

Monthly Meeting Minutes
District 11
August 6, 2015

Location: First Congregation Church
461 Pierson St, Crystal Lake

Meeting time: 7:30pm

Attendance: 30

Committee members: 11

Groups represented: 19

New GSRs present: Gary S. for Winners & Beginners, Tom S. for Sunday Morning CLAC, Nick C. for Serenity Seekers 11C, Brian H. for Woodstock Nooners

Officers Reports:

Secretary's Report: Kelly B. Secretary, OPEN Alt Secretary

Motion made to accept minutes, seconded. Motion to accept minutes passed.

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

Email: secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org

DCM Report: Carol H. DCM, OPEN Alt DCM

The summer has quickly passed since our last meeting in June; hopefully all members have enjoyed the warm weather. Many of us enjoyed the even warmer weather in Atlanta as we attended the AA International Conference. For me it is a life experience that allowed me to be around thousands of alcoholics and hear the stories of desperation and hope that have saved their lives and the lives of their loved ones. If you have never been to an international convention which is held every five years, I encourage you to plan for the next one in Detroit, MI the 4th of July weekend in 2020.

The Summer Assembly was held on June 13th and the following motions were discussed and unanimously approved:

Motion

The Delegate moves to have Northern Illinois Area 20 (NIA20) fund 1200 copies of the "How to Find AA in Northern Illinois" along with creating a "business card" with a web link for the use in the East Central Region's (ECR) hospitality room at the International AA Convention in Atlanta.

Motion

The NIA Treatment Chair moves to attend the Annual BTG Workshop Weekend

Motion

The NIA Corrections Chair moves to attend the Annual BTG Workshop Weekend

The NIA Committee Meeting is this Saturday August 8, 2015 at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church in LaFox and due to my home group retreat I am not able to attend. Typically this is where the DCM report on the activities of their district and all motions that will be presented at the next area assembly are presented and discussed. Since I do not have an Alternate DCM I need someone that is available to attend the committee meeting, present our report and bring back any information for our GSR to prepare for the Fall Assembly that will be held on Saturday September 19, 2015, in East Moline, IL which according to Google Maps is a 2 h 41 minute ride and 148 mile trip.

Now that might seem a little far to travel for an area assembly but I urge you to remember that this is a very important assembly as we will hold the NIA 20 elections. The people voted into these positions by Northern Illinois Area 20 (NIA 20) General Service Representatives (GSR)'s will serve our fellowship for the next two years.

I will be attending as well as others from our district so there is plenty of opportunity to carpool and make this any enjoyable event.

I ask that we begin to look at whether our district would like to host any of the committee meetings or assemblies in 2016. The past two years we have hosted both a committee meeting and the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop so there is a possibility we won't be asked again but we need to keep that in mind and if anyone has an idea about what they would like to see us do please bring it to the district meeting.

We will be holding our own elections in a couple months so I ask that you put the word out now so we have some alcoholics willing to step up and take some of the positions we have available. It would be preferable that the position be filled prior to the end of the year so that the person has the experience of working with the currently chair or committee member. This is especially important for the DCM role as I currently do not have an alternate and it would be much more efficient for someone to see what kind of responsibilities there are for this and every role that we have.

The 2016 State Conference is on its way now that we have the hotel selected, the Pheasant Run, the date of August 5-7, 2016 and the Saturday night speaker has already. Most of the alternate chair positions on the planning committee are open so we are still looking for a few people to fill those slots. The conference theme is "Our real purpose" from p77 of Big Book. Our next meeting: Sept 13th at 1P.M. at Lake Zurich Police Department. Hope some of you can join us.

Treasurer Report: Pat C. Treasurer, OPEN. Alt Treasurer

District 11 July Contributions

Group Number	Name	Town	Amount
675712	Attitude Adjustment	Crystal Lake	2079.00
176778	Broad HWY Group	Woodstock	90.00
672942	Men's Priority BB	Wanderer	107.00
695505	Vision For You	Cary	50.00
646950	Open from the Book	Hartland	180.00
675712	Attitude Adjustment	Crystal Lake	124.80
District 11 June Contributions			36.00
150979	Clean Air Group	McHenry	162.00
675712	Dawn Patrol Mens Step	Crystal Lake	84.60
141413	MWF Serenity	McHenry	180.00
679444	Faiths Way	Huntley	50.00
689268	BB Study	Algonquin	154.80
654091	Design For Living BB Tuesday	McHenry	52.37
708649	Rainbow Connection	Crystal Lake	<u>84.16</u>
TOTAL			3434.73

Expenses

LCM \$136.47	Answering Service \$370.00	Webmaster \$115.86
Treasurer Checks \$12.00	DCM Printing \$7.30	Rent \$180.00
Schedules \$849.00	TOTAL: \$1670.63	

Cash Position August 4, 2015

Bank Balance July 31	6025.66
Outstanding Deposit	2666.80
Outstanding Checks	<u>(1029.00)</u>
Less Reserve	<u>(6000.00)</u>
Cash on Hand	1663.46
Advance Flying Geese Retreat	180.00

Committee Reports:

Answering Service Report: Dave G. Chair, Bill B. Alt Chair (Absent)

The month of July we had 58 total calls which included 27 for Meeting Info; 12 First time caller wanting to speak to a volunteer; 7 hang up call. We had six days with zero calls. We are still getting sign-ups for local response calls. Please keep circulating the sign-up sheets. Thanks.

Meeting Information	27	TOTAL CALLS	58	May 14	83
Open Me Information	1			June 14	81
Reading Mat. Search	0	Calls Per Day		July 14	76
Speak AA Member	12	Monday Day	6	Aug 14	52
Referred Another Dist	3	Monday Night	0	Sep 14	73
Speak to NA	2	Tuesday Day	10	Oct 14	45
No One at Listed Mtg	0	Tuesday Night	1	Nov 14	84
Al-Anon	0	Wednesday Day	11	Dec 14	66
Norm/Kairos Prison Ministry-0		Wednesday Night	0	2014:	847
No One at Listed Mtg	0	Thursday Day	7		847/12 = 70.58
ASSISTED LIV. SP NDS.	0	Thursday Night	0		
Spanish Speaking	1	Friday Day	10		
Alano Club Add M;CL;	0	Friday Night	3	TOTAL CALLS 2015	
Hang Up/Will Call Back	7	Saturday Day	6	Jan 15	91
Web-site	4	Saturday Night	1	Feb 15	67
Solicitor	0	Sunday Day	3	Mar 15	73
Needs Ride	1	Sunday Night	0	Apr 15	85
TOTAL CALLS	58	TOTAL	58	May 15	74
				June 15	70
Call Response Times		TOTAL CALLS 2014		July 15	58
0–10 Minutes	51	Jan 14	74	2015:	518
11-20 Minutes	2	Feb 14	75		518/7 = 74
21-30 Minutes	0	Mar 14	74		
Over 30 Minutes	5	Apr 14	63		

Archives Report: Clarence J. Chair

No report

Corrections Report: Bob D. Chair (Absent), Cheryl B. Alt Chair (Absent)

The jail still needs volunteers for both the men's and women's programs. Numbers are low. The book supply seems ok at present however I will order 4 more cases which should exhaust my budget for the year and carry us through to next year. The men are trying to get the step program started up again, and will be starting this Friday.

CPC Report: Nikki O. Chair, OPEN Alt Chair

I have not received any information about CPC yet.

Carol H. – Go to aa.org, all info can be found there about committee and different positions. It doesn't give the specific job descriptions that our district will go over, but it gives a general idea.

Grapevine Report: OPEN Chair, OPEN Alt

Hospital & Treatment Report: Tina M. & Bob M. Chair, OPEN Alt

The new Woodstock facility is open on Doty Rd. We have a couple new volunteers. To become a volunteer you must go through their process of getting a TB test, a background check, and references. This process is not difficult to do and does not take a long amount of time. There is a pamphlet available with all this information.

Part of volunteering can even be getting calls when they are have someone in the ER who is having trouble. It is really cool because this is the way AA used to work, members going into the hospitals. Centegra hospital has not done this in the past 20 years. We are in need of more volunteers especially for those time when those who are currently chairing the meetings cannot make it. We are in need of others to step up. There is the 10 am meeting on Thursday, a Sunday morning meeting, and a Thursday night meeting. I just delivered box of big books there and am in need of more beginner packets as I just gave out the last one.

Beth – What hospitals?

Tina – Centegra: Woodstock Outpatient on South St., the new wing on Doty Rd. in Woodstock, and McHenry hospital

Carol – We used to get calls from people in psych unit in NIMC

Tina – We can get a list of contact numbers together and give it to Judy who is in charge of all three hospitals

Carol – Remember that Dave has list of volunteers as well and if treatment and special needs gets calls we can refer to those volunteers. We used to have a master list but it was hard to maintain.

Bill – Are you asking for names of people who want to volunteer?

Tina – If you want to volunteer see me after the meeting,

Rich H. – I am the current Area Bridge the Gap chair and have gotten calls from Treatment centers that there are people going home or their insurance is running out and they need a contact tomorrow. What is the district's option if there are people who need something immediately?

Tina – You can contact treatment or answering service. Will get a list together for people to contact for BTG.

Rich – I have emailed sheets to Carol for that

Carol – Will have available for Tina

Literature: Bob M. Chair (Absent), OPEN Alt Chair

No report

LCM Report: Mary F. for McHenry, Brenda O. for Harvard (Absent), Pat C. for Cary & Fox River Grove (Absent), Bob M. for Woodstock (Absent), Karrie T. for Crystal Lake (Absent).

We have the new July schedules available with all three formats. Blue is for everyone, yellow is for institutions (without numbers), and beige is open meetings. When do we want the next ones printed?

Carol – It depends on the discussion about whether the schedule format will be changed.

Newsletter Report: Rebecca W. (Absent) & Mary C. Chair

I don't know if anything is happening as I have not talked to Rebecca in a month.

Carol – There are archives of Into Action on the website if you need resources when you get together.

Public Information Report: Chris J. (Absent) Chair, Alt Chair OPEN

No report

Schedules Report: Esther M. Chair (Absent), OPEN Alt

Carol – Esther is not able to make the meetings, but I did talk to her about the discussion of changing the district schedule format by towns instead of days of week. Someone would need to make a motion and then we would have discussion to bring back to group. It will take time for her to change if we make that decision. We will probably not need more schedules until October, which she said would be enough time.

Special Needs Report: Bob K. Chair, OPEN Alt

In the last month I have been very busy with Special Needs. I received a call from a resident at the Deerpath of Huntley which is a supportive living community for adults with physical disabilities. I met with the individual along with two others to discuss their needs. The next meeting I brought 3 members of AA to determine what we could do. We met with the Administrator. The next meeting I had was with the Activities Director and we set up an open meeting for June 25, 2015 at 7:00 PM. I also met with the Director of Nursing. For the June 25th meeting I will give a lead and I have asked 3 more people from AA to attend and they have accepted. On June 20th I received a call from the Answering Service that a woman from Algonquin wanted to go to a meeting on Sunday June 21. I told Bill from the Answering Service to give this girl my number and I would get her to a meeting. I waited until 10:00PM. Then Bill called and said that he had called her back but no answer. I believe

there is possibility that she did not want a ride from a man. But I don't know if that is true. It is my belief that we need at least 1 female on the Special Needs committee.

Webmaster: Sean T. Chair, OPEN Alt

Keypoints for discussion about new website and email hosting service (hostgator)

1. I 'd like to have pages reflect info to help those seeking info about meetings and AA in general and not just info for people looking to get involved with the District committees. Most of the existing content focuses on getting volunteers and support for the committees, but does not necessarily invite contact from those seeking help from the committees (like an inmate needing to contact Bridge The Gap or Treatment Facilities, etc).
2. Need (desire) for fresh content for each committee.
3. Newsletter page – potential option to post newsletter directly to website and or setup automated mailer. Also option to allow comments (would need moderator).
4. Chair Email accounts
 - a. Are email forwards working?
 - b. Did users get email I sent with login info?
 - c. Have users logged in to new email?
 - d. Any questions about use, like logging in or exporting/importing contact lists?
5. Comments/Questions about contact forms I added to some pages?
6. Comments questions about online schedule?
 - a. how to search the online schedule.
 - b. Schedule is still available to download as a PDF file, and the PDF file can also be conveniently searched for meeting times, locations, etc.
 - c. I possibly could set up as a calendar like I have for events (or even combine them) to make it viewable as what's happening/available daily.
7. Events
 - a. How to submit events for posting (using form or direct email). Any format is ok, but Word or PDF will be easier to copy and paste text as well as be searchable vs a photo (jpg) file.
 - b. potential exists to allow visitors to signup and be able to post events directly (these of course would need to be moderated to control spammers and inappropriate posts, but it could make it easier to keep events dynamic and current.
8. Who will monitor email of open positions?
9. Cost summary:
 - a. Hosting initial and future. Initially discounted cost was \$71.28 for 1st 3 years (good thru 6/2018). Regular cost is \$83.40 per year (\$178.20 if 3 years at once). Cost with 1and1.com was \$179.40 annual. (\$164.40 if don't count domain name). In any case, savings will continue.
 - b. Domain Name initial and future. Initial cost was \$0, future will be \$15 per year. This was in combined package with 1and1.com previously.
10. Old account with 1and1.com was officially cancelled 8/6/15.
11. I created new gmail account for website administration to communicate with hosting company and other internet related business (aaniadistrict11@gmail.com)

Look at the new website, please send feedback good and bad.

Mark – When on a mobile device it is difficult to use the pdf. I went to a panel at the International where it was talked about the importance of having schedules available through mobile devices as that's how it is often searched.

Sean – This has been changed in the new format, but I need feedback about the new format so as to know about any technical difficulties

Workshop Report: OPEN Chair, OPEN Alt

Old Business:

- **Open Positions**

Alt DCM, Alt secretary, Alt Treasurer, CPC Alt, Grapevine Chair, Alt Grapevine, Alt Literature, Alt Special Needs, Alt PI, Alt Treatment, Workshop Chair

- **State Conference 2016**

The 2016 State Conference is on its way now that we have the hotel selected, the Pheasant Run, the date of August 5-7, 2016 and the Saturday night speaker has already. Most of the alternate chair positions on the planning committee are open so we are still looking for a few people to fill those slots. The conference theme is "Our real purpose" from p77 of Big Book. Our next meeting: Sept 13th at 1P.M. at Lake Zurich Police Department. Hope some of you can join us.

New Business:

- **Job descriptions**

Carol – We sat down to review job descriptions back when Dave DCM to help guide people about the specific job they need to do. It is easier for people to have an idea of what to do with a general description of duties. I will send out all the job descriptions electronically. However I would like to have everyone take two job descriptions with them to take back to their groups and come up with suggestions. This may be more realistic rather than having everyone look at all of them. All chairs will look at their own. I want to have a commitment from every group to look at least two job descriptions. Bring these descriptions back to your group and have them take a look. Does it make sense if you were in that position? Would you know what to do based off of that description? If you did not get email with then agenda and minutes give your email address tonight. In the future we will vote to see if we want these as official job descriptions.

Dave – Do you have a description for answering service?

Carol – There is only a short one that needs more. I will send out with email?

- **Format for meeting schedule**

It was brought up at the last meeting that the schedule might better serve our district if in a different format

Rich – I find the current schedule difficult. It seems much simpler if by days, so you don't have to go through all the cities to find a meeting on Monday night.

Mark – I also find it difficult when trying to find a meeting you don't know which city is nearby as they are organized in alphabetical order

Randy made a motion to change the schedule format to be organized by days rather than city. Seconded by Pat C.

Carol – Will need to be brought back to groups and bring back for a vote next district meeting.

Open Mic

Sean T. – The Crystal Lake Alano Club is having their picnic at Veteran's Acres this Sunday 11 am

Clarence J. – Burton's Bridge is having a picnic at the Fox River Preserve on Roberts Rd at 12pm on August 30th.

Kelly B. – Northern Illinois Bid for ISCYPAA is having a block party on August 29th in Fox River Grove at 7:30pm

The next district meeting is Thursday September 3, 2015 at 7:30pm at First Congregation Church, Crystal Lake.