

**Monthly Meeting Minutes  
District 11  
March 4, 2021**

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Meeting time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Attendance:** 30

**Committee members:** 12

**Groups represented:** 11

**Guests/Alt GSRs:** 4

**Read Twelve Traditions:** Ginny

**Read Concept of the Month:** Pat

**New GSRs or Alt. GSRs present:**

**New attendees present:**

**Anniversaries:** Steve - 20 years

**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**DCM Report:** Kate - DCM

- Let me start by thanking Pat M., Alternate District 11 Committee Member, for facilitating the February 4th monthly business meeting in my place. I sincerely appreciate you, Pat!
- Since I was not at the February meeting, I am combining the February and March 2021 reports.
- In January and February, I participated in the following activities:
  - Northern Illinois Area 20 Winter Committee Meeting and Service Orientation Workshop via Zoom on Saturday, January 9th
  - Attended "We Are Not Saints" Virtual Convention on Saturday, January 16th
  - NIA's 2021 Big Book Conference Planning Committee Meeting on Saturday, January 23rd; SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 30th via Zoom
  - Attended a phone workshop with the East Valley Intergroup in Arizona on Tuesday, February 2nd to determine if they had any best practices that we could learn from
  - NIA's 2021 Big Book Conference Planning Committee Meeting on Saturday, February 20th where we decided on the theme: "164 and Much More"
- The NIA20 Spring Assembly is scheduled for Saturday, March 13th at 9:00 am. The information from our Area Chairperson, Carmela R., was emailed to you today at 6:05 pm. PLEASE TAKE NOTE that all A.A. members are welcome to attend any and all parts of the Assembly. Please join us to learn things you may not know about AA service! I've also attached the 2021 NIA20 Spring Assembly Documents to this email to simplify access.
- Other events and communications to share with you:
  - 2/4/2021 Letter to the Fellowship from AAWS Board which warmly shares AA's successes and struggles during COVID
  - 2/21/2021 Corrections Activity Update – The General Service Office is looking for AA members of trans and non-binary experience who are willing to correspond with alcoholics behind the walls who are transgender and non-binary.
  - Invitation to Monthly Grapevine Meetings with Area 20
  - East Central Region Trustee Report from the 1Q 2021 General Service Board Weekend – Mark E. is rotating out of his ECR Trustee role in April 2021, so this is his final quarterly report.



- Fellowship Connection Access – District Committee Members now have access to a Web-based software to use as a tool to reach out to new GSRs and colleagues across the U.S. for collaboration Sean/Harry: **DO NOT POST THIS ON OUR WEBSITE.**
- Grapevine News – March 2021 – See what's happening in the world of GV
- La Viña News – March / April 2021 – In Spanish, what's happening in the world of LV
- Banff Round-Up which is happening virtually on Saturday, March 6th
- Public Information Workshop – will be held via Zoom on Saturday, March 13th, but you will be at the Spring Assembly, right?
- PGSCW Final Agenda Items and Background Material – Pre-General Service Conference Workshop will be held on March 27th: **BE THERE!**
- 71st GSC Final List of Agenda Items; the highlighted items will be discussed on committee Zoom calls between March 18th and March 21st. I will be sending out the calendar with the details, including Zoom links and links to the supporting documentation, by Tuesday, March 9th, so you all can participate in the meetings that pique your interest. Sean/Harry: **PER CHRIS, NIA20 ALTERNATE DELEGATE, DO NOT POST THIS ON OUR WEBSITE.**
- Trustees Committee Agenda for GSC – being provided as an FYI
- 2021 Rhode Island Virtual AA Convention which will be held on Zoom from March 19th through March 21st
- Archives Zoom Breakfast which will take place on Saturday, March 20th
- NEFOTS Conference – Northeast Fellowship of the Spirit Conference to be held March 26-28 via Zoom
- Creating the Fellowship You Crave – this 13-week Workshop starts on Saturday, April 3rd through June 26th at 5:00 pm CDT
- 71st GSC Trustees Background – Link to the agenda and background material for the 71st General Service Conference Trustee Meetings on April 18th and 19th. If you want the 179-page PDF emailed to you, just let me know. Sean/Harry: **PER MARILYN, NIA20 DELEGATE, DO NOT POST THIS ON OUR WEBSITE.**
- 2021 NIA20 Calendar – We'd love to see you at these events, so mark your calendar.
- **SAVE THE DATE – 2021 Area 20 Big Book Conference on Saturday, October 30th via Zoom**
- As a reminder, you can access all Area 20 Committee Meeting/Assembly minutes and reports at <https://aa-nia.org/reports/> All minutes and reports from January 2013 to the present are available to you.
- And if you're interested in District 11 minutes and reports (from April 2015 to the present), click here: <http://aa-nia-dist11.org/district-meeting-minutes-reports/>

**Alt DCM Report: Pat - Alt. DCM**

- We are entering the busy season for AA service work beginning with our District meeting tonight, Area Assembly coming up on March 13th, and the Pre-2021 General Service Conference workshops coming up after the Assembly. Kate told you about the workshops and their importance—I will go over the Area Assembly agenda.
- Area 20 Spring Assembly March 13, 2021, begins at 9 a.m. The Assembly will include a report from our Delegate with the Pre-GSC Workshop Plan, reports from the other committees and officers. In addition to the business of the Area and building on the Service Orientation workshop at the Winter Committee Meeting in January, this Assembly will present education workshops on GSRs, DCMs, Service Committees, and Administrative Committees took from the NIA Service handbook



and forms. The January presentations were very informative so I recommend these workshops to everyone particularly GSRs.

- Area 80 is sponsoring a Public Information Workshop on March 13, 2021 beginning at 10 a.m.
- Area 87 is sponsoring an Archives Brunch, Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m - 2 p.m
- Corrections Activity Update from GSO They are requesting help with inquiries made from inmates of transgender experience. There is also a link to "Sharing From Behind the Walls."
- Kate will forward the Assembly agenda, registration links, and all documents and flyers to be reviewed for the upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you at the Assembly.

**Secretary's Report:** James - Secretary, Marlenna - Alt. Secretary

- Please email me your report. I have put the email address in the chat.
- Minutes were emailed out right after the last meeting. If you are not receiving them, please see me after the meeting and we will fix that. Are there any corrections? If not, I would like to make a motion to accept the February meeting minutes.
- Thanks for allowing me to be of service

Motion to accept with changes: James P., 2nd Tim B. - Motion Passes

Please send written committee reports to the secretary to be submitted into the minutes.

Email: [secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org](mailto:secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org)

**Treasurer's Report:** Holly G - Treasurer, Tim - Alt. Treasurer

**Treasurer's Report Summary for February 2021**

- Available Funds, minus \$4000 prudent reserve: \$2,227.09
- Income from Individual Groups: \$310.00
- Expenses Incurred: \$221.88
- Literature Big Book Project Accounting (Created in September 2020)
  - Cost of purchasing Books - \$542.35 – Paid out by the District
  - Collected: \$525.27 – Collected in from Literature Committee
  - Balance Due from Lit. Com: (\$ 17.08)

Motion to Accept Report: Tina, 2nd- Georgene - Motion Passes

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Accessibility Report:** Kristen F. - Chair, OPEN- Alt. Chair

- I called a few Assisted living facilities and left messages. No word back yet. I attended the Women's Conference on zoom and the conference had several accessible tools; sign language, Spanish translation, and transcribed which possibly enabled many people to attend.

**Answering Service Report:** Scott - Chair, Mike - Alt. Chair

- February call volume was steady at 31 calls.
  - 31 total calls were received.
  - 16 calls were forwarded. 4 calls forwarded (and connected) were first-time calls. Thank you to all that responded.
  - 15 calls were not forwarded. There was fewer AI-Anon call. All AI-Anons were requested to have the alcoholic contact the answering service. There were a few hang-ups and refusals to accept a return call. Two calls were wrong numbers. No first-time call went unanswered.



- The Al-Anon phone number has been added to our call list. (888) 425-2666. I have also instructed the answering service to instruct their call receivers to be aware of Al-Anon type callers and that in addition to suggesting that the alcoholic call us, that they also give out the Al-Anon phone number.
- All time slots on the volunteer list are currently filled. We are gladly taking volunteers when openings come available.

**Archives Report:** Clarence J. - Chair

- Not present, no report

**CPC Report:** Ginny - Chair, OPEN - Alt. Chair

- It would be helpful to have others help
- PDF versions of newcomer packets to be emailed out would be helpful.
  - Carrie will get that information out.

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

- No report

**Grapevine Report:** Todd - Chair, Pixie - Alt. Chair

- The March issue of A.A.'s "meeting in print" has been published, with a special section on Making Amends. Additionally, as is GV practice, this being the 3rd month, there are articles on both the Third Step and Third Tradition.
- The best tantalizing teaser in the index reads "In a blackout, she did something very regretful involving a knife and a policeman...." Read the story in this issue for full details!
- This week the Grapevine Committee was given a collection of old (many going back to the '60s). Since all Grapevines going back to the very first edition are available for reading to on-line subscribers, the archival value of these is limited. They can be of the greatest use by getting them into the hands of alcoholics. If your group or committee would like a dozen or so random issues, please contact me. Around the country, many Jail and Hospital Service Committees bring them into facilities for those who cannot get to meetings outside of their confines.
- On the second Thursday of each month, Area 20 is hosting a Grapevine Information Meeting at 7:00 p.m.. The focus of the meeting is in providing interesting aspects of the Grapevine: its history, content, media formats, editorial management, future direction, etc. The Zoom meeting number is 838 5328 2292 Passcode grapevine

**Literature:** Keith - Chair, Carrie - Alt. Chair

- [chicagoaa.org](http://chicagoaa.org) Chicago Area Service Office (CASO) offers literature for sale at [chicagoaa.myshopify.com](http://chicagoaa.myshopify.com). for delivery by UPS and pick up at the Chicago office. They offer Conference-approved literature plus many popular AA recovery titles "Not Conference Approved".
- [aa.org](http://aa.org) Alcoholics Anonymous World Service (A.A.W.S.) continues to have Daily Reflections available free by just clicking the button on the top banner. A.A.W.S., Inc. announced the enhanced distribution of eBooks and Audiobook across over 51 platforms. So whatever your preferred source is it should be available. They made a special note of the availability of the National Corrections Library (NCL).
- We have physical copies of the newcomer packets if anyone needs them

**LCM Report:** N/A

**Public Information Report:** Guy - Chair, Randy - Alt Chair

- Not present, no report





**Schedule Maker:** Harry

- Not present, no report

**Hospital & Treatment Setting Report:** Glenn - Chair, Maureen - Alt Chair

- I will not be available for tonight's meeting Still locked out of the northwestern hospital. The one direction recovery home in Woodstock would like meetings, They said they could have one or two people from AA on either Monday, Wednesday, or Friday nights, 7.00 Call 1-779-220-0336. let them know that you're interested in taking a meeting.

**Webmaster:** Sean T. - Chair, Harry G. - Alt. Chair

- Nothing major, there was an issue with the documents page but it has been fixed.
  - Getting back to Website updates... PLEASE if you know of meeting updates or you find information is incorrect or outdated on the website or the meeting guide app, please be sure to submit errors and online meeting changes to the district 11 Webmaster and formal in-person meeting changes to Secretary (and ideally to webmaster to get it on the website and app promptly).

**Workshop:** Natě - Chair, OPEN- Alt. Chair

- Had a meeting with Sue C. for background on the position and workshop ideas. She has workshops at the ready covering several topics so if the district wants to do them we can. She said some groups could potentially host. Brought the idea to my home group - Design for Living - and they would like to see links on the website to workshops available as opposed to hosting our own. Would like to find out from the district if we would like to host our own workshops and how often.
  - Go to groups and see how they want the district workshop chair to be of service
    - Does a group want to sponsor/participate in a workshop?
    - Discussion on how to be of service as the workshop chair
- Sean - One of the groups I am involved with overseas has workshops regularly. Last year, they started to do a step on the weekends. An informal, not complicated way of going over the steps. This year also doing the traditions. Giving people the ability to give their input on each. This is something our groups can do. So many opportunities right now.
- Sue - Friday night men's meeting group use to do a 4th step workshop that we can upload so people can print before they come to a workshop, there are different ones that I have stuff for

**GSR Reports:**

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**Old Business:**

- Still have open positions
  - Alt. Accessibilites, Alt. CPC, Alt. Schedule, Alt. Workshop, Public Information, Alt. Workshop, and Local Committee Members.

**New Business:**

- Big book conference planning
  - Save the date for the 2021 northern Illinois area 20 big book conference hosted by district 11 October 30 there will be more details coming soon. Also looking at a historian speaker. Also trying to fill a couple of other panels, looking at having



Spanish translator panels/sessions. I also mentioned one area we were lacking is an experienced technician to help with the virtual conference. And our theme for the big book conference is 164 and much more. Also looking at different ways of creating an interesting program to keep people engaged for the whole day so there is no downtime.

**OPEN MIC:**

- N/A

**Meeting Closed at:8:31p.m.**

**The next District Meeting is April 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom:**

**Meeting ID: 829 7132 2582**

**Passcode: District11**

