

Area Summer Committee Meeting

This past month I attended the Area 20 Summer Committee Meeting. Here is a summary of some of the reports given along with the motions that were discussed to be voted on at the Area Assembly on September 15th:

Treasurer – Our current balance over prudent reserve is \$23,233.20. Please make sure to send Area contributions to PO Box 524, Crystal Lake, IL 60039. Also make sure that the group's name and number is included with the contribution and please do not send cash.

Area Inventory – a summary of the Area Inventory will be available on or before September 8th. The inventory questions and answers will be discussed at the Assembly on September 15th.

2019 State Conference – At the last Assembly, the authorization to vote on a bid for the state conference was given. At the committee meeting District 43 was voted in to host the state conference in 2019. Tentative dates will be August 9 – 11th at the Sheridan Naperville-Lisle.

The current Concepts editor, the editor of the Area newsletter, will be resigning in December. Her alternate will be stepping in as editor. A coeditor will be needed if you yourself, or someone you know may be interested.

Motions

Motion: It is moved by the Northern Illinois Area 20 Finance Committee that in the spirit of the 7th Tradition, we forward \$10,000.00 of our excess funds to the General Service Board.

Background Material: Per Area 20 Guidelines, the Finance Committee is responsible to monitor income and expenses and when income exceeds expenses the excess shall, with Assembly approval, be forwarded to the General Service Board (GSB). To facilitate an informed Area group conscience, the Committee is responsible to report at an Area Committee Meeting an estimated contribution and to recommend, at the subsequent Assembly, a specific amount not to exceed the estimate. The amount to be contributed to GSB requires Assembly approval by substantial unanimity.

Current income and expenses, and profit and loss reports will be presented with this motion at the Fall Assembly to identify the excess funds. At this time the Financial Committee is unaware of any planned NIA activities that would require substantial funding. Therefore, in keeping with the cautionary message of the Seventh Tradition that: "...we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which..., beyond prudent reserves, accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose", we urge passage of this motion.

Discussion @ Committee Meeting: Some ideas of what the money we currently have above prudent reserve, should be used for locally were discussed. The possibility of doing something for the 2019 Spring Assembly to fill the absence of the Spring conference was brought up. Ideas of using money for more PI service such as getting billboards was brought up. Some responses included that if committees want to use money they can make motions, but none have been made at this time. It was brought up that by the time of the 2019 Assembly we will have more money. One concern stated was that if groups see the Area is sitting on money, contributions may decrease. Another point that was brought up was why the proposal was to only send \$10,000 if there is \$23,233.30 over prudent reserve.

Motion: The Bourbonnais Terrace Group asks for the Area's support that the Delegate write a letter to the conference coordinator for consideration of the item below as an agenda item at the 2019 GSC. That a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous be developed, and that the stories section contains stories that focus on issues that include technology and social media; and members in active military service.

Background Material: We believe that the time has come for the personal stories in the second section of the book Alcoholics Anonymous needs to reflect experiences of members who have been in the military, those with a physical disability, those who have a mental health diagnosis, and issues with technology and social media.

The Editions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous have been published in somewhat regular intervals. The First Edition was published in 1939. 16 years later came the Second Edition was published in 1955. 21 years later came the Third Edition was published in 1976. 25 years later came the Fourth Edition was published in 2001.

Discussion @ Committee Meeting: The representative of the group who presented the motion stated that he believes that the group would be open to amending the motion based on discussion to make it more general. The example of the possible amended motion would be as follows: **The Bourbonnais Terrace Group asks for the Area's support that the Delegate write a letter to the conference coordinator for consideration of the item below as an agenda item at the 2019 GSC. That a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous be developed**

General Service Office/General Service Board Updates

There is an opening for a nontrustee appointed committee member for trustees' committee on literature. There are also two openings for staff members at the General Service Office. Staff are active members of AA with a minimum of six years of sobriety. They are responsible for work that is specific to each of the 13 service desks which staff rotate to every two years.

A new Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC) public service announcement (PSA) was published on the AAWS's Youtube channel.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Area events. These are all events which GSRs participate in and carry their groups' voices to the Area. Please plan on attending the following:

- Fall Assembly – September 15th at the Lord of Life Church in La Fox
- Winter Assembly – December 8th at the Lord of Life Church in La Fox

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