

Monthly Meeting Minutes
District 11
October 1, 2015

Location: First Congregation Church
421 Pierson St, Crystal Lake

Meeting time: 7:30pm

Attendance: 29

Committee members: 9

Groups represented: 15

Guests/Alt GSRs: 5

New GSRs present: Jan F. for Monday Noon meeting at The Pointe

Anniversaries: Bob K. celebrated 11 years, Mary F. celebrated 28 years, Erica O. celebrated 2 years

Officers Reports:

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

Any objections to the minutes? None. Motion made to accept minutes, seconded. Minutes accepted.

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

I sent out an email with documents from the General Service Office. Included in these documents is the staff assignments for GSO which gives the name of who contact for different for committees. Another document that was provided was "Your Seventh Tradition Contributions" which goes over was the seventh tradition is used for by GSO. According to numbers only 40% of membership sends in money to GSO and it is not able to function on donations due to this. That's why they have to sell literature to cover our costs. We attended NIA Area Assembly where they had the area elections on September 19th. Kelly had sent out a list of the positions that were filled at the elections. I have also sent out the job descriptions again and they will be finalized by next month in order to have them voted on. So far I have only received feedback on the descriptions for 3 to 4 groups. It would help to get more feedback. Each committee chair will also be going through the job description the position they currently hold. We want to make sure the job descriptions are clear so that when someone takes a position they know what to do. We want them to be descriptive enough but not overwhelming.

The Fall Committee Meeting is coming up on October 17, 2015, at Lord of Life Church in La Fox. This is where DCMs give their reports on what is happening in their districts. You don't need to be GSR to go, just an interested party. The NIA Area 20 Big Book Conference is coming up on October 24, 2015. This is an all-day event and starts at 9:00 am. It is being held at the Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist, 1025 N. Smith St, Palatine, IL. It is always a good day of learning about the Big Book each year. The next committee meeting for 2016 State Conference is Sunday October 11th at the Lake Zurich Police Department at 1:00 pm. There are mostly alternate positions that need to be filled. We do need someone to do decorations for the banquet tables. Please put the word out.

Treasurer Report: Pat C. Treasurer, OPEN. Alt Treasurer
 NIA20 DISTRICT 11 FINANCIALS SEPTMBER 2015

CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP	NAME	TOWN	AMOUNT
699065	Men's PriorityBBc	Crystal Lake	100.00
699065			60.00
610896	Winners and Beginners	Wauconda	436.00
125619	Point Wednesday Closed Mtg	Crystal Lake	100.00
655136	Growth and Change	Crystal Lake	225.00
125327	Cary Park District	Cary	140.00
TOTAL			1061.00

EXPENSES

District	22.50	Treasurer's printing
DCM	33.27	Printing
Answering Svc	185.00	
TOTAL	240.77	

CASH POSITION 9/29/15	7197.03
OUTSTANDING DEPOSIT	<u>1061.00</u>
TOTAL	8258.03
Less Prudent Reserve	<u>6000.00</u>
AVAILABLE CASH9/29/15	2258.03

Account	Budget	Jan	Feb	Mar	1st Quarter Actuals	Balance	Apr	May	2 month 2nd	Balance	Jul	Aug	Sep	3rd quarter	Balance
Schedules	3000	0	0	804	804	2196	695	0	695	1501	849	0	0	849	652
Public Information	500	0	0	0	0	500	0	0	0	500	0	0	0	0	500
Ans Svce	2500	185	538	185	908	1592	185	185	370	1222	370	185	185	740	482
Corrections	1800	0	0	684	684	1116	0	0	0	1116	0	513	0	513	603
Treatment	1900	0	513	513	1026	874	64	0	64	810	0	0	0	0	810
Literature	200	0	230	0	230	-30	0	0	0	-30	0	0	0	0	-30
Newsletter	1000	0	0	0	0	1000	0	0	0	1000	0	0	0	0	1000
Sp Needs	200	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	200
Workshop	500	0	0	0	0	500	0	0	0	500	136	0	0	136	364
CPC	400	0	0	0	0	400	0	0	0	400	0	0	0	0	400
Grapevine	100	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
LCM	400	105	54	0	159	241	0	-54	-54	295	136	0	0	136	159
Webmaster	500	0	0	0	0	500	0	0	0	500	116	-23	0	93	407
Archives	100	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
District	1400	128	20	242	390	1010	394	33	427	583	199	13	56	268	315
TOTALS	14500	418	1355	2428	4201	10299	1338	164	1502	8797	1806	688	241	2735	5470

I brought up the amount of our prudent reserve last meeting. Our prudent reserve stands at \$6000.00.

Pat C. read from a pamphlet for group treasurers.

This states that our prudent reserve should cover three months expenses and a group conscience is needed in order to change the prudent reserve. I took a look at the budget and by doing the math, found that the prudent reserve would be \$3600 if covering three month expenses. In order to follow AA guidelines I suggest that we talk about reducing the prudent reserve.

Carol – Does that figure include the budget for the committees and actual expenses?

Pat – Yes, even the newsletter is included, which we don't have at this time.

Clarence – The pamphlet you read out of is for a group rather than a district. I think we need a little bit more of a reserve

Pat – The pamphlet is for a group treasurer

Bob – How close are we as committees to our actual budget? Sometimes committees don't spend the money budgeted. Since I have been involved in district I haven't seen a preparatory budget made where someone actually analyzes the actual expenses and finds out what we are really spending. We need a budget based on expenditure.

Gary – If we needed more money in the future we would be able to move it back up

Pat – If anyone is interested about forming a committee to budget together, people who have experiences in budgets that would be helpful.

Carol – We are supposed to vote on the budget next month

Pat – The money that we keep as a prudent reserve is there to make use of it

Bob – It seems we have never spent an entire budge

Carol – Whether the money is spent depends on if we have active people. We have never had a literature committee before, so more money has been used this year by that committee. If we have a grapevine chair and they decided to do something we would need to have money

Pat- provided a proposed budget for 2016, has the expenses through September

Committee Reports:

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

The month of September we had 76 total calls which included 25 Meeting Info; 31 First time caller wanting to speak to a volunteer; 2 Nursing students wanting info on opening meeting times; 8 hang up calls. We had one day with zero calls. We are still getting sign-ups for local response calls. Please keep circulating the sign*up sheets. Thanks. I received one call in regards to Bridge The Gap structure and passed it on to our DCM.

INFO TYPE:	Hang Up/Will Call Back-8	Monday Night-0
Meeting Information-25	Web-site-1	Tuesday Day-7
Open Meet 2 Students-3	Where send Contributions-0	Tuesday Night-1
Reading Mat. Search-0	Needs Ride-1	Wednesday Day-10
Speak AA Member-31	TOTAL CALLS-76	Wednesday Night-2
Referred Another Dist-1	Call Response Times	Thursday Day-16
Speak to NA-0	0–10 Minutes - 59	Thursday Night-0
No One at Listed Mtg-2	11-20 Minutes - 3	Friday Day-11
AI-Anon-1	21-30 Minutes - 0	Friday Night-4
Norm/Kairos Prison Ministry-0	Over 30 Minutes - 14	Saturday Day-7
11 Hour Class Info-0	TOTAL CALLS - 76	Saturday Night-1
Shopaholic Info-0	Calls Per Day	Sunday Day-8
Spanish Speaking-0	Monday Day- 9	Sunday Night-0
Alano Club Add M;CL;-0		TOTAL - 76

Archives Report: Clarence J. Chair

I will start planning the Old Timer's Brunch. I will get hold of hall when date is determined.

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

We could use men and women volunteers. The men's meeting is Thursday night at 6:45 pm and the women's meeting is on Tuesday night at 6:45 pm. If you are interested in volunteering, send a direct email to corrections email and either I or Cheryl will call you to do pre-interview. After that we will direct you to the jail website to go through their process. We need help in both areas as numbers are low right now. One man was taken through steps on Fridays by two volunteer. We are all set to do the same for any women who want to go through the steps if someone wants to do so. Cheryl will not be stepping up as the corrections chair, but I have been in contact with other people who will be happy to step up. I will be ordering more cases of big books and spending the rest of my budget. I spoke with the lieutenant and big books are now in the library as they are supposed to be instead of behind the front desk. He was not aware that they were not being taken to the library.

CPC Report: Nikki O. Chair (Absent), OPEN Alt Chair

No report

Grapevine Report: OPEN Chair, OPEN Alt

No report

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

Bob M – We have been involved with Centegra and they have allowed us to give our names to nursing staff so when we meet with patients if they feel inclined to go to AA meeting they can call us. We have taken on sending around a sign in sheet for people to sign up if they are willing to take someone to a meeting after they get out of the hospital. We are in need women's' names as some women are concerned about who will take them if they call. I only have men's names right now.

Literature: Bob M. Chair, OPEN Alt Chair

I received an email from the World Service Literature Committee. If you want to share about 800 words about what it was like and what AA has done for you and fit into the groups of GLBT, women, or deal with mental health problems they are redoing some literature and doing some new literature. In order to do this they need input from members, if you or others you know are interested. I received literature orders for special needs and H&I. I have also provided more newcomer packets. If you have any old reading material, please bring it so it can be used. I can find groups that can use it. One group has a lending library where people read pieces of literature and put it back and swap books. If you can't use the newcomer packets don't take them, but I have found that if I leave some in my car it's useful when a newcomer shows up at a meeting.

Carol – If you have a group that wants to pass out the newcomer packets for themselves, what is the cost?

Bob – I just gave treatment about 50 and it cost \$36. Each includes 11 to 12 brochures.

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

I am bringing reprints of July 2014 schedules for October 1st Meeting. The schedule maker plans on having the new revised schedules, in order by day, ready for the next District Meeting.

Newsletter Report: OPEN. Chair

Public Information Report: OPEN Chair, Alt Chair OPEN

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

Special Needs Report: Bob K. Chair, OPEN Alt

Ordered 12 & 12s to bring to Deer Path. I will be meeting with them again to see what they can do with getting a meeting started there.

Webmaster: Sean T. Chair, OPEN Alt

As some may have noticed I created a new schedule page (NON-PDF) to make the content easier to see on all devices with less need to zoom in and out. It is not sortable, but you can quickly get to each towns meetings and search the page if needed to find time and/or day.

Although, I haven't gotten any feedback from visitors (except for a few GSR's I directly asked), I will continue to look into ways to improve the online schedule and its "searchability."

Here are some website stats for September 2015 (Using AwStats in Cpanel):

Most visited URLs besides login pages as expected are the Meeting schedule, Meeting schedule NONPDF, Events page, NIA20 Meetings, and Contact Us.

Average # of visits per day 62 (Sept total 1884)

Pages per day 205 (Total 6159)

Hits Per Day 812 (Total 24375)

Bandwidth per day 65.57 MB (Total 1.92GB)

Top 5 Total Search Strings			#	Hits	File
#	Hits	Search String	1	977	JULY2015WebScheduleDist11.pdf
1	13	aa-nia-dist11.org	2	38	P-33_It_Sure_Beats_Sitting.pdf
2	3	aa meetings in mchenry county	3	35	41_04_APRIL-MAY_2014-WEB.PDF
3	2	aa meeting 7:30pm crystal lake il	4	31	
4	2	aa meetings in mchenry il			12_20_APRIL_MAY_2009_2_WEB.PDF
5	2	aa meetings woodstock il	5	30	
Top 5 downloads					2013NewGroupInformationForm.doc

Workshop Report: OPEN Chair, OPEN Alt

GSR Report:

Bob K. for the Friday Night Men's Step Study Group – We are having an open AA and Alanon meeting on Friday October 30, 2015, at the First United Methodist Church, 3717 West Main St, McHenry, IL. Doors open at 6:30pm and meeting begins at 7:30pm. Speakers are Len G. and Diane G. from Woodstock.

Mark T. for Soberfest – if you are planning to stay at Grand Geneva for Soberfest reserve your room now. In October the rooms begin to fill up. Also please register in so we can fill up the banquet hall.

Old Business:

- **Open Positions : Alt DCM, Alt secretary, Alt Treasurer, CPC Alt, Grapevine Chair, Alt Grapevine, Alt Literature, Alt Special Needs, PI Chair, Alt PI, Alt Treatment, Workshop Chair, Newsletter Chair**
Mary C. stood for alternate secretary. None opposed. Mary C. is new Alternate Secretary
- **Articles being written for newsletter on the website**
Tammy K. for Flying Geese – our group had concern of who and how these would be edited and what appears on there. Does this fall under the job of the district while this is done through other sources with editorial staff?
Kim T. for Winners and Beginners – group felt similarly. There are the Grapevine and Concepts that can be used for these article. We were not comfortable with what website could become.
Nick C. for Serenity Seekers 11C – We thought it was a nice idea to put out stories, but if there is no newsletter committee put in place it seems like it is not a good idea right now. There are other outlets.

New Business:

- **Carol H. – Sean T. has been officially appointed webmaster.**
- Glen R. – Would we be able to add the web address of the Mchenry Alano Club website to the schedule
Carol – A club is not necessarily AA.
Bob – Could we put a link on our website?
Sean – We would have to be careful about wording. Ultimately when you look at other websites there is a disclaimer about not endorsing or having affiliation with businesses or companies advertised. It could be done as a generic disclaimer

Carol – Sean, would you be able to do research on that? I'm sure there are GSO pamphlets on the topic of websites

Mark – If you put a link to treatment center on the website, it's different, it's a commercial enterprise, but listing clubs as resource to find the meeting would be a different circumstance

Sean – This opens up the question of what are the guidelines for what events are posted on our website.

Carol – The guidelines were posted on the website in the past that were posted and voted on a couple years ago

Open Mic

- Tim B., trustee of Crystal Lake Alano club
One of the meetings that have been most successful has declined and the club is looking for someone to come in after 7pm to latch hold of the time slot. It can be any kind of meeting. That is our biggest need at this time. There are other night time meetings that are struggling with attendance which is causing them to be late on paying rent more than the club is comfortable with. If you want a meeting to move in we will work with you to get the meeting off the ground. Sometimes there's a need new leadership. Noon meetings also need support. Take it to your groups to see if anyone has interest
Bob K –Is it still that every group has to pay \$25 per week?
Tim B. – Yes. However we will work with new groups.
- Kelly B. – The Northern Illinois Bid for ISCYPAA is hosting with other bids a Barn Bash on Saturday October 31, 2015. It will take place at 8105 Ackman Rd., Crystal Lake. Doors open at 6pm, open meeting is at 8pm with the dance at 9pm. I will send in the flyer to be posted on our website.
- Glen R. – The Mchenry Alano club is hosting meetings all through Christmas. There are still 15 slots available.

The next district meeting is Thursday November 5, 2015 at 7:30pm at First Congregation Church, Crystal Lake.