

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
May 31, 2015

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM- Steve N.
Alt. DCM-Paige B.
Secretary- P. J. O.
Archives- Denis S.
PI- Janet B.
Intergroup Liaison- Dean B.
Men's Corrections- Al M.
Treatment- Rich M.
Women's Corrections- Brenda R.

GSRs/Alt. GSRs and Visitors present at meeting:

Janet B., Alt GSR- Attitude Adjustment Group
John S., GSR- Dunnellon New Beginnings Group
Sandy H., GSR- Crystal River Group
Al M, GSR- Holder Way of Life Group
David V., GSR- Monday Night Men's Group
Rich M., GSR- No Name Group
Bill M., GSR- Old Firehouse Group
Dean B., GSR- Sober Sand Gnats
Paige B. - GSR, What's The Book Say Group
Brenda R. - GSR, Women's New Beginnings Group
Vella K., GSR- Keep In Step Group
Amanda D., GSR- YPG

Visitors:

Lynn G., NCI Events Chair
Mary S., Treasurer, Keep In Step Group
Debbie Lee M.
Gabe

Welcome by DCM:

Steve N., DCM, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. Steve asked that everyone give special thought during the Moment of Silence, to Ruth M., a long-time AA member who recently passed away.

Serenity Prayer

Declaration of Unity

Responsibility Statement

Three new GSR's were present: Vella K., from Keep In Step; David V., from the Monday Night Men's Group, and Amanda D., from the Young People's Group (YPG). Steve had everyone introduce themselves for the benefit of the new GSRs and visitors.

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

Roll call: 12 registered groups were represented.

Everyone had received copies of the Minutes of the April 26, 2015 meeting. Upon motion and second, the Minutes of the April meeting were accepted unanimously as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Paige B. presented the April, 2015, Treasurer's Report for Jen B. Copies of the Income and Expense and Contribution sheets were distributed to everyone.

The Income and Expense Sheet showed a beginning balance of \$5177.32, total income of \$478.13 (\$27.00 from the meeting basket and \$451.13 in contributions), expenses \$1288.95, and the ending balance of \$4366.50. Upon motion and second, the Treasurer's Report for April was approved as submitted. Paige also presented a preliminary report for May.

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives Report: Denis S.

Denis reported that he had purchased an additional display case at the cost of \$75. This new display case, which matches the two display cases he purchased last year for \$50 and \$100, was necessary because there have been so many contributions of artifacts to Archives. It is good that they match because it lends integrity to the collection. Denis also advised that Group history forms were available and could be submitted to the Area or to New York.

CPC Report: None.

Public Information: Janet B.

I took a little sojourn this month and did not revisit all of the usual sites. Since I had stocked them up, all of the places I checked on were in good shape with one exception, the West Central Florida Drivers Improvement, Inc. They were waiting for me as they were low on schedules. They continue to be our largest consumer.

The double pamphlet holder at CMH's Emergency Room continues to be neat, with only AA materials. The Share Club has not removed our schedules in months so we are in good shape there.

I purchased 2 more holders for the Dept. of Health in Lecanto and Beverly Hills. Counting Inverness that is a total of three so far.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet B.

Men's Corrections Report: Al M.

We went to one meeting, met with the guys, but had to sit through a Reggae concert. I left a bunch of Grapevine magazines with them. Corrections has not been returning my calls; I think their contract may be up in September.

Women's Corrections Report: Brenda R.

We didn't even get to have a meeting. There was some kind of problem at the jail so the institution cancelled the meeting. We will try to meet again this Friday if nothing comes up. I'm looking into getting some more Big Books and pamphlets; I don't know what happened to the ones that were there.

There were comments from the floor on the importance of the meetings in the facilities, which isn't appreciated until you see someone at a meeting on the outside that you had seen at a meeting on the inside.

Grapevine Report: None

Literature Report- Lisa B.

Thank you for the opportunity serve and to grow in the fellowship. This month, the Literature Committee has concerned itself with researching AA resources for information regarding our two founding members, Dr. Bob and Bill W.

Bill's correspondence and relationship with Jack Alexander are highlighted in a ***Digital Archives Exhibit*** that can be found on the aa.org website. [There you can see "The story behind the Jack Alexander article on A.A"](#) as well as an exhibit about "[Sister Mary Ignatia \(1889-1966\)](#)" an extremely instrumental figure in the formative years of AA.

These two articles can be seen on the Display Board for Literature that will be set up at the Founders Day Breakfast, Saturday, June 6, 2015! See you all there.

Treatment Report: Rich M.

We've had a bit of a setback at the Centers. We were all set to start our first meeting the first Thursday of May when I received a phone call from Lori at The Centers main office in Ocala informing us that Tiffany Coffin was no longer working for the Centers and they were putting our meeting on hold until June while they "regroup". I'm not sure what happened but I got the feeling they are making some changes to their inpatient program. Lori is supposed to get back to me after the first of June. I don't think this has any effect on the NA meeting or the Friday night AA open meeting. I guess we'll have to wait until the first part of June to find out what direction they want to take.

NCI Liaison Report– Dean B.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Steve N., Alt. Chair. Six groups were represented, 14 members present, no new representatives.

The Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report were read and accepted.

Trustee Reports: Sandy had nothing; Denis has been involved in several events; Janet had nothing to report; Bill reported that he was working on getting a speaker for the Gratitude Dinner.

There was no Hotline report. Steve, in the Website report, said there were 935 website visits for the month, averaging 32 per day. There were 705 unique visits.

Lynn G. reported that the next Journal will be coming out soon; it will be a combined edition for June and July.

In the Events report, Lynn D. advised that the Spring Fling was a success and that plenty of volunteers were helping prepare for the Founders' Day Breakfast. Tickets will be on sale at the door.

In the Chairperson's Report, Steve advised that Rick was involved in the investigation of a small fire at Our Lady of Fatima Church, as the Church officials had called him because of the Meeting there. We were all asked to remind our Groups to exercise caution if smoking is permitted on the premises.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business, there was a discussion regarding an update of the NCI folder and card; consolidating literature orders by all the Groups to reduce costs; and encouraging members with reporting duties to get their report to another member if attendance at the NCI meeting will not be possible.

Workshop Report: Steve advised everyone that the recent Home Group Workshop was poorly attended, but that the few people who did attend held an interesting and informative discussion. It is hoped that the next Workshop will be better attended as these events are worthwhile.

Technology Report: No report.

Alt. DCM Report: Paige B.

My name is Paige; I am an alcoholic who has the privilege of serving District 28 as an Alternate DCM.

It is time to print another Where and When. Please submit any additions, changes or deletions to me by Saturday, June 20th at floridadistrict28@gmail.com. My goal is to have the new Where and When printed and available for the next time we meet on Sunday, June 28.

A block of rooms are reserved for District 28 at the Paramount Hotel in Gainesville for the July Assembly. The dates are Friday, July 10 through Sunday, July 12. If you plan

to attend and stay, please let me know at floridadistrict28@gmail.com by Monday, July 6, 2015.

The Founder's Day Breakfast is just under one week away on Saturday, June 6 at the First Baptist Church on Citrus Avenue in Crystal River. This is an annual joint effort of the Nature Coast Intergroup and District 28. Speaker Kevin G., Archivist from Jacksonville, will speak on AA in early Florida. A lovely buffet breakfast is planned. Tickets will be sold at the door. Anyone wishing to volunteer is welcomed. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Warm wishes and congratulations to Jen B, District 28 Treasurer, and her husband Archie on the birth of their son, Gage.

Sadly, Ruth M., of the Keep In Step Group, passed away last week. She will be long remembered for her legacy of service; she did so very much, for so very many, for so very long. She will be missed.

DCM Report: Steve N.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your DCM for District 28.

This was a sad month for AA with the passing of Ruth M. I attended her funeral and read the scriptures there. I was very pleased at the large number of AA's who turned out at the viewing and funeral.

I met with your officers and want to thank them for their input and service to the district. Special thanks to PJ O. for upgrading the structures and guidelines and advisory actions.

I responded to one out of area request for help getting rides to meetings for a woman who recently moved here.

The District workshop on Home Groups was poorly attended, but those who did attend participated in an in depth discussion of how to better serve the suffering alcoholic through all the groups in our district. The meeting reminded me that the heart of A.A. is the group, which elects a general service representative (G.S.R.). The G.S.R. attends district meetings that are made up of the groups in that district. The G.S.R.s elect a district committee member (D.C.M.). Thus, the D.C.M. is the vital link between the group's G.S.R., and the area service structure, including the area's delegate to the General Service Conference. But I, as DCM, cannot effectively function without the input of group consciences through the group GSRs. So, I encourage GSRs to hold Group conscience meetings with their groups, encourage the members to attend and participate, and pass along the comments at District meetings. I am grateful for all serving group officers and representatives and thank you from the bottom of my heart. Without you, the two-way communication flow between the membership and the General Service Conference would be impossible.

In response to a question from the floor regarding frequency of meetings, Steve replied that since the Home Groups were autonomous he was reluctant to make a specific recommendation, but did point out that the most active groups usually have a group conscience meeting once a month, and some others on a quarterly basis. It is not the GSR's responsibility to call for the meeting, the Group makes that decision. Some groups don't have group conscience meetings.

I am impressed with the number of Where and When's being distributed in District 28. We will have a new Where and When printed in July and I thank Paige for her efforts to keep up with changing meeting times, locations and types. Please pass along any new information you have to her.

My current contact information is:

Home phone 352-489-0404

Cell Phone 352-586-8751

Email address floridadistrict28@gmail.com

Again it is a privilege and honor to serve you as DCM. Thank you for the opportunity.

Old Business:

The Technology Workshop is presently scheduled for July but we suggest it should be moved to the second Saturday in August, August 9th, because there are so many other activities in July. We hope to hold it at Club Recovery if it is still open, because it has an internet connection, but the location is up for sale. We will determine the status. The workshop will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. We will soon have a Workshop Chair to help us get organized. A suggestion from the floor was to the effect that we find some other label than “workshop” for such events, as some people find that to be negative.

New Business:

The first item of new business was the appointment of two new Chairpersons for standing committees.

Steve announced that Amanda D. has volunteered to serve as Accessibilities Chair. Amanda presented her service resume, which outlined her history of and dedication to service work since she has been in the program. Working with her sponsor helped her to learn not only how it works but why it works. She has been involved in everything from coffee making to GSR service at the Home Group level, attendance at Area Assemblies, and was active in the formation of a new group for young people after relocating to Inverness. She was elected chairperson and GSR for that group and has been able to use her service skills and encourages others to become active in service work. A motion was then made and seconded that Amanda be appointed Chairperson of the Accessibilities Committee, which motion passed with enthusiastic unanimity.

Next, Paige B. outlined the District’s workshop efforts and the necessity of having a Workshop Committee and Chair in order to make the process more effective. She has worked with Debbie Lee M. and observed her skills in organizing and pulling things together, and believes Debbie would do a great job as Workshop Chairperson. Debbie addressed the group and said she had become very active in service works since becoming sober; she works well with others, and has found that reaching out to others to help them also helps her in her sobriety. She likes to help put events together and looks forward to service as the Workshop Chair. Upon motion and second, Debbie Lee M. was enthusiastically appointed Workshop Chair person by unanimous vote.

Announcements

The Founders’ Day Breakfast will be on June 6 at the 1st Baptist Church in Crystal River, doors open at 8:30 a.m., there will be breakfast and a speaker.

Before closing the meeting, Steve announced that the Fifth Concept and Fifth Tradition would be attached to the minutes.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m. upon motion made, seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer.