

Monthly Meeting Minutes District 11 April 6th, 2023

Location: Hybrid via Zoom

Meeting time: 7:00 pm

Attendance: _29, 21 in person__

Committee members: _13__

Groups represented: _16__

Guests: _2__

Read Twelve Traditions: __Brian H.____

Read Concept of the Month: __Steve K.____

New GSRs or Alt. GSRs present: _Ryan - new GSR. Sunday morning rise and grind, other side.

Craig - 8:30 pm at CL alano club. wednesday.____

New attendees present: _2__

Anniversaries: __Angie - 30 years!__ Scott Y - 4 years!__ DJ - 2 years!!!__

OFFICERS' REPORTS

DCM Report: Isidro B. - DCM

Friends,

I hope everyone had a great March! It was a very busy month with a lot going on in Alcoholics Anonymous!

On March 11th, I attended the NIA 20 Spring Assembly. I was very happy to see so many GSRs and members from District 11 in attendance. I sent out to the district the area reports provided to me back on March 13th. If you read any of these reports, I highly encourage you to read the delegates report. Here are the results of the motions voted on at the Spring Assembly.

- Motion #1: It is moved that the mileage reimbursement be increased from \$0.40 per mile to \$0.50 per mile retroactive effective to January 1, 2023.
 - A request to amend the original motion was approved to be considered by the assembly and ultimately passed with substantial unanimity (approximately 75% in favor).
 - Amended & Approved Motion: It is moved that the mileage reimbursement be increased from \$0.40 per mile to the IRS Standard Mileage Rate for business use retroactive effective to January 1, 2023.
 - I voted in favor of accepting the amendment and of the final motion.
- Motion #2: Panel 62 Past Delegate makes a motion to have our Area 20 Treasurer write up to 13 checks or PayPal reimbursements. One to each Area of the East Central Region that sent checks or PayPal payments, in the amount received from these Areas that they sent to help cover the loss of the \$3,000.00 East Central Regional Conference Seed Money incurred by Area 20.
 - The motion ultimately did not pass.
 - I voted in favor of this motion.

After the Assembly, I spent the afternoon participating and attending a couple of the panels. I moderated and shared on a panel titled "We know you will not want to miss it". Afterwards, I attended a panel where the GSRs of our district shared their experience of The Home Group. Great job to all who participated in the conference. It was nice to see the program filled with individuals from district 11.

On March 16th, I attended the Legacy of Service: Concepts Study. We started reading "Concept XI", but only got a few pages in. It was a small gathering but was very informative and we had some great discussion. Our next meeting will be April 20th at 7:30 pm. We will be continuing "Concept XI", starting at "The General Policy Committee..." I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.

I attended the Literature and Finance PGSCW breakout sessions. It was very informative and there was some great discussion. I have found it to be very nice to have the breakout sessions scattered over the course of a

week and a half via Zoom instead of them all meeting at the same time the morning of the PGSCW. It is nice to allow members of our area to attend all the breakout sessions they want to and have our area delegate present at a majority of the sessions.

On March 25th, we had our District's Review of some of the agenda items for this year's General Service Conference. There were four of us that attended in person, and another seven to nine that attended virtually. I did purchase some district supplies and food and drinks for this event. An expense report can be found at the end of this report. It was a great event, filled with great discussion. I definitely left better informed and better prepared for the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop. The following are the items that we reviewed, including some notes I took from our discussion. Please note that there may be some things that I did not capture. It was a bit difficult to take notes and facilitate the meeting.

List of Agenda Items Discussed (March 25, 2023)

III. Corrections

C. Discuss service piece, "Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare" (SMF-209) and its revisions.

- ***Sid gave a summary of the background information. General discussion was had, but the emphasis was encouraging individuals to look at the changes made and to send an email to Chris, our delegate, with specific things you liked/disliked or what you would like to see included in the service piece.***

IV. Finance

F. Discuss new proposed agenda items (PAI's) regarding the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

- ***Sid gave a summary of the background information and PAI's that were submitted. Summary of the PAI's are as follows.***
 - ***Adding the short form of the Twelve Concepts for World Service.***
 - ***The consensus was that everyone was for this idea.***
 - ***Rescinding the changes made in the chapters about Step 6 & 12.***
 - ***The consensus was that these changes be rescinded.***
- ***The consensus was that everyone liked having the long form of the traditions included at the end of each chapter.***
- ***Some of the discussion points were...***
 - ***A member shared how their group is only using 12 x 12's printed before the 71st GSC advisory actions (having difficulty finding old 12 x 12's). They are also practicing the power of the purse by not sending contributions to the General Service Board.***
 - ***People did not like the idea of changing our founder's words.***
 - ***One member said it seemed like this change came out of nowhere.***
 - ***Sid used this as an opportunity to mention the importance of group participation in the general service structure.***
 - ***A member mentioned they liked the changes.***
 - ***A member shared that the changes made in step 6 changed the context of the message the author is trying to relay to the user.***
 - ***A member posed the question if a group should note if they are reading the old version of the 12 x 12 vs the current version in a meeting directory? (Relates to the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language)***
- ***We all liked that the trustees' Literature committee suggests that the Conference Literature Committee consider forwarding the item to the general service areas for wider discussion looking toward setting a policy on how and whether to edit A.A. founder's words in our current literature."***

VI. Literature

H. Review progress report regarding the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition)

into plain and simple language.

- **Sid gave a summary of the background information.**
 - *Print copy of the available plain language chapters will be provided for review by Conference members during the 2023 General Service Conference in a room that will be hosted by members of the trustees' Literature committee.*
 - *Article 3 of the Conference Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board make clear that the Steps themselves should not be modified, altered, or extended. The TABBs subcommittee expects the final treatment of Chapter 5 to be consistent with that guidance.*
 - *Drafts of the translation completed of each chapter are being sent to the trustees' literature committee for review/feedback.*
 - *In reviewing the background, got the sense that the trustees' Literature committee is putting in a lot of effort to ensure that the integrity of the message stays intact.*

I. Review progress report regarding development of a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous.

- **Sid gave a summary of the background information. Not much discussion was had.**

M. Discuss new proposed agenda items (PAI's) related to the Plain Language Big Book Translation.

- **Sid gave a summary of the background information. Summary of the majority of the PAI's are as follows (per PAI document sent by Chris, in December 2022).**
 - *The Plain Language Translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous not be published until it is reviewed and approved by the full Conference.*
 - *Stop funding/stop the work of the Plain Language Translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous.*
- **Some of the discussion points were...**
 - *This shouldn't continue since it takes away the role of the sponsor.*
 - *This book is meant to be gone through with a sponsor.*
 - *Mark-up your own book if you do not like the language.*
 - *People did not like the idea of changing our founder's words.*
 - *A member shared the idea of the Bible being translated into simple language.*
 - *Some people like the idea of this work continuing.*
 - *A member shared that this activity should continue. The intent of this "translation" is to be an accessibility tool for "loners", people who do not have contact with a group or a sponsor. For the intended purpose, this makes great sense, but I will not be using this book to work with people they sponsor.*
- **Sid asked the group for a consensus for the following.**
 - **Should A.A. continue the work of this book?**
 - **6 – yes, 0 – no, 3 – abstain**
 - **Should the book not be published until it is reviewed and approved by the full Conference?**
 - **9 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain**

Sid brought up that he was upset to not see an agenda item regarding the A.A. Preamble. 24 of the 184 Proposed Agenda Items were regarding the A.A. Preamble (13%). Due to Concept 1, with there being this many submissions regarding one topic from the fellowship, it should have been added to the agenda for this year's conference. Brief discussion was had, but the consensus was that everyone was in agreement with this concern.

On April 1st, I attended the NIA 20 Pre-General Service Conference Workshop. It was a great event, and everything went very smoothly. I heard nothing but good reviews and thanks from those who were in attendance. I would like to thank everyone who attended from district 11 and that helped make this event possible. This event wouldn't have been so successful without your support.

A majority of what was shared by our district and by me at the workshop is reflected in the notes I shared from the district's review of the agenda items for this year's General Service Conference. It was very informative, and I left the event having confidence that the voice of the area was communicated, and that Chris will be well informed heading into the conference. There was only one item (grouping of two agenda items) that our delegate requested a sense of the assembly for. In order to be transparent with the district, I will share with you the results of the sense of the assembly and how I voted.

- Chris asked, "Who is in favor of the translation of the book Alcoholics Anonymous (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language?"
 - 56 in favor, 16 opposed.
 - I voted in favor.

At the end of the PGSCW, I did share my concern about the A.A. Preamble not being added to this year's agenda and asked Chris to share this concern with the conference. He said he completely understands the concern and said he would communicate this concern at the conference.

Below is a list of some upcoming service events:

- 04/20/2023: Legacy of Service: Concepts Study
 - 7:30pm via Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 970 0499 1067 / Passcode: 639187
- 05/02/2023: NIA 20 Monthly Meeting for District Secretaries/Registrars
 - 7pm via Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 883 1545 6870 / Passcode: secretary

Please remember to mention to your groups that there are still many open positions on the District 11 Committee. The current open positions can be found on the agenda for the upcoming district meeting, district website, meeting minutes, or through your General Service Representative. For past minutes, financial reports, district literature, and to learn where a group can send their contributions, please visit our website www.aa-nia-dist11.org.

Carol: Well done Sid, we're proud of you.

Alt DCM Report: OPEN- Alt. DCM

- NA

Secretary's Report: Mike M. - Secretary, OPEN - Alt. Secretary

- Please fill out the Attendance sheet going around.
- Motion to accept February Minutes.

****Motion to accept the minutes as sent, __Georgene__, 2nd _____. Passed.**

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

Email: secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org

Treasurer's Report: Clint K. - Treasurer, Keith B. - Alt. Treasurer

- Available Funds, minus \$4000 prudent reserve: \$5,134.64
- Income from Individual Groups: \$3,572.82 (plus district meeting 7th Tradition and old Timers Brunch)
- Expenses incurred: \$420.74

1. Only non-recurring item is income from the Brunch.
2. Any Questions?

****Motion to Accept Report: ___Matt___, 2nd- ___Dan___
Keith:**

- Once again all Tradition 7 contributions came in with enough information to properly credit your groups.
- Please use the pre-printed envelope and fill in the blanks as best you can. If you don't have the envelope, a PDF contribution form is available for download on the district website. If your treasurer uses a bank checks, please include the group name and number in the memo space.

~Pass the Basket~

**** 7th tradition contributions can be made to Clint Kenner via PayPal at
clintkenner@yahoo.com ****

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibility Report: OPEN. - Chair, OPEN- Alt. Chair

- NA

Answering Service Report: Mike N. - Chair, OPEN - Alt. Chair

- 21 total calls were received.
- 16 calls were forwarded. Thank you to all that responded!
- 5 calls were not forwarded.
- Most were asking for meetings, a few no reason for calling, a couple of hangups.
- Thank you again to our stand-by/go-to volunteers!

Carol: When we get no pickups, usually it goes down the line.

Mike: I remembered this was solved a while ago, but if it happens again in April, please let me know.

Archives Report: Rich H. - Chair

- This year was the second of two consecutive years that the Old Timers Brunch was overcrowded and ran out of food that is ordered based on space. Our next proposed Old Timers Brunch is Sunday, February 18, 2024. I have been to the Fox Lake American Legion twice. That space is available that day. Their rental fee is \$700.00 and they do not allow the use of their kitchen. I talked to the McHenry VFW, the space is not available that day, but is available Saturday, the day before. Their rental fee is \$500.00 and they do not allow the use of their kitchen. As I was writing this report tonight the McHenry Moose Lodge got back to me. Their rental fee would be about \$200.00 plus somebody would have to be a member at \$45.00 annually. They have a Moose breakfast that day, but that could be negotiable. They have a Board Meeting on April 19th. The Women of the Moose typically cook for events. I talked to their leader and that could be negotiable, allowing us to use the kitchen, based on a contribution by us to the Women of the Moose.
- Another option is if we move the event to Saturday it would possibly open up the possibilities to different church halls around the county. If anybody has some ideas of hall

rentals we could consider please call me. But the idea of Sunday Brunch does have an attraction.

- The Wauconda American Legion rental fee is \$150.00 and we get use of their kitchen. A decision would have to be made soon enough that we could rent the Wauconda American Legion if nothing else can be arranged.
- The first weekend in February there is a men's retreat. The second weekend in February there is a women's retreat. The third weekend works well for The Old Timer's Brunch without conflicting with any known events.

Lisa: What size are you looking for?

Rich: I think 250 is a good number. The attendance was ~225. So 250, or greater.

Lisa: So like 400? So we can grow into it!

Rich: I like the way you think!

CPC Report: Ryan - Chair, Todd K. - Alt. Chair

- Happy April everyone! Last Month the CPC committee and I started targeting attorneys in Crystal lake to hand out literature and inform them of our fellowship. We will continue to aim for 3-4 offices a week putting us at an estimated completion time of 5 weeks, where then we may move to another city. I hope to have the lawyer-profession completed in our district and to start on another category or create a plan for the next chair to consider after taking over.

Corrections Report: Steve K. - Chair, Michelle D. - Alt. Chair

- No Report
- Go To Jail Flier!
- It's got a QR code on it, to begin the application process.
- Application process at McHenry County Jail
- 1) log on to McHenrysheriff.org
- 2) click on corrections tab
- 3) find and click on "About the jail"
- 4) click on Inmate Programming.... Then scroll to the bottom where it says "Jail Volunteers"
- Read the handbook and take the test....

<https://www.mchenrysheriff.org/corrections/about-the-jail/>

Look at the bottom of this page. Click the "Next" button to get started.

Grapevine Report: Karen W- Chair, OPEN - Alt. Chair

- Discuss some news.
- March was pretty amazing.
- Spring conference panel was attended on march 11th. Part of it.
- GSO Rep and previous area 20 grapevine chair gave some updates.
- What's available at AAGrapevine.org, there's the magazine and archives. The april 2023 issue is not available as a guest.
- "Access to the Store" "access to the Calculator"
- There's a weekly podcast, found on the top banner of the page.
- Podcast makes a great topic for a meeting!
- AA Grapevine has an instagram page.

- “Carry the message” project.
-
- I was able to participate on April 1st.
- There’s a grapevine workbook for area chairs.
- And later this year there will be a Grapevine App.

Area 75 grapevine rep shared their newsletter with us, and we’ll start that too.

April 29th, District 70 will be sponsoring a grapevine workshop. 9-11a. Flier Attached.

- Sending a few things out,
 - a. District 70 Grapevine Workshop on April 29th at 9-12 in Rockford
 - b. The Grapevine Carry the Message Project Flyer
 - c. The 2023 Grapevine Workbook
 - d. Wisconsin Area 75 April Newsletter-we would like to develop this style of newsletter in our area

GSR Orientation Chair Report: Emily P - Chair

- If you are a new GSR, and you’re like, “I don’t know what you’re talking about”
- Come on down to Emily’s GSR Emporium!
- I am here. For your support, in any capacity that is needed.
- No other report.
- If anyone else is confused, needs assistance, or just wants to chat about what the heck general service is all about, we can schedule a phone call (847) 691-1540 or email me at e.berg01788@gmail.com.

Literature: Jake - Chair, OPEN - Alt. Chair

- First order of business is to remind everyone that literature prices have increased as of April 3rd. 20% on books and 30% on pamphlets. This equates to a \$2 increase on a \$10 book and a 6 cent increase on a 20 cent pamphlet.
- With the aid of our LCM (Thank you!) an order was placed before the increase, totaling \$296. The literature committee is sufficiently stocked with inventory for our newcomer packets. Plus we purchased a couple of other important pamphlets for our district's general service literature display. The AA group - where it all begins and The GSR - your groups link to AA as a whole. The display and newcomer packets are located at the back of the room.
- If anyone attending tonight or you might know someone interested in getting more involved in general service, the literature committee encourages you to pick up a pamphlet and gather information if a particular area of service intrigues you. This is our literature display, available for members of district 11 with the hope of generating excitement and intrigue, resulting in more action and participation in our general service structure!
- The only item for purchase we currently have is the AA service manual - the cost is \$4. Pick one up and we’ll see you at the next legacy of service concept study on Thursday April 20th at 730 pm.
- And Finally, 😊
- The literature committee gives thanks to all that participated in the PGSCW activities over the last couple of weeks, including our DCM for giving us an opportunity to meet, review, and discuss agenda items pertinent to the groups and AA as a whole. Specifically those concerning our literature!

- Both the workshop and the conference are important to AA to ensure that our beloved program remains effective in carrying the message of hope and recovery to the still suffering alcoholic!
- In our home group, it is often stated that the principles must be important to the group for them to become important to the individual member. It is also understood that for the principles to be relevant to the group the individual member must also see the vitality and necessity for such principles. And I pray that ensuring that Alcoholics Anonymous including the literature remains effective in our primary purpose is of great importance to everyone in attendance tonight!
- The End

Ryan: When you say you have purchased books, can our groups buy from that?

Jake: I suppose. I could help a group order literature. The literature I have for sale here tonight, is centered on General Service structure.

Pamphlets are focusing on service and unity.

Natae: What do we do with the big books?

Jake: typically committees will purchase big books, and bring them to their respective industry.

[discussion about pink can, contributing directly for literature for correctional facilities]

Jake: There's also Newcomer Packets.

LCM Report: Sue C.

- I attended the zoom meetings prior to the pre general service workshop
- And the pre general service workshop
- The zoom meetings prior were very informative. Great ideas and other things not covered at the workshop. I highly recommend attending these
- The LCM,PI, Literature and treatment committees
- Placed an order before the price increase
- I have been in touch with Clint regarding the order and will have the breakdown to him this week regarding each committee cost
- I just received an email that part of the order has been shipped!
- I have gone to several more meetings and delivered literature and explained that as a group. They would have more information if they had an active GSR
- I'm sorry I am unable to attend this evening
- Happy Easter
- Blessed Passover
- To all

Public Information Report: Courtney J - Chair, Georgene R. - Alt Chair

Courtney:

-

Georgene:

- I know Sue ordered some stuff for PI. I'll pick that up from her. And distribute them to libraries, hotels, laundromats, etc. any place that makes sense.
- I'll bring her and Courtney some new schedules.

- I will be getting pamphlets from Sue (LCM) chair and distributing them to churches, libraries, hospitals, police stations, fire stations, ect. in surrounding locations. Also I have new schedules to give to Sue and Courtney. Lisa has offered to drop off pamphlets and information in the Huntley area.

Schedule Maker: Nataé S. - Chair

- Printed 2,000 regular and 2,000 open meeting schedules. The open meeting schedule is in a tri-fold format.
- The next print run will be for July so please send an email to schedule@aa-nia-dist11.org if you have any changes to the schedule.
- Email changes schedules@aa-nia-dist11.org

Meeting name change requests. New group change forms? Please fill out these forms if your group is not on the schedule. And send them to secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org

Dan: how much does it cost to print 2,000 each? \$350 for the regular schedule. The smaller open meeting schedule I'm unsure of. The company is pretty reasonable.

Hospital & Treatment Setting Report: Maureen O. - Chair, OPEN - Alt Chair

- No report.

Webmaster: Harry - Chair, OPEN - Alt. Chair

- No Report.

Workshop: - Lisa - Chair, OPEN - Alt. Chair

- Good evening. In workshop news, our volunteers repeated the three legacies workshop from soberfest at the spring assembly and conference mid March. It was a success, although not too well attended.
- Looking to the next few months for the workshop committee, I look forward to working to support groups as they plan their own workshops. As committee chair, I will be reaching out to groups with a flier [presents flier], and on a one on one basis, hoping to encourage them to host a workshop. Although it's not on the schedule yet, I'm hoping to produce and execute a seminar on how to give fabulous workshops. That date has not yet been set, but I will keep you in the loop.
- Thank you District 11 for providing a job description for the Workshop Chair. Also, a shout out to my sponsor for sharing her wisdom with me; ever reminding me to keep the focus on the legacy and continuation of this miraculous program-not myself.

GSR Reports:

Mark D : Winners and Beginners May 6th Saturday, Messiah Lutheran Church, Waucanda. Speaker at 7p. Attach Flier

Georgene: Three Legacies group Open Speaker Meeting, Sunday April 30th 7pm. Speaker Don M.

Old Business:

- Let's look at open positions. Can vote: Committee members and GSR's, and only alternates if their GSR is not present.
- Alt DCM, nominations? None
- Alt Secretary, nominations? None.
- Accessibilities chair, nominations? None.
- Alt Accessibilities chair, nominations? None.
- Alt answering service chair, nominations? None.
- Alt Grapevine Chair , nominations? None.
- Alt Literature, nominations? None.
- Alt Treatment Settings? None.
- Alt Webmaster, nominations? None.
- Alt Workshop Chair, nominations? None.

Commitments are two years.

Elections took place in 2021, so they'll happen again later this year.

Sid: Explains Accessibilities Chair Responsibilities. Serve the community of alcoholics that maybe we overlook.

Georgene: Treatment Settings job descriptions, does it say TF or TS?

Sid: yeah we'll have to update that. Thank you.

Sid: Hop on the bandwagon of District Service!

New Business:

Open Mic:

- Nothing else.
- Mike M: Send me those Fliers!
- Sid: I asked our delegate to give a report on June 1st business meeting.
- Chris: Meeting information, broad highway womens changed their format. 1 week study tradition. 5th week study the concepts. We're looking for women speakers.
- Chris: I wish there was a way that zoom folks could contribute.
- Clint: this came up some months ago, but got bogged down. We don't have a federal documentation
- Clint, basically, you can send me a paypal and I'll pass it on to the district
- [Clint's PayPal information to make a contribution is in his report above]

Meeting Closed at: __8:14__ p.m. , _____ seconds.

The next District Meeting is Thursday May 4th, 2023 at 7:00pm in person and via Zoom:

Zoom Meeting ID: 959 6776 4900

Passcode: District11

First United Methodist Church of Crystal Lake (236 W Crystal Lake Ave, Crystal Lake, IL 60014)