

**Monthly Meeting Minutes
District 11
May 2, 2019**

**Location: First United Methodist Church
201 W. South St, Woodstock**

Meeting time: 7:30pm

Attendance: 30

Committee members: 14

Groups represented: 17

Guests/Alt GSRs: 3

Read Twelve Traditions: Carrie W.

Read Concept of the Month: Alex H.

New GSRs or Alt. GSRs present:

New attendees present: Pat M. – Women's Spiritual Progress Group

Anniversaries: Bill B., April 11, 9 years; Rich H., April 17, 31 years

OFFICERS REPORTS

DCM Report: Kelly B., DCM

Area Spring Committee Meeting

I attended the Area Spring Committee Meeting this past month on April 13, 2019. The following are the motions that were presented and discussed which will be voted on at the Summer Assembly on June 22, 2019:

- 1. Motion: Motion by Corrections Committee Chair to add attendance at National Corrections Conference as PPB item. Add attendance (registration and banquet, hotel and airfare) at National Corrections Conference by NIA Corrections Chair and Alternate Chair.**

Background – The National Corrections Conference started in 2017. Corrections Chair and Alternate attended in 2017. There are many contacts in corrections that go to this conference and many ideas shared for working with others inside the walls. The 2018 Conference was in Maine, Corrections Chair attended. 2019 is in Houston and the current Corrections Chair is chairing this conference in Illinois in 2020. The is motion was approved in 2018 as a PPM (one-time occurrence) with a projected cost of \$800.00.

- 2. Motion: It is moved that \$5200 (\$200 per district) be used to provide limited funding to offset costs for districts to participate in the East Central Regional Forum.**

Background – Participation should be limited to District officers, committee members and GSRs. Regional Forums are weekend sharing and informational sessions designed to help the General Service Board, AA World Services Inc., the Grapevine Corporate Board, the Grapevine Staff, and the General Service Office staff stay in touch with AA members, trusted servants, and newcomers to service throughout the AA service structure.

Discussion – When motion was done before, it increased participation at the forum from our Area. The Forum will be held in Detroit, July 12th – 14th.

- 3. Motion: It is moved that \$5400 be allocated to help offset the costs for current NIA officers, service committee chairs, alternates, and appointed chairs to attend the 2019 East Central Regional Forum outside of Detroit, MI.**

Background – If all 36 members were to attend, it would be a max of \$150 per member.

Discussion – About 20 to 30 people from Area have gone in the past. Our Area Handbook on page 41 states that the Area Chair and the Delegate are all ready covered under PPB-15. This motion does not include DCMs.

- 4. Motion: PI and CPC committees move that funds be made available for use of billboards throughout Northern Illinois Area. Cost \$5,000.00**

Background – Billboards were used in 2007 in our Area. We gave Districts an amount of \$300 to help supplement the cost. When we contacted GSO about what billboards have been used by other Areas, the sent back four different wordings that have been used on billboards in other Areas.

Discussion – What were some of the wordings that were being thought of? “Is drinking a problem? AA can help” with phone number and website, “Is alcohol a problem? Call AA”, “If you want to drink that your business, if you don’t AA can help”. \$5000.00 would cover one billboard per select counties in the Area for a one month minimum. There is a list of billboards available provided by the company currently being consulted with. How many districts said they wanted this? It has been discussed at committee meetings and breakout sessions which not all districts attend, so not all districts have been asked if they want a billboard in their district. They have the option to decline. Each billboard could have the phone number for the closest district on it. District members can attend the PI committee meetings to get more involved in what the billboard for their district would be.

5. **Motion: In keeping with Tradition Five, which states that our primary purpose is to carry the message of AA to the alcoholic who still suffers, District 10 moves that NIA 20 provide sufficient funding to support a pilot “Commuter Ads” Pace bus AA advertising program in District 10, in Lake County, IL. Commuter Ads are digital ads displayed along with accompanying audio, on Pace buses (a number of which operate in District 10). These ads which would essentially be an updated electronic version of our current Public Information business card would be accompanied by a voice-over in Spanish and English verbalizing the text. The cost of a six-month ad program of this kind is \$6000. The advantage this program offers is that it is both highly targeted and the results of this kind of advertising are trackable. As the end of the six-month pilot program the results could be evaluated for its success by Area 20, as well as by other Districts in Area 20, where Pace buses operate, for possible duplication and implementation in their districts.**

Discussion – Why district 10, would you also provide this to other districts such as district 40? This is just a pilot program to see if it works prior to providing to other districts. What would be the message given? “If you want to drink that’s your business, if you want to stop that’s our business” The committee is not rigid on the language at this time. Is district 10 willing to help finance this? District 10 does have some money available if Area was not willing to do the full \$6000. Is this not a competing motion with the billboards? They are two separate ideas and motions should be evaluated on the individual merit of the motion.

6. **Motion: It is moved by the 7 members of the NIA Technology Committee that the Technology Committee’s responsibilities section of the NIA manual be updated as shown below including the addition of the mission statement:** “The Technology Committee promotes the use of technology to increase efficiency of Area 20 operations, support the committees’ and officers, administer security and enable information sharing.

Responsibilities - Maintain a technology plan that aligns with AA GSO recommendations and guidelines - Assess the technological needs and competencies of Area 20 groups, officers, and committees. - Provide recommendations for officer and committee technology training - Make recommendations concerning acquisition, implementation, maintenance, and upgrading of technologies within a secure and robust infrastructure □ Communicate with Area officers and committees - Identify and promote resource procurement to advance technology and its use by groups, Area 20 officers, and Area 20 committees □ Recommend allocation and procurement of technology resources - Maintain a secure infrastructure to store, archive, disseminate and share electronic information to the Area 20 Groups, officers and committees.”

7. **Motion: The NIA Finance Committee moves the \$1300.00 be sent to the General Service Board to fully fund our delegate for his participation at the General Services Conference.**

Background – The GSB estimates that the final direct cost of the previous Conference (2018) will be approximately \$1,100,000, which equals approximately \$8300 per Conference member. Based on the

approval of our 2019 Primary Purpose Registry we already forwarded \$7000. The \$1300 would cover the difference from what was previously sent and the expected cost.

There was a bid for Districts 28 and 21 to host the NIA 2020 Spring Conference. At the last Assembly, it was decided the Area committee would be allowed to accept the bid proposal at the committee meeting due to the sake of time. Two different hotel proposals were provided along with the committee's idea to make this a service-oriented, stand-alone Spring Conference without the Assembly. This resulted in a great deal of discussion. It was asked if the Area Committee has permission to change the structure as the current guidelines say that the Spring event is a Conference/Assembly. The representative of the committee presenting the bid stated that they will do whatever the Assembly asks if it wants the Spring Conference and Assembly to be together; however, the committee presenting the bid was unanimous within itself to have the conference as a separate event. After much discussion, it was asked the Area Committee to accept the bid at the committee meeting with the format and dates being flexible. A vote was taken and the bid for Districts 28 and 21 to host the NIA 2020 event was accepted by majority vote.

Please remember that the Pre-General Service Workshop is being held this Saturday, May 4th at the Lord of Life Church in La Fox, IL. This is you and your group's opportunity to tell our Area delegate your opinion on the agenda items for the General Service Conference. If you or someone from your group is not able to attend but has strong feelings about an agenda item or items, please reach out to our delegate by email to share your group conscious. This is very important and what our service structure was designed to do! Please be a part of it!

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,
Kelly B.
D11 DCM

At tonight's District meeting there were many questions, looking for understanding of MOTION #2 regarding \$200.00 per District for Regional Forum attendance.

Alt DCM Report: Guy R., Alt. DCM
No Report

Secretary's Report: Rich H., Secretary, Marlenna G., Alt., Secretary
Motion to accept March minutes by Brendan and seconded by Tanzie, Minutes Accepted

Please send written committee reports to secretary to be submitted into minutes.
Email: secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org

Treasurer Report: Holly G, Treasurer, Alt. Treasurer – OPEN

Treasurer's Report Summary for April 2019

- Available Funds, minus \$4000 prudent reserve: (\$621.20)
- Income from Individual Group and District Meeting Contributions: \$1,088.01
- Expenses Incurred: \$5,947.76
- It was discovered that the Answering Service Bill had not been paid since January. The company changed their name from Ansercal to TAS Unite. They had been set up on auto pay but when the name change occurred in February, the auto pay stopped going through. Paid \$727.96. This pays four months @ \$181.99 per month.

Humbly submitted in service by Holly G. 5/2/19
Attached Documents: Statement of Activity and Budget Report

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Lynn B., and seconded by Dennis B, Report Accepted

District 11 Minutes for May 2, 2019

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibility Report: Garry S., Chair, Dianne W., Alt. Chair

No Report

Answering Service Report: Bill B., Chair, Scott M., Alt. Chair

AA NIA District 11

Phone Service Report

May, 2019

2019 Goal - 100% of answering service responder slots filled.

April Results - 100% filled

April call data:

61 total calls

24 calls required responder

37 calls handled by service

Archives Report: Clarence J., Chair

No report

CPC Report: Ken M., Chair, Maureen O. Alt. Chair

No report

Corrections Report: Emily B., Chair, Steve K., Alt. Chair

Women's side is currently under quarantine again due to chicken pox. Meetings are cancelled for at least 2 weeks. Men's side is still having meetings.

Steve and I are working on having a corrections volunteer meeting in June for volunteers or prospective volunteers to get more info about the volunteer process and discuss meeting guidelines for volunteers.

Love,

Emily

Grapevine Report: Carrie W., Chair, Greg A., Alt. Chair

From the May 2019 issue – "Our Big Book Turns 80"

Special section of history and stories from members about how our beloved Big Book has changed their lives.

"A Big Book is Born" a four page timeline of the first year and a half of the making of "Alcoholics Anonymous"

There is sometimes free stories on Grapevine.org, and there is a link to a story about a doctor volunteering in Africa. And is alcoholics that don't even know that AA exists.

This month and the next two months will have stories about our three Corporate Boards. This month the submission is about the Grapevine Board and what AA Grapevine Inc. is.

AA Grapevine has a robust corporate mission to provide a focus. A shortened version of the mission is that it is a multi-media publisher of the International Journals of AA and related content. Additionally, its primary purpose is to carry the AA message to everyone interested in alcoholism.

Hospital & Treatment Report: Kevin K., Chair, John B., Alt Chair

Green Can Labels are available and being used locally at meetings

LCM Report: Carol H., Chair, Guy R., Volunteer Marengo and Union, Alex H.

No Report

Literature: Angie O., Chair, Chris J., Alt. Chair

No Report

Public Information Report: Dale H., Chair, Steven C., Alt Chair
No Report

Webmaster: Sean T., Chair, Harry G., Alt. Chair
Performed regular Web updates

Workshops: Isidro B., Chair, Blu P. Alt. Chair
The April 19 Fourth Step Workshop in McHenry was well attended
Step 6&7 Workshop at Crystal Lake Alano Club on May 18 (FLYER ATTACHED)

GSR Reports:
Lynn B., Winners and Beginners Anniversary Party, May 18, Messiah Lutheran Church, Wauconda (FLYER ATTACHED)
Kate D., Flying Geese Women's Retreat, June 21-23, Oregon, Ill., (FLYER ATTACHED)

Old Business:

OPEN POSITIONS – Alt. Treasurer, Alt. Grapevine Chair

James P. stood for Alt. Treasurer and was elected unanimously.

New Business: DCM Kelly reminded everybody about the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop in LaFox this Saturday. And asked if any members present had any strong feelings, or any questions about any of the Agenda Items from their Group discussions.

Looking for a new set-up crew for the District Meeting. Joe K. and Glen R. said they will be here early for next months meeting.

Rich H. will present a motion at the next District Meeting for travel and lodging to the East Central Regional Forum in Detroit. This motion will have to be voted on at the June meeting so members can make plans for attendance.

"MOTION `FOR DISTRICT 11 TREASURER TO SET ASIDE \$1,000.00 FOR TRAVEL AND LODGING TO BE USED BY DISTRICT 11 OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND ALTERNATES, AND GSR'S AND ALTERNATES FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL FORUM IN DETROIT MICHIGAN ON JULY 12-14, 2019 (FLYER ATTACHED)

OPEN MIC: James P., 30th Annual Soberfest Fundraiser, May 11, McHenry (FLYER ATTACHED)
Area 20 Summer Assembly, June 22, LaFox (NO FLYER YET)

Meeting Closed at: 8:47

The next District Meeting is June 6, 2019 at 7:30pm at First United Methodist Church of Woodstock, 201 W. South St., Woodstock, IL 60098. Committees will meet prior to the District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.