

## Monthly Meeting Minutes District 11 August 3rd, 2023

**Location:** Hybrid via Zoom

**Meeting time:** 7:00 pm

**Attendance:** \_\_33\_\_, in person \_\_27\_\_

**Committee members:** \_\_16\_\_

**Groups represented:** \_\_17\_\_

**Guests:** \_\_5\_\_

**Read Twelve Traditions:** \_\_Nataé S.\_\_

**Read Concept of the Month:** \_\_Brian H.\_\_

**New GSRs or Alt. GSRs present:** \_\_Mark G. Alt GSR 3 legacies

Brian Burkus, GSR , friday night MAC 7:30p

DJ, Alt GSR 4th dimension. Sunday 7p woodstock\_\_

**New attendees present:** \_\_0\_\_

**Anniversaries:** \_\_0\_\_

### OFFICERS' REPORTS

#### DCM Report: Isidro B. - DCM

I hope everyone had a great July! Not much to report, so here we go.

On July 18<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, I attended the Area Finance Committee Meetings. We elected Bonnie P., DCM for District 12, to be the committee's chair. We reviewed the Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss report, and the Primary Purpose Register. Seeing that we had quite an excess in funds over prudent reserve, the committee is going to report at the upcoming committee meeting that if the contributions and expenses continue to come in as anticipated, we'll recommend at the Fall Assembly that the Area make a \$15,000 contribution to the General Service Board. I will let the district know how this goes at the committee meeting, and if this will be on the agenda for the Fall Assembly.

On July 20<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Legacy of Service Concepts Study. There was some great discussion, and I am looking forward to continuing reading Concept Twelve next month. Our next meeting will be August 17<sup>th</sup>, I look forward to seeing you all there.

Finally, getting group contact information up to date has been a struggle over the past few years. I know many new groups have been waiting quite some time to get group numbers and have been reaching out to me about this issue. Fortunately, over the past month, I have been able to work with the Area Registrar to get these requests through. Thank you for your patience as I navigated through this. Those of us in the district who are charged with making sure group and meeting information are up to date will be meeting tonight after the district meeting to develop a plan to better communicating these changes to each other and work to obtain accurate group contact information. Ultimately, our hope is that AA's Fellowship Connection dashboard, our district website, and meeting directories have the most current information. I'll keep the district up to date on the progress we make over the next few months.

Below is a list of some upcoming service events:

- **08/05/2023: NIA 20 Summer Committee Meeting**
  - In Person: Lord of Life Church, 40W605 IL Rt 38, Elburn, IL 60119
  - Virtual: via Zoom
    - Zoom Registration Link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYuf-ggqj4vHNXjpZoEJ8FbSI9ygZUPYWvf>
    - Doors open @ 8am, meeting at 9am
- **08/14 & 08/28/23: All Area's Open Meeting for Accessibility Committee Members**
  - Put on by Area 25 (Southern New Jersey)
    - 6:00pm CDT via Zoom
    - Meeting ID: 690 393 7306 / Passcode: Area45
- **08/17/2023: Legacy of Service Concepts Study**
  - 7:30pm via Zoom
  - Meeting ID: 970 0499 1067 / Passcode: 639187

- **09/16/2023: NIA 20 Fall Assembly**
  - In Person: TBD
  - Virtual: Zoom information to come
  - Doors open @ 8am, meeting at 9am

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](http://www.aa-nia-dist11.org).

Rebekah: Who would the new email come from for the new GSRs?

It would come from the registrar, Chris E.

Jake: At the fall assembly, they're having elections. Will there be discussion about that at the committee meeting?

Sid: No, it'll be at the assembly where people are nominated or stand.

#### **Alt DCM Report: Dan P. - Alt. DCM**

- On July 9<sup>th</sup> I attended the District 22 Monthly GSR Meeting. I hoped that in visiting I could see if they do anything differently than us that we could utilize. They were very welcoming, and it was nice to see some familiar faces. I noticed that they passed their schedule around to make any changes. I thought that was efficient, but also noted they have less meetings than us. It was a different experience to say the least, but I enjoyed it. I plan on continuing to attend one or two other Districts' meetings a month.
- On July 20<sup>th</sup> I attended the Legacies of Service concept Study via Zoom. Attendance was par for the course, and we got through the first warranty in Concept 12.
- On July 22<sup>nd</sup> I attended the "We Are Not a Glum Lot" Summer Bash held by District 22. The food and Fellowship were great, and Rich gave a great AA speech. I also got to chat with some of the other DCMs from around the area.
- Throughout the month I had email correspondence with the Area Treasurer (Allen), Alt Chair (Dawn), and Past Delegate Cheryl V on the matter of drawing up a motion to source and fund a second interpreter for the Area Assemblies. Throughout the correspondence I learned a lot, and the ultimate lesson was that if something isn't broken, maybe we shouldn't try to fix it. I hope Dawn will have a discussion with our current translator to make sure they are satisfied with their arrangement.
- Sid and I also started correspondence at a basic level with the DCMs (and their Alternates) from Districts 10 and 12 about the possibility of a joint event between all three Districts. Some ideas suggested for themes are as follows:
  - Forgiveness with Steps 4-9 weaved in there somehow or reading page 552.
  - Sponsorship-- How do I get one-- How do I be one? How do I change to a new one?
  - A game like AA Jeopardy
  - Joe and Charlie tapes/workshop/discussion. (Not sure if there's online materials for this or not).
  - Pizza and Powerlessness-- let's dive deep into both!
- Again, this was very preliminary and more will be revealed as more correspondence takes place.

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

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

**\*\*Motion to accept the minutes as sent, \_\_\_Ryan\_\_\_, 2nd \_\_\_Dan\_\_\_. Passed.**

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

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

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

- Available Funds, minus \$4000 prudent reserve and \$2500 Travel Reserve: \$4,095.62
- Income from Individual Groups and Grapevine sales: \$755.30
- Expenses incurred: \$554.82

1. Nothing extraordinary to report.
2. Any Questions?

**\*\*Motion to Accept Report: \_\_\_\_, 2nd- \_Randy\_\_\_. Passed.**

**Sid: Move to accept the July Treasurer amended report as sent out. Harry seconds. Passed.**

**Keith:**

- First, I'd like to thank Clint for covering my duties the last two weeks while I was out of town.
- 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.
- If your group is passing the pink can for donations to purchase AA literature for area jails and prisons ~ please make sure your treasurer has the new postal address to send your contributions: Northern Illinois Treasurer-Pink Can; PO Box 808, Streamwood, IL 60107-2971

Steve: Thanks for putting the name of the towns in the report! Makes it better!

**~Pass the Basket~**

**\*\* 7th tradition contributions can be made to Clint Kenner via PayPal at**

**[clintkenner@yahoo.com](mailto:clintkenner@yahoo.com) \*\***

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

- NA

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

- 28 total calls were received.
- 24 calls were forwarded. Thank you to all that responded!
- 4 calls were not forwarded.
- The 4 that were not delivered, did receive a call back by myself and other volunteers. undelivered calls were, Sun 10:55 am / Fri 4:45 pm / Thurs 6:29 pm/ Wed 6:15 pm
- Thank you to all the volunteers!

Archives Report: Rich H. - Chair

- I am unable to attend tonight's District meeting due to a family obligation.
- We have a verbal agreement with the Wauconda American Legion as a venue for the Sunday, February 18, 2024, District 11 Old Timers Brunch. It is on their calendar, and I need to stop by sometime to give them a deposit. Securing our 2 speakers is next.
- I have had many conversations lately with District 11 Members expressing their love of our Old Timers Brunch. And that being one of, and/or their second favorite local event.
- I need to spend more time doing Archivist work of storing paper and digital records.

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

- Hello everyone! This Summer has posed some minor difficulty in allowing me to prioritize my attention on CPC activities, ( mainly due to selfishness and summer fun) but there was progress nevertheless.
- Early last month the Committee and I visited the city of Algonquin and carried the message of AA to the lawyers there. We have now crossed off all lawyers in District 11 cities except Marengo, Cary, Richmond and Spring Grove. A brief survey of their lawyer offices has revealed there won't be much need if any to go in person as we only target a specific type of law practice. With some help from Nataé and Dan P we already have leads on where to focus our efforts next, special thanks to you both.
- The main objective now is to have a neat and organized path for this committee to better equip the incoming servant next term.

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

- No Report.
- Money is flowing in from the pink can.
- 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

- During the month of July, the Grapevine Display completed 4 visits to groups at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Crystal Lake and First Congregational Church in Huntley.
- There are plans to set up the GV display and provide GV literature and subscriptions to the August 12th (0900-1200) workshop in Huntley.
- The Grapevine Display will be at the Flying Geese Women's Retreat on August 25-27th.
- Please contact me for more information if your group would like a visit about the Carry the Message Grapevine review and the 2023 Grapevine App in September.
- Additional literature was purchased and the literature display was stocked in late July. Additional income from the literature sales total amount is \$65.50.
- We have not finalized all of the outgoing or sponsored subscriptions from the visits in June and July. Once a decision has been made, I will send out the order forms. It should be completed this month.
- Discussion of the budget motion/proposal will occur during the New Business portion of the meeting tonight.

**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](mailto:e.berg01788@gmail.com).

**Literature:** Jake - Chair, OPEN - Alt. Chair

- Happy to announce we sold some literature last month. 2 Service Manuals, 10 Group pamphlets and excerpts from Problems Other Than Alcohol were purchased by the 4th dimension group totalling \$13.00. It is good to see a group looking to expand their knowledge and understanding of the entire AA program through the use of AA GSC approved literature.
- We still have Service Manuals available to purchase for \$4. Pick yourself up a copy and we'll see you at the next legacy of service concept study on the 17th at 730 pm via zoom. We are currently looking at the 12th concept and its 6 warranties which are vital to AAs continued effectiveness and general welfare. Looking forward to seeing everyone there! 😊
- From AAWS:
  - A new "soft touch velvet" cover treatment is now being used on our softcover BBs. This cover treatment makes use of one of the most commonly used cover treatments available - this will eliminate the need for the special order of high cost materials, which also have come to be accompanied by long lead times resulting in back orders. Soft touch velvet is known for its high quality look, feel and durability.

- A few softcover editions will be in circulation this month with this treatment. With more transitions to come to the softcover BB as current inventories are depleted, reprints are needed and new editions come off the press. A complete list of the specific sequencing of this transition is included with this report.
- A new audiobook of Daily Reflections is now available. It can be downloaded in its entirety through outside vendors for \$11.99. An audio version of each day's reflection is coming soon to aa.org to go along with the text - Men and Women in custody throughout the US will be able to listen at no charge on donated tablets as they become available. The letter provided by AAWS announcing this is included with this report with contact information listed for anyone with questions or looking for more information regarding this announcement.
- And Finally, Newcomer packet inventories are looking good. We have some available to bring back to the groups.
- Please make use of our literature display for additional information on the legacies of unity and service and specific areas of AA general service.

#### LCM Report: Sue C.

- I'm presenting a reimbursement to Clint, (For many committees).
- I'll be devising a better way to get the literature orders in the future. Savings on shipping, and large quantity discounts.
- {ADD REPORT}

#### Public Information Report: Georgene R - Chair , OPEN - Alt Chair

Georgene:

- No report.
- I need to order some more big books and literature.
- I forgot some things to bring to Lisa.
- I have a box, but everything's all messed up.
- I did read the job description!
- I'll get more organized.

#### Schedule Maker: Nataé S. - Chair

- Schedules are getting low and need to be printed soon and there was a request to include the group number information which will change the size and layout but we will ensure the schedule remains compact. I'll try to make it pocket sized.
- I'll work with our printer on a cost-effective solution.
- Also beginning a project with district members to get the most up to date information that matches our online and printed schedules. Please send in meeting changes to [schedule@aa-nia-dist11.org](mailto:schedule@aa-nia-dist11.org).

**Hospital & Treatment Setting Report: Angie U. - Chair, Matthew D. - Alt Chair**

- It's been difficult to get this position going.
- I feel like
- I'm confused and being told what to do differently by different people.
- I've reached out to Chris Reed at NIRC.
- I don't know what I'm doing.

Sid: Did I send you the treatment workbook via email?

Yes.

I reached out to a few people in District, are we not allowed to buy books and give them to the facilities?

Sid: We try to not give books to the facility, but we do to the alcoholic.

Sue: I explained to Angie, I've taken a couple hundred big books to NIRC, their budget is going to run out soon. We get some big books, have them there. We're going to be spending between the court system and treatment centers, probably 5-10k per year. At court ordered drug courts, they're giving them soft or hard cover BB. treatments get hard cover BB.

Carol: I was involved with treatment settings for many years. We've always given people books in the treatment centers. Probably just need some

Mike: DFL does something.

Matthew: We're not going to give a big book to everybody that's a newcomer. But really that we can ensure they have the resources to conduct a meeting, and if they go to other meetings they can get their own book.

Randy: Is there a list of treatment centers and facilities for our district I can get a hold of?

Sue: Yes

Matthew: Yes, we're working on that. Hardest part is figuring out our boundary lines.

Randy: Karen came and gave her grapevine speech, and wanted to donate it to other places, and having a list would be beneficial.

Lisa: Where would we get the boundaries of our district?

Sid: The website has our boundaries and the meetings held within the district.

Lisa: Targeting the cities that are split by counties... that's okay too?

Sid/Carol: yeah.

Steve: I'm confused. I never heard this amount of money being sent to treatment centers for big books. That's a lot of money.

Sid: I would say look at the treasury.

Matthew: That's the whole point, we're not spending that. That was somebody's guess. We are NOT spending thousands of dollars on big books and giving them to treatment centers.

Sue: Some things have changed. Big book costs went up 40% since covid. The # of BB going to TC, has greatly increased. We had a gentleman who only went to 1 treatment facility.

Carol: the budget was \$2k for treatment,

Steve: I wasn't paying attention.

**Webmaster:** Harry - Chair, Carol H - Alt. Chair

- Harry: Nothing significant to report outside of standard maintenance items and we have added a link to the McHenry County Jail Volunteer Application as a sub item under the corrections committee in the top navigation menu.

Steve: Alright, thanks!

- Service committee page. There's a job description.
- Carol: After Harry sent his report we decided we would like to present this motion tonight so the GSR's can take it to their groups and we can vote on it next month. I will be printing several copies to bring tonight.
- Carol: Also I have added our delegate's GSC presentation to the website under the June now since he provided us with an anonymity protected document.

Karen: My question is: can I have a place on the website, can we add a monthly podcast, or a grapevine thing?

Harry: I don't think we can.

Carol: But we could link to their website.

Harry: Yes.

[That's pretty neat]

**Workshop:** - Lisa - Chair, Nancy - Alt. Chair

- Good evening friends, the workshop committee is ready to report.
- The workshop being held in Huntley on August 12 is planned; the group is excited about the event and hope you are too! It would be wonderful to get district-wide support for this workshop so if you're able to come, please do it Saturday the 12th in the morning. AT SHEPARD PRAIRIE.
- Nancy and I would like to do something with the book Drop the Rock for the Soberfest workshop this November. We are hoping to get together for our first planning meeting sometime in August. We would encourage anyone within the district to consider joining in on this awesome workshop event!
- Finally, I appreciate all who took the motion for an increase to the workshop, budget to their groups for a vote.
- A McHenry County Substance Abuse Assessment: [A Way Out](#)

Ryan: If the soberfest schedule has another 6/7 topic at a similar time. Or we can try a different topic. I'll track it down.

**GSR Reports:**

None to report.

**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 Secretary, nominations? None.



- Accessibilities chair, nominations? None.
- Alt Accessibilities chair, nominations? None.
- Alt answering service chair, nominations? None.
- Alt Public Information chair?

Georgene: I nominate Mark for Alt PI !

Mark R: I Accept. Qualifies. I did not read the description, but I will soon!

Vote... Unanimous!

- Alt Grapevine Chair , nominations? None.
- Alt Literature, nominations? None.
- Alt Webmaster, nominations? None.

Get Ready for Elections coming up!

There are some appointment positions that will be opened up at the end of the year.

It is also possible to carry two positions.

### **New Business:**

- Workshop Committee - It is moved that the Workshop Committee budget be increased from \$200 to \$500.

It is moved, and seconded.

Ryan: What is the seed money portion?

Lisa: Things to cover materials needed to start the event, and be reimbursed.

Rebekah: You're buying things that will last a long time. Will this budget stay consistent? Or need to be repurchased annually?

Lisa: It's not the workshop's stuff, it'll be the district's stuff. If someone else wants to use them, we can offer it.

Sue: Why is the workshop taking out of their budget, instead of the district reimbursing them.

Sid: District allocates monies for each committee. If it's going to belong to the workshop committee, and be used by them. The general budget is for use. But it should be under Workshop.

Sue: If I needed them, and someone at the district holds them, and it belongs to the district.

Harry: The budget for Workshop was \$500 previously, the budget got reduced during a time when there weren't activities or an active chair.

Chris: Motion to table. Didn't get this motion until a week ago and I haven't brought it to my group.

Vote on table? Majority: keep going.

**Vote on budget increase. so moved. pass.**

- Grapevine Committee - The Grapevine Committee moves that their 2023 budget be increased by \$400.00.

Steve second.

JAke: All of your expenses are potentially able to turn into sales?

Karen: It's a revolving amount. But we need stock. But I don't anticipate needing to buy literature this year.

Lisa: I need an example. Sell \$50 worth at an event, that money goes back into your budget? Ah,. okay.

Some books are very popular.

**Harry: When item's sell, that money goes back into the district budget, not into Grapevine's budget.**

**Karen: Yes**

**Harry: Grapevine's budget is always decreasing.**

Discussion:

Randy: I've been part of the presentations. The response is excellent. People buy literature and give it to the newcomer right then and there. It's very beneficial. And Karen's been busting ass.

Take it to a vote. No opposed. So moved.

- MOTION TO CREATE A TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE DISTRICT 11 MEMBERS

Web Administration proposing a motion to bring back to your groups.

Carol: This will be sent out with the minutes.

Sue seconds.

Questions?

Ryan: Do you anticipate the workload increasing a lot? More than 2 people worth?

Harry: The committee would be for 4 people.

Carol: If you have specific experience, you could be on the committee and help out to even out the load.

Harry: There's stuff moving very quickly, but could help for specific issues when they come up.

Chris R: Is there an advantage, is there something more to do with TIAA (technology forum for AA).

Carol: I've gone to that and used it.

Harry: Looking to answer how we can better use emerging tools in the future.

Chris R: I see a parallel to your motion to what they're doing.

Carol: Yes, it's an excellent resource.

Angie C: Do other districts bring outside people in to do these tasks?

Harry: That might be very expensive. I think we can find expertise within AA as volunteers.

Angie: It would replace the positions, Web Master and Alt Web Master.

Carol: It's not deleting those responsibilities, it's adding more people to that committee / responsibility.

Chris: The positions would be dissolved,

Carol: They would be redefined as Facilitator and Alt Facilitator.

Harry: The function would still exist.

Carol: You'll still have a Webmaster and Alt Webmaster, they'll just be on the Technology Committee.

Lisa: We're talking about technologies, we're talking about who's responsible for maintaining the hardware and technologies.

Carol: We are adding ON to the responsibilities of the webmaster.

"I'm mmeeeelltting"

Steve: For ease of simplicity. Can we just have someone to call Chair and Co-Chair. And then you can call whatever you want inside.

Harry: We'll have a Technology Chair. And then various subcommittee leads.  
It's a spiritual Entity.

Jake: Who gets to vote?

Clint: Who will approve expenditures?

DJ: We're just changing the name and adding people to help out.

Carol: Yeah it's important for the knowledgeable person to present.

Harry: We wanted to formalize it. It's not an easily replaceable position. We want to better expand our abilities via technology. So we want to manage it better.

Carol: If something were to happen to Harry, we need to protect the District so we can continue to operate.

Sid: If you have any questions, please email [webmaster@aa-nia-dist11.org](mailto:webmaster@aa-nia-dist11.org)

Brian B: Thank you for the foresight. Tradition 4 talks about autonomy. You can do what you'd like as a committee.

Rebekah: How many different subgroups do you need help with? What are the tasks?

Harry: Example. We have a website and a person capable of editing and uploading. But what if there's a technical issue? We also have an email server. I know a little about it. We have zoom and supporting hardware. Are we being anonymous? I don't know. How can we get the website more visible? Do we need a technical marketing skill set? We want to start the conversation.

Chris R: Do we know what other districts or areas are doing? Do you know of another district going from current structure to committee?

Karen: District 43.

Carol: Most of our districts have Webmaster and alt. Area has had a technology committee for years. But hasn't had anyone on it.

If any of you have ideas or thoughts, maybe you could look into it.

### **Open Mic:**

- [NA]

**Meeting Closed at: \_\_9:04\_\_ p.m. , \_\_\_\_\_ seconds.**

**The next District Meeting is Thursday September 7th, 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)**