

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2014

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM- Paula D.
Alt. DCM-Steve N.
Treasurer-Jen B.
Secretary-P. J. O.
Archives Chair-Denis S.
NCI Liaison-Toni T.
Women's Corrections- Char S.

GSRs/Alt. GSRs and Visitors present at meeting:

Sue S. - Alt.GSR, Rainbow Group
John S. - GSR, Dunnellon New Beginnings Group
Sandy H. – GSR, Crystal River Group
Brenda R. - GSR, Women's New Beginnings Group
Paige B. - GSR, What's The Book Say Group
Lisa B. – GSR, Won Rebos Group
Rich M. – Visitor, No Name Group

Welcome by DCM:

Paula D., DCM, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Serenity Prayer

Declaration of Unity

Responsibility Statement

Roll Call: P. J. O. took roll call and minutes.

Roll call: 6 groups were represented.

Everyone had received copies of the Minutes of the November 16 meeting; no corrections or amendments were offered. Upon motion and second, the Minutes of the November meeting were accepted unanimously as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Jen B.

Jen presented the Treasurer's Report for December, 2014, being the Income and Expense Sheet and the Contributions Report, copies of which were distributed to everyone. By way of summary, Jen reported that there had been very little activity; three contributions totaling \$145, \$13 from the meeting basket and a refund of \$2.15. There were no expenses. The beginning balance was \$6,162.33, net income was \$160.15, and the ending balance was \$6,323.49. Upon motion and second, the Treasurer's Report for December was approved as submitted.

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives Report: Denis S.

This month I had the pleasure of recording George M. for the Archives, which was very interesting. George has forty years of sobriety and is a regular visitor to District 28.

Also this month I was able to find a person to join the Archives Committee. His name is Rich M. and he recently moved here from Minnesota.

Anyone interested in being on the Archives Committee should email Denis at Sheahan4@hotmail.com.

CPC/PI Report: (Presented by Paige B. for Janet B.)

I am so glad to have the assistance of Lisa B. for the Dunnellon area and Eric S. in Inglis, as they carry the message by stocking libraries and meetings with our meeting schedules.

All our regular sites were stocked and restocked during these months. They include the following: Sheriff's Main Station in Inverness and the sub-station in Crystal River; County Probation at the Salvation Army and State Probation and Parole in Inverness; the County Courthouse and the Drug Court. The last five places also received our (in-house) pamphlet "Ordered to Attend AA?" As always, the West Central Drivers Improvement School wins the prize for the most Where and When's handed out. They received three visits.

The hospital has been keeping our holder of schedules and the blue "AA at a Glance" very neat and inclusive to AA. The Share Club has also been cooperative.

Visits also included the Lighthouse, Lakes Region Library, Alano Club, Club Recovery, Children's Visitation Center, Central Motel and the Inverness Chamber of Commerce.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet B.

Men's Corrections Report: None

Women's Corrections Report: Char S.

There were two meetings last month, but the meetings scheduled earlier in December were cancelled by the jail due to some issues there. A meeting is still scheduled for this Friday, the 19th, which will be the last one for the year. We had twenty meetings this year; this is a very small committee. I'm not able to make all the meetings due to work and school commitments. I am very grateful to Barb, Kathy and Sue for taking care of matters for me. Also, Lina R. is back now, and she will be at the meeting Friday.

I have submitted some additional applications to CCA for approval, but they seem to get lost in CCA limbo. It is always a waiting process, sometimes up to a year. It is possible that if we had more people on the committee we could have more meetings, but it all depends on Corrections. Still, we have done well with what we have. There is at least one success story, Wendy, who has given me permission to use her name, she is out now and is sober in AA, good sobriety, goes to a lot of meetings and is a good advocate. There may be others but even if she is the only one, it was worth it. I didn't really want to do this job but am now glad to have been doing it.

Grapevine Report: None

Literature Report- None

Treatment Report_ None

NCI Liaison Report- Toni T.

Our meeting was opened at 4:30 with a prayer. There were two new group representatives, Kathy from Women to Women, and Bill from the No Name group. A total of eight groups were present. There was no Hot Line report, but it will be posted on the web this week. By way of the Web report, a disclaimer for AA as a whole has been created. All 46 groups are linked and all the pages are now connected. The new calendars for NCI and District 28 are on line.

Diane P. and the Events Committee met regarding the New Year's Eve dance. Tickets are \$10 and are selling well, but the number has been limited to 100 tickets because of venue size. Tickets will be sold at the door only if all 100 of the tickets have not been sold before the dance.

The Valentine's Dance flyer is being checked; the price for tickets has not yet been decided. Events for 2015 were also discussed.

The meeting closed at 5:30 with a prayer. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Alternate DCM Report: Steve N.

My fellow servants, thank you so much for allowing me to serve as your District 28 Alt. DCM for the past two years. I would like to especially thank "my DCM" Paula D for her service and leadership examples over the past two years. For me she has been a blessing from my Higher Power in the form of an opportunity to learn and grow in service.

The Where and When has been updated in template form and on the web. I am turning this over to your panel 65 Alt DCM Paige B. as soon as you review the copy being sent around the room today. Paige has been working with me these past weeks so the transition should be very smooth. She will be sending the final template to the printer soon and new Where and When's should be available the first of next year. Everyone please note: In the future, additions, changes and corrections to Where and When should be emailed to W&W@ncintergroup.com. They will then be forwarded to both Paige and me.

I want to thank District 28 for making the opportunity for me to attend the Area 14 assemblies during the past two years. The Assemblies have taught me much about AA and how to serve in order to help the still struggling alcoholic both in and out of our rooms. I urge every alcoholic in Citrus County and District 28 to avail themselves of the opportunity to attend an Area 14 assembly especially as they move closer to us in Gainesville these next two years.

The district has two rooms reserved at the Paramount Plaza Hotel & Suites in Gainesville for the January 9-11, 2015 Area Assembly. The rooms are for Saturday night January 10th. Check in time is 3:00 PM. Please let me know if your group needs a district room for you. If I have no requests for occupants of the rooms by January 5, 2015, the reservations will be canceled.

Future Assembly dates are: 2015 - January 9-11, April 10-12, July 10-12, October 9-11; 2016 - January 8-10, March 18-20, July 8-10, and October 7-9. District 28 will be hosting the April Assembly Meeting on Friday night if plans fall in place and we will need volunteers to help with that meeting. Attendance at a Conference is an excellent opportunity and I encourage people to take advantage of it.

Again thank you for allowing me to serve. It is indeed a privilege and honor.

DCM Report: Paula D.

I want to thank the members of District 28 for allowing me to serve over the past two years as DCM for Panel 63. It has been wonderful experiencing the growth and service we have shared. I believe one of the best ways to better know yourself and others is to do service!

As we started 2014, in Panel 63, the team of District 28 continued to carry the message to the sick and suffering alcoholic. Janet B. was forever distributing any Where

and When she could get her hands on around the District. I think CMH's ER was one of her greatest challenges that she overcame! Char S. held strong in carrying the message behind the walls to our sisters. Thank you Char for being there for those who came to outside meetings afterward! I cannot thank Al M. enough for stepping up to help out men's corrections. You used your past experience, strength and hope to continue this much needed role.

We introduced a new committee during Panel 63 of archives. Denis S. has taped some of our Old Timers, organized some wonderful old pieces of literature that members have contributed and learned how to preserve District 28 history. The District 28 archive displays can be seen at workshops and other special events.

The District continued to work with Nature Coast Intergroup during two events. The Founder's Day Breakfast and the Gratitude Dinner were once again a success. I have a feeling these events will continue on for many more years. The fellowship, food and speakers at these events are priceless. Thank you to the NCI liaison(s), Paige B. and Toni T., for aiding in the communication between the two entities.

Thank you to our awesome officers of District 28!!! Thank you, Jennifer, for stepping in for the past few months as our Treasurer. Thanks, also, to our past Treasurers of Panel 63, Debra S. and interim Paige B.

P.J. O. was quick to "learn on the job" the role of Secretary. He has consistently produced detailed and accurate records of our meeting. Paige, P.J. and Jennifer are coming back for more fun in Panel 65 to serve the District.

Another person you will see during Panel 65 is Steve N. He has been our Alt. DCM and my right arm over the past two years. He has attended Area 14 Assemblies, studied the Traditions and Concepts of our fellowship and is teachable! He has been highly visible in our District and at the Area. Steve will be our DCM in Panel 65. It is with utmost confidence, based on my knowledge of his experience that **our** District will be in very capable hands.

One of my favorite workshops in 2014 was *I am responsible: The Twelfth Step in Action*. Dan E., one of our Area 14 past Delegates joined us to facilitate the workshop. He encouraged us to come up with innovative ways to reach the future members of our fellowship.

I will continue to serve District 28 in any capacity that is needed. You are my family. Together we will continue to grow in service.

Old Business:

Paula directed our attention to the proposed budget for 2015. It was distributed last month for review by the GSRs and home groups. A motion was made and seconded that the proposed budget be approved as the District 28 budget for 2015. No discussion or objections were offered and the proposed budget was unanimously approved as the 2015

Budget. Paula noted that some amendments may be appropriate and could be taken up later, as New Business.

New Business:

The first item of new business pertained to the need to amend the 2014 budget for Literature from \$25 to \$825. Steve explained that there is money in the reserve to cover this, and that during the next few months the DCM and Alternate DCM would be making personal visits to all of the District 28 groups. They will take a packet to each group, the Group Handbook, which would include the following GSO pamphlets: "The AA Group", "G.S.R.", "AA's Legacy of Service", "The 12 Steps Illustrated", "The 12 Traditions Illustrated", "The 12 Concepts for World Service Illustrated", and The AA Service Manual. A motion to amend the Literature budget for 2014 from \$25 to \$825 was made and seconded. Discussion further developed that other matters would be included in the packet, including Group change forms, the meeting schedules, dates for Area Assemblies and Conventions, information regarding the Web page, the Hot Line, and NCI. There will be a Workshop in the Spring to follow-up. Steve and Paige will be visiting non-registered AA meetings as well as Groups, as both serve the sick and suffering. The motion to amend the 2014 District 28 budget for Literature from \$25 to \$825 was passed unanimously.

A motion was made to amend the 2015 budget by increasing the allowance for Committee Chairs for assembly attendance from \$455 to \$2600. This would provide travel reimbursement of \$65 for each of the 10 Chairs for attendance at the four Area Assemblies. This will encourage attendance; there will be an Assembly before our next meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

A motion was then made was to establish a prudent reserve of \$3500 for 2015. It is not expected that all ten Committee Chairs will attend all four Assemblies, but we should budget the money because we have the money. We looked at the last three years' expenditures, and all three were well within this figure. The money will be there if we need it, and it was also noted that each District is required to send the DCM to the Area Assembly. The definition of prudent reserve is established in the AA literature, and we are acting consistently with that. We don't want to tie the prudent reserve to anticipated operating expenses, or anticipated income, as, for example, we have far more cash on hand than the proposed prudent reserve of \$3500. Steve indicated that this is to be considered a minimum prudent reserve, at this time, and can be reviewed after we are back in a normal operating cycle. The Motion to establish the prudent reserve at \$3500 was seconded and passed without opposition.

Another new matter addressed the current practice of having the same person serve as Chair for both the Public Information Committee and the Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee. We would like to change this for 2015. They are separate positions in the Structures and Guidelines, but our practice has been to have the positions combined. Separating the positions will allow the Chair for each to have more time to make the appropriate contacts, distribute literature and perform the other functions, which can be too much for one person. However, the two Committees can still coordinate their efforts as may be appropriate. This will enable us to better serve those who are still sick and suffering. It is a big job and Janet has been doing a tremendous job performing both roles and I know it has taken a tremendous effort on her part. Since the Structures and Guidelines already has the positions separated, no motion is needed. We will simply make a separate appointment to each Committee Chair position for next year.

Paula pointed out that we needed to appoint an Audit Committee. The annual audit is performed by the Treasurer, the Alt. DCM and two GSRs. The audit needs to be done in

January. Steve said that he had not talked to any GSRs about it yet. John S. volunteered to serve.

Steve then brought up items 5 through 9 of the meeting Agenda, as a group or bundle, for the purpose of having a motion made to adopt the items, followed by a motion to table them until January. The proposals would involve changes to the Structures and Guidelines, so the proposals will be published and can be voted on at the January meeting. The agenda items are as follows:

“5. Amend the Structure and Guidelines to establish permanent Workshop and Technology Chairs and set duties for them as follows.

Workshop	Technology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Responsible for suggesting topics and recommending workshops that help to carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic. -Responsible for developing and organizing workshops that further mutual understanding and awareness of AA. -Regularly attends all District Meetings. -Reports all Committee Activities at the District Meeting & has an electronic or written copy of their report for the District Secretary. -Encouraged to attend Area Assemblies and see what workshops are being offered in other districts in Area 14 and report back to the district what has been discovered at Area Assemblies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Responsible for reviewing all material on the Nature Coast Intergroup website which by structures and guidelines is also the official website of District 28 -Reports all additions and changes and makes recommendations to the webmaster as to content particularly in the District 28 Web Page. -Regularly attends all District Meetings. -Reports all Committee Activities at the District Meeting & has an electronic or written copy of their report for the District Secretary. -Encouraged to attend Area Assemblies to attend the web site committee and to keep up with AA policies on technology and websites to share in a written report with the District.

6. Amend Structures and Guidelines to reflect manner of Treasurer's report to be an actual full month report and that the report to be approved at business meeting is the full report of previous month. An interim report to keep members apprised of current expenses and income up to date of meeting should also be orally presented if requested by representatives.

7. Amend Structures and Guidelines to reflect actual practice, remove from Secretary's duties and add to Alt DCM duties: "Maintains, updates "Where & When's. Have "Where & When's" printed when the District Approves."

8. Amend structures and guidelines to add to secretary's duties: "Send out an announcement and proposed to-date agenda for the regular business meeting one week prior to the meeting."

9. Amend the Structures and Guidelines in paragraph **IV. Communication Process: ... B** as follows: "The DCM or Alt DCM will ~~visit~~ communicate with all groups within the 3 months following the Area 14 Assembly in order to update the group and answer any questions." "

With regard to Item 5, Steve pointed out that conducting Workshops is one of the primary functions of the District, and we should have a permanent Chair position to see that the work is done properly and in accordance with Structures and Guidelines. Regarding the Technology Chair, we need a permanent Chair position because the official District web site is NCI, and we should have a knowledgeable person to keep up, review, submit additions and changes to the Webmaster, attend meetings and make reports to District. Item 6 would amend Structures and Guidelines by requiring that the Treasurer's Report cover a full calendar month, so that the report presented at each monthly meeting would be for the previous month instead of the incomplete current month which has been past practice. The treasurer would also give an interim month covering the month of the meeting. Item 7 in the agenda is self-explanatory, as is Item 8. The DCM and the Secretary would work cooperatively on the preparation of the agenda. Getting the meeting agenda out to GSRs prior to the meeting would also tend to encourage and facilitate more participation, in that people would be more likely to attend if they had an opinion on a given issue.

A motion was then made to adopt agenda items 5 through 9 as set out above, which motion was followed by a motion to table same. The motion to table was passed unanimously.

Steve then announced that he would be making the following Committee Chair appointments for Panel 65:

Archives: Denis S.; Cooperation with the Professional Community: Janet B.; Women's Corrections: Brenda R.; Men's Corrections: Steve has asked Bill M. who is considering; Grapevine: Paula D.; Public Information: Lynn G; Treatment: Rich M.; Workshop: Diane P. (when position is approved); Technology: Kathy from NCI has been asked and is considering. Rick T. will appoint Toni T. as Intergroup Liaison; Toni is willing to serve until someone else volunteers.

Rick T. thanked Paula for filling in for him at the Gratitude Dinner when he had to leave early.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m. upon motion made, seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.