

Monthly Meeting Minutes District 11 July 6th, 2023

Location: Hybrid via Zoom

Meeting time: 7:00 pm

Attendance: 32 , in person 27

Committee members: 16

Groups represented: 17

Guests: 2

Read Twelve Traditions: Matt S.

Read Concept of the Month: Jake R.

New GSRs or Alt. GSRs present: Justin - GSR Beginners/card meeting 7:30pm mchenry.

 Bobby Fischer - GSR 4th dimension group, woodstock. 7pm sunday.

 Mike Keiser - GSR Misfits group, Monday 7pm Marengo.

New attendees present: Dominic

Anniversaries: Dominic 1 year!!!!, Brian H 2 years!!!!

OFFICERS' REPORTS

DCM Report: Isidro B. - DCM

Friends,

I hope everyone had a great June and a happy 4th of July! I am keeping my report to a minimum this month, as Dan, will be reporting more in depth what happened at the Summer Assembly.

Over the course of the past month, I attended the Legacy of Service Concepts Study, attended the Summer Assembly, and spent a lot of time connecting with Dan on the Alternate DCM position. I am looking forward to having his support over the next six months, in serving the district.

To ensure transparency and to report back to the district, here is a summary on how I voted on the items presented at the Summer Assembly:

- Motion to Amend Archives – Archivist in Service Manual (Passed)
 - I voted in opposition to this motion due to the proposed amendment requiring financial backing of the area for the Archivist or Archives Chair to attend the annual National AA Archives Workshop, and there not being a budget presented to the assembly for approval.
- Motion to Amend Service Custodian in Service Manual (Passed)
 - I voted in favor of this motion.
- Motion to fund AREA participation at the 2023 East Central Regional Forum (Amended Motion Passed)
 - I was in opposition to this motion until the person who presented the motion accepted a friendly amendment to replace incoming NIA Officers, Service Committee Chairs, and their Alternates with District Committee Members. I voted in favor of the amended motion.
- Motion to fund DISTRICT participation at the 2023 East Central Regional Forum (Amended Motion Passed)
 - I voted in opposition to this motion, since I believe the area should support the activities of the area committee (7th Tradition). Also, I believe if districts would like to see members of their committee attend functions like this, it should be planned for, instead of sending contributions further down the service structure. Ultimately, I am not upset with this motion passing, as the area finances will be going to good use. This is not the first time a motion like this has passed.

Below is a list of some upcoming service events:

**07/10 & 7/24/2023: All Area's Open Meeting for Accessibility Committee Members
Put on by Area 25 (Southern New Jersey)**

- 6:00pm via Zoom
- Meeting ID: 690 393 7306 / Passcode: Area45

07/20/2023: Legacy of Service Concepts Study

- 7:30pm via Zoom
- Meeting ID: 970 0499 1067 / Passcode: 639187

08/01/2023: NIA 20 Monthly Meeting for Secretaries / Registrars

- 7:00pm 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.

Sid: reads a proposed agenda item from Area 75 delegate, southern Wisconsin, regarding decisions about the removable jacket of the 5th edition.

This is an example of a way to bring up things through the appropriate avenues.

Carol H: area motion, there's nothing in place for district GSR's to be supported? .

Sid: there's an allotted amount of money per district, DCM has discretion. It excludes the DCM, and can be reimbursed by the Area treasurer. \$400.

Alt DCM Report: Dan P. - Alt. DCM

- **NIA 20 District 11 Alternate DCM Report for 07/06/2023**
- **Good evening friends, I hope you all had a good month and a happy Father's day to everyone applicable.**
- **On the 15th I attended the Legacies of Service Concepts Study. We had a visitor from an outside district and had good conversations on the material we read. The next Study will be on Thursday, July 20th.**
- **On the 16th and 30th I was able to share my experience, strength, and hope with the residents of Northern Illinois Recovery Center's Detox and Residential Program through a Bridging the Gap meeting setup by my homegroup. It is always a good time and I got to hear some other members' stories I had not experienced before. If you would ever like to join, feel free to speak to me after the meeting.**
- **On the 17th Sid and I attended the NIA 20 Summer Assembly. The morning started off with some fellowship and getting me set up in a fellowship Connection for my new role. After the usual preliminary openings we heard the Delegate's Report from Chris. Most of this report was the same as last month with a few exceptions. Many of the slides had some added flair and pictures. Some key changes I noticed were the slide on Location Plus as well as discussion on the matter with Carolyn W.(Class B General Service Trustee, Treasurer for A.A.W.S., and Chair of the Location Plus Ad Hoc committee) and the Finance Report from Kevin P.(Class A Trustee and Treasurer of the General Service Board).**

Location Plus:

- Location Plus is an Ad Hoc committee delegated with the task of finding out if New York is the best place for A.A. to do business, or if there is another place that better suits our needs (financially, logistics, etc.) The Ad Hoc committee will give their recommendations at the next General Service Conference. The Delegates will then give feedback and in 2025 a decision will be made. Some points Carolyn discussed were the volatility of the real estate market currently, and that the committee has engaged a consultant so that they may have an expert-based opinion.

Finance Report:

- Kevin discussed the 2022 Audit. We received an unmodified or clean audit opinion. This means that our financial statements are fairly stated. We had no material weaknesses and no significant deficiencies. We were given five recommendations, but I did not catch what they were.
- In 2023 we have a planned deficit due to the \$1M in funds that are to be allocated to the building of the Grapevine App, currently we have an operating surplus of \$505K. If things continue our deficit may turn into a breakeven.
- Online contributions are up annually. Before the pandemic Literature carried A.A., now contributions do. The increase in literature cost was put into effect to restore our margins due to profitability loss due to supply chain issues during the pandemic. Most of the contributions are still from registered groups. Other contributions were comprised of contributions from non-group meetings and individuals. Most contributions the GSB receives are of values \$100 or less. There was discussion at this years conference about the spiritual principle of our contributions and it was recommended that the individual contribution maximum should not be increased.
- Other changes or updates to Delegate's Report:
- I noticed that on Chris' slide about the Trustees Discussion that there was a motion to censure and that was voted down. There was also a longer description of events for the Finance committee's PAI F on our Founder's Literature with some of the talking points. The Slide deck was increased to 91 slides.

Back to the Summer Assembly:

- I noticed that our Spanish translator for our 3 Spanish Districts was solo and tasked with interpreting every spoken word for the entire meeting (8AM to 3PM.) In my experience with different translation aides at other events I thought it was typical for there to be a second translator so that each could share the load and have periods of rest. I think that this is fair and that our Area is more than financially capable to do this. I will reach out to the appropriate parties and work on a motion before the next assembly.

DCM Breakout

- At the DCM Breakout we discussed ways in which our area promotes activity at the district level as well as how we staff meetings at treatment centers. It was stated that District 70 could use help staffing the Tuesday night meeting at Rosecrance Harrison Campus(7:15PM to 8:30). Signup is available on the District 70 website.
- We also heard how Raul from District 20 has helped their district participation bloom. It was a spiritual experience hearing him share about service, and allowing people to have open discussion.

New Business

- The Motions on the Agenda were thinned between the committee meeting and the assembly. We discussed the Motion to Amend Archives, the Motion to Amend Service Custodian, the Motion to fund Area participation at 2023 ECRF, and the motion to fund District participation at 2023 ECRF.

Motion to Amend Archives - Archivist in Service Manual

- There was some discussion on how this motion could have been more thorough. It involves the use of Area funds, but does not provide an estimate of how much this may cost. Cheryl V. (P64 Delegate) who drew up the motion stated she had looked into it, but was unable to come up with an estimate. The motion passed 54:6, no minority opinion or changed votes. Our District voted in the minority.

Motion to Amend Service Custodian in Service Manual

- There was little to no discussion on this motion. Motion passed unanimously 51:0. Our District voted in the majority.

Motion to fund AREA participation at the 2023 ECRF

- Heavy discussion took place on this motion. The main discussion was centered around if DCMs should be added to the motion. The question was called, 52:2. Our Delegate came to the microphone in support of the minority opinion and some friendly amendments were suggested. The final agreed upon amendment included current DCMs, and updated the expected amount(if every position went) to \$24,000. The motion passed 55:4, Our district voted in the majority.

Motion to fund DISTRICT participation at the 2023 ECRF

- The discussion on this motion focused on amending the verbage so that no DCM could "double-dip" with the previous motion's amendment. There was also questions from our Treasurer on the way in which these reimbursements would be handled(Would the Treasure have to issue out 100's of checks?). The motion was amended to eclude DCMs from being able to be reimbursed on this motion, and that each District would be reimbursed up to \$400 and the money could be divided at the District level. The motion passed 44:15 Our District voted in the minority.

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,___Lisa Gruver___, 2nd ___Georgene___. 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: \$6,395.14
- Income from Individual Groups: \$1,144.90
- Expenses incurred: \$441.29

1. Nothing extraordinary to report.

2. Any Questions?

Sid: add the item we voted on last meeting about ECRF, \$2500? This way it can be accounted for in the budget as a line item.

Clint: Yes, I'll add it.

Steve: Would it be a big deal, if we put the group meeting town or something next to the contribution report?

Clint: Hasn't been done traditionally, but it's a neat thing.

Ryan: Was the motion for ECRF a one time decision?

Clint: I'll send out an amended report. And we'll vote on it next month.

****Motion to Accept Report: _____, 2nd-__ _____**

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 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

Carol: Do we have a new PO box Address for the district?

Keith: No, it's for the Area. and it's for the pink can.

The motion for the 2023 ECRF is just a one time thing. (some confusion about that.

~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

- 33 total calls were received.
- 30 calls were forwarded. Thank you to all that responded!
- 3 calls were not forwarded.
- The 3 that were not delivered, did receive a call back by myself and other volunteers. undelivered calls were, Mon 11am, Wed 12:49pm, Wed 11:41am
- Thank you to all the volunteers, excellent delivery rate this month!

Archives Report: Rich H. - Chair

- I failed to send a Report for June. I went to the McHenry Moose Lodge. The main room is large and the kitchen is more than adequate. The problem is that the bar is right there in this same room. The Speakers will be looking right at the bar, and the Sunday morning patrons will be there doing what they do. I can't in good conscience host an AA Event there with that scenario.
- The Wauconda American Legion is still open to us and I will book it soon unless something comes up. People have offered up some of the same suggestions we have run through. District 11 appears to want us to have this event.

- I will not be bringing the District 11 Archives to Soberfest this year as I will be attending the East Central Regional Forum in Independence, Ohio that weekend. I have my hotel booked for the East Central Regional Forum. Current Forum information is available

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

- Hello! I am happy to report during the month of June that all lawyers relevant to spreading the message of AA in the City of Crystal have been reached, minus some that were out of office at the time. The next city will be Algonquin and we will continue seeking out lawyers there as well.

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

- I brought 5 containers/lids/labels for pink can donations.
- The Pink Can sends money to the Area 20 fund for bringing AA literature into prisons and jails.
- We are now using locker 17 from now on.
- Spoke to Michelle, went Tuesday the 27th, took inventory of the books we had in the library. And organized the locker 17 really well.
- I attended the NIA summery assembly, as well. Explored ways on how to bridge the gap and work together. Combined breakout session with Bridge the Gap and Treatment Facilities. We explored ways in which these 3 committees could work together.
- Michelle (or both of us) are looking to have an in person meeting with Lieutenant Brooke's (the sheriff is difficult) to talk about letting inmates take big books with them when they are released and getting exit packages at the discharge officer's area.
- We cannot give them big books, even though they're ours to give.
- 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.

Richie: The small red books aren't AA, we shouldn't feel bad about not giving those away.

Sid: Isn't that a 75th reprint of the 1st edition? But ultimately, it's better to give a newcomer the current edition we use.

Ryan: Sharing sentiment. My opinion, if we hand out books, we give them a big book. I don't think that the small books should be handed out.

Carol: Did Michelle take one home with her?

Steve: No, she just did inventory.

Carol: Because there's other books.

Harry: It's called a mini edition.

Caro: We tell them to take the book.

Steve: Get jail to allow them to keep the book and give them an exit package.

Sid: The questions were all in regard to the first edition reprinting that Steve mentioned. We will investigate that.

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

- There has been a great amount of GV activity in June and scheduled this summer! There are 2 parts to this activity: Visiting groups for an annual subscription to GV and to showcase the literature. We wish to thank several groups in District 11 for their support to help carry the message. First, thanks to the groups from the 6 individual Attitude Adjustment Groups and all other meetings at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Crystal Lake, we have been presenting a short review about the digital and print methods to carry the message. During the next business meeting in late July, the groups will donate their subscriptions to facilities or any Spanish-speaking groups in the district. There is a permanent display in Tarpley Hall. Please see the pictures below.
- Grateful to the members present at the business meeting, Jim W., Randy (GSR), and others from the district fellowship, to help us offer literature and information. Currently we have sold \$157.60 of literature that we purchased in late 2022. I will be giving our treasurer a check for this amount to the treasurer. There has been a second order for additional literature, like The Best of Bill, Language of the Heart, and others. The display will travel to two workshops in August to showcase the upcoming App and the literature. We sell at our cost. Of note, is that the cost of literature increased as much as \$2.50 per book.



- On 6/15, I visited the Being New in AA Meeting in Huntley. Following the 5-minute presentation, the group consented to one of the members, Nancy B., to serve as the contact person for mail delivery of the annual subscription.
- I have attached flyers about the September 2023 App and The 2023 Carry the Message Project.
- kwatkins9484@sbcglobal.net
- 630-209-6181

Keith: Those budgets are arbitrary. If you have a cost to carry the message, bring it to the district, and we'll vote. And say yes. If you need the money, we'll cover it.

Sid: Please let me know your proposal to increase the budget. So I can distribute it to Groups.

Matt D: Is that something we can bring to treatment centers as well? (I'm new)

Karen: I think eventually we'll need to work together, TS and Corrections. We need some recommendations for facilities.

Steve: I bring old grapevines to NIRC.

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

- We have newcomer packets available, if anyone is looking to pick some up outside of the district meeting please feel free to reach out to me and we can make arrangements to meet up.
- The district literature display remains open for any suggestions on a particular piece someone may have regarding our legacies of unity and service they would like included in the display.
- Hope everyone had a safe, happy and healthy holiday weekend!
- Thanks for the opportunity to serve! Jake Rogers jrogers1442@gmail.com

Jake: There's backorders for literature, varying lead times.

Steve: The fall has a free shipping deal, is that a thing?

Jake: I have no idea. "AA what's new" has some reports from GSO.

LCM Report: Sue C.

- No Report.

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

Georgene:

- Whipping it up.
- I talked to Harry about getting some AA cards. I'm out. They have been ordered. He will check on where they are.
- Gave Lisa Big Books, will get more pamphlets to her for distribution in Huntley.
- I plan to revisit locations that I had dropped off information to.

Schedule Maker: Nataé S. - Chair

- The last prints for open meeting and closed meeting schedules are coming up, but the colors are wrong.
- The last schedule was printed in March 2023 and we have typically been reprinting schedules every quarter, but we still have an almost full box of schedules left. We have 82% of our allotted budget remaining for 2023.
- For the next printing, we will incorporate all group changes received to date, change the main meeting schedule back to white, and have the open meeting schedule printed with a date and on colored paper.
- At the meeting the group said it would be ok to wait another month until our stock runs lower to reprint. Carol H. requested that we print the group number on the schedules. We do have the data digitally and will coordinate with Sid to get up-to-date group information on the next print run.
- What do we do? Re-print every quarter, or as needed?

Sid: We have this much, it just happened to be quarterly. You can hold off a month and re-evaluate the need to reprint.

- Please send an email to schedule@aa-nia-dist11.org if you have any changes to the schedule.

Steve: A couple years ago, Kevin wanted closed meetings without contact information, so schedules could be handed out to inmates at corrections centers.

Sid: There's no contact information on the current directory. We have a lot of out of date information.

Carol: I miss the group number on these.

Natae: I'd be happy to add that to the schedule, but I need info.

Sid: I have the info via Fellowship connection.

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

- Matthew
- Starting from old information and seeing what we can do with it.
- Will be reaching out to volunteers.
- Please ask your groups for volunteers to chair meetings at treatment centers.
- Will be putting together newcomer packets and big books, as we have some budget left.

Harry: Chair meetings? A group could maybe commit to a weekly meeting, as a group.

Matthew: Coming up with ideas. But yes. Otherwise, we could have them come to your meeting with transportation options.

Carol: Do you have a list of treatment centers in the area, Share is hurting, Gateway is open. Not in our district, but try to support where we can.

Matthew: Trying to weed out that list.

Jake: Do you think by next month, we could have a list created where you need people to go, time frames, addresses?

Matthew: We'll get a start on that, but probably won't be done yet. But we'll be reaching out.

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

- No report. ::thumbs up::
- Extraordinarily quiet with emails, and lots of spam.
- But Carol has acknowledged that Carol has volunteered to help with Alt-Webmaster.

Chris V: Any talk with the District getting their own technologies?

Harry: Yeah there's talk. I've costed it out, but we may have some things that I can contribute, but costing it out can be \$620.

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

- Nancy and I are happy to report that the workshop being presented by the Tuesday night in Huntley group is well on its way to success. The group will be meeting next week to go through a dry run of the workshop.
- In addition, we have decided on a topic for the soberfest workshop: the topic will be a "dropping the rock ". There will be activities and resources available, as well as facilitators to share their experience, strength, and hope. If anyone is interested in being a part of the soberfest workshop committee, please talk to Nancy or myself.
- Finally, the workshop committee would like to request an increase in funds-\$300. We have already purchased resources to be used by groups at their workshops and will require additional funds for the Soberfest event.

Sid: Do you need it today? Or can you present a budget in writing?

Is there a flyer for August 12th?

GSR Reports:

Georgene: 3 legacies open virtual sunday, 7pm CST. Billy M. from florida. 1st and 2nd Sunday's Big Book. 3rd unity, 4th service, AA service manual, 5th Sunday is open speaker.

Carol: Flying geese. There's a women's retreat. August 25-27th. Fliers! Register by August 4th!

Chris, from the cabin. There's a small meeting at the Valley High (Woodstock) Nursing home, Saturdays 4pm needs support. There are nursing homes looking to have meetings

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.
- Public Information chair, nominations?

Sids nominates Georgene

She accepts. Qualifies.

Votes, unanimous!!

- Alt Public Information chair? None.
- Alt Grapevine Chair , nominations? None.
- Alt Literature, nominations? None.
- Alt Webmaster, nominations? None.
- Alt Workshop Chair, nominations?

Georgene will read the job description!

New Business:

- Workshop is asking for \$300 additional budget.
- Grapevine is asking for an increase in budget.

Open Mic:

- **Steve:** This Saturday at the otherside, live band “Grateful dead” cover band. It’s a sober event.
- **Richie:** chairperson for 2023 AA IL state al-anon family groups convention. October 6th 7th 8th. It’ll be pretty neat!

Meeting Closed at: __8:40__ p.m. , _____ seconds.

The next District Meeting is Thursday August 3rd, 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)