be prepared for the meeting, and review of the past experience of when they tried this before. Let the Districts handle this request instead of the Area.

NEXT GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: July 17, 2022, 1:00 pm the Senior Center (corner of Jefferson Street and 23rd Street; Toledo, OH)

The Mission statement will be read by George C, Alt. DCMC

Tradition Six and Seven will be read by Eva S

Concept Six and Seven will be read by Chris C

Cleanup for the July meeting will be Sunday Serenity

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by: Henry C, Past Delegate, Area 55, Panel 68

Seconded by: Jim S, Past Delegate, Area 55, Panel 70

Closed with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie R

Recording Secretary,

Panel 72, Area 55 – Northwest Ohio & Southeast Michigan