

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2017

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM – Paige B.
Secretary – Sandy H.
Accessibilities Chair – John H.
Archives Chair – Dean B.
Corrections Chair (Men's) – Bob M.
Grapevine Chair.. – Kim W.
NCI Liaison – Denis S.
Technology hair – Steve N.

GSR's, Alt. GSR's and Visitors present at meeting:

Janet B. – Alt. GSR, Attitude Adjustment Group
Denis S. – GSR, Crystal River Group
Steve N. – GSR, Freedom House Group
Al M. – GSR, Holder Way of Life Group
Paige B. – GSR, Keep In Step Group
Rick T. – Alt. GSR, Monday Night Men's Step Group
Jack B. – Alt. GSR, Rainbow Group
John H. – GSR. Sober Nooners Group
Lacy E. – GSR, Sober Sand Gnats Group
Linda A. – GSR, Women's Friendship Group

Visitors: No Visitors

Welcome by DCM:

Paige B., DCM, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.
Serenity Prayer
Declaration of Unity
Responsibility Statement

Recognition of New GSRs:

Roll Call: Secretary Sandy H. took roll call and Minutes. DCM and Secretary were present and 10 groups were represented.

Secretary's Report: Sandy H.

Minutes for May 2017 meeting were read. Upon motion and second the May minutes were approved. June minutes will be read at August meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Sandy H.

Treasurer's Report:

Paige read the treasures report. After a minor correction and upon motion and second, the Treasurer's report for June was accepted.

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibilities Chair: John H.

No report.

Archives Chair: Dean B.

To be honest I was surprised at the number of people that took interest in the Archives display at the Founder's Day brunch, especially being self-conscious about its small size and just a little of the local history. The two laptops I brought with the History of A.A. on one and District 28 History on the other were both well received, and quite a few people were asking questions and making comments.

Seeing how the pricing on 17" digital picture viewers have not come down to reasonable pricing, in my opinion, I am dropping the purchase of one from the Archives budget. I have found that my laptop is sufficient for any and all displays. If a predecessor needs access I am sure I can accommodate them. I am using one computer with the History of A.A. in Citrus County and a few local items at the State Convention July 27th-30th. I am only allotted a 6' table. That being said, I am asking the District to take my remaining 2017 budget and increase it to \$150 to help offset Convention expenses. I will not be receiving financial assistance from Area 14. This will help offset expenses towards mileage, meals (\$42/dinner per night), and accommodation (\$119 per night). Asking this is beyond my better judgment, but Paige and I have discussed this at length many times and I guess she finally wore me down. (laughing here)

For those of you planning to attend the State Convention be sure to check out "The Beginning of A.A. in Florida" an original play about the first meeting between Junius C. and Tom S., co-founders of A.A. in Florida, in December 1940 on NAS Jacksonville. The DVD will be playing in the Archives Room.

I am in the process of acquiring an Archives Committee. I am looking for two individuals that do not have a serious service commitment at this time, preferably with organization and computer skills, but not required.

Finally, I received a flyer for the 4th Annual Florida A.A. Archives Workshop being held February 24th, 2018 in Winter Park, Florida and will be including this in the 2018 Archives budget.

Thank you for trusting me to serve,

Dean B.

Men's Corrections Committee: Bob M.

Our meetings are going very well. Two new men got their badges and will start going into the jail on the 26th of July. Literature is doing well thanks to the Pink Can.

I went to Area Assembly put on a workshop about *Literature From the Inmates Perspective*. I shared part of my story and it answered a lot of questions that people had about if

they are getting through and what works best. Then I wanted to see if any districts were struggling paying for literature. I shared about the Pink Can and how it helps us in District 28. Then I gave the history of the Pink Can. There were a few districts struggling, but another district stepped up and offered help. So it turned out to be a blessing.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Bob M.

Women's Corrections Committee: Lina R.

We were able to staff all meetings in May. We were averaging 12 inmates per meeting. The use of the pamphlet AA for the Women was found useful for stimulating discussion as was the use of the Ann Landers questions found inside the cover of that pamphlet. We have so many tools, it's exciting to discover and use them.

We developed a tri-fold display board concerning the process of getting badged to go into the Citrus County facility. It will likely generate as many questions as it answers but that's a good thing. Thanks to my colleague Bob for extra eyes on the project, our DCM and to my in-house tech support.

I have submitted a receipt for \$21.34 to the treasurer to cover the materials for our display.

In June we encountered a major obstacle: Because we are so thinly staffed with volunteers we frequently went in alone. The rule at Core Civic is 10 inmates to each volunteer. Mr Hubbard became uncomfortable with having to choose 10 from up to 20 inmates signed up. He didn't want to create a suspicion of favoritism. By the grace of God and facility cancellations, we were able to cover all meetings available to us in June. We are also blessed that Kathy G, who recently encountered serious health problems has become well enough to rejoin our committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

Lina Ricks

Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair: Position is vacant at this time. If anyone is interested in serving, please let Paige or P. J. know and submit a service resume.

No report

Grapevine Chair: Kim W.

I have been ill for a bit but am going to start going to meetings that I do not typically go to and offer Grapevine subscriptions and A.A. Grapevine Catalogs. I have been tossing around the idea of having a Grapevine Writing and Recording workshop. At the Area Assembly the Area Grapevine Service Coordinator told me that she would come to our district and do the workshop or assist. Will contact if workshop is voted on. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Kim W.

(I did contact Area Service Coordinator since workshop was voted on.)

NCI Liaison: Denis S.

Chairperson Steve N opened the meeting and Secretary Lorraine T took a roll call. There were eleven groups represented. Treasure Paige B reported a closing balance of \$5502.71. John H and Dean B reported an average of two to three calls per day to the Hotline. Webmaster Steve N said there were 5826 visits to the website. Events Chair Mike F. said preparations were being made for the Picnic at Rainbow Springs State Park on September 23rd and the Gratitude Dinner in November. Sue S sent a report that a new Journal was planned for August 1st. Steve N presented our new brochure, which looked great, and he said that we were required to complete a form by July 31st to ensure that our monthly meeting could be held at The Holder Community Center for the coming fiscal year.

Denis S.

Literature Chair: Sue C.

No report

Public Information Chair: Janet B.

Report not available, will be read at August meeting.

Technology Chair: Steve N.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. In the month of June there were 962 sessions with 800 unique visitors viewing 2409 pages. 63.79% of the users were new with returning visitors making up 36.21% of the sessions. The top ten pages visited were meetings, contact us, about, need help now, calendar, archive, where and when, minutes, mobile, links, and Audio. The top downloads were: Where and When, Audio Patrick, Audio Vella, Audio John S, SSASA flyer, Post Conference Flyer, Floral Park Flyer, Preconference Flyer, Minutes, and State convention flyer. The bounce rate was 68%. For the old fashioned there were 5622 hits. 33.3% of visitors used mobile devices 55.6% desktop devices and 11.1% tablets.

Please send me flyers and event information as it is firmed up so we can get TBA's off the calendar. Also if there are any meeting changes please send them to me so the online Where and When can be as up to date as possible.

Fliers were uploaded, Where and When was corrected and changed, and all minutes uploaded. Again, I am grateful to District 28 for allowing me the privilege of being your webmaster.

Steve N.

Treatment Chair: Lynn D.

.Everything is going well. We have four ladies that come to each meeting that give a different perspective to the girls. Unfortunately, we had one lady graduate who was out a week, attended a couple of meetings, and then went out drinking. We can only do so much.

Lynn D.

Workshop Chair: Position is vacant at this time. If anyone is interested in serving, please let Paige or P. J. know and submit a service resume.

No report

Alt. DCM: P J O.

Hello, everyone. Travel with family and some obligations to other organizations took up a lot of my time during June and thus far into July, so there is not much AA business of substance for me to report.

I did line up the room assignments for the Area 14 Assembly that was held on the weekend of July 7-9, and attended the Assembly itself. The Assemblies present a great opportunity to learn more about AA through the various workshops that are held, and the business meeting on Sunday morning is always impressive. There are of course different opinions expressed about the various issues that come up, but the important thing is that the Assembly is *our* opportunity to be heard on the issues that pertain to the future of AA as a whole. Although only GSRs and DCMs (or Alternates) vote, every AA member is entitled to attend the workshops and be heard at the business meeting. I encourage everyone to attend an Assembly and see the business end of AA at work. In addition to that, you can make new friends in the program and hear some great speakers at the evening meetings. With regard to attendance, the Assemblies for remainder of 2017 and in 2018 will be the last Assemblies held in Gainesville for a while. Pursuant to the vote at the business meeting on July 9th, a contract with a conference facility\hotel in St. Augustine was approved for the Assemblies to be held in 2019 and 2020. That will require a somewhat longer drive for attendees from District 28, but others will have an even longer drive and some will have a shorter drive. The question of the Assembly meeting place comes up every two years.

I have also been in contact with Sue C. and Janet B. regarding the *Structures and Guidelines* revisions project, and expect to meet with them soon. Hopefully, we will have some kind of preliminary report for the District meeting on August 6th.

Finally, although the recent travel and other scheduling issues have interfered with my regular meeting attendance at Won Rebos, I am happy to report that AA is alive and well at other meetings in the Area, just as you would expect. I did find time during the weeks to attend meetings at the Rainbow Group and the New Beginnings Group, both in Dunnellon, and enjoyed the experience at both. Keep up the good work, all of you recovering people out there.

In service,
P. J. O., Alt. DCM

DCM: Paige B.

I would like to thank all who attended the July Area Assembly, especially P.J., Bob M, Al M, Denis S, Linda A, Lacey E, Dean B, Kim W, and Jack B for their service. A flyer was handed out by the Area Delegate recapping the General Service Conference in New York this year. I have a few copies if you would like to take them back to your group. The 2018 budget was addressed at the finance committee and approved. It was brought to the floor Sunday and approved unanimously.

Many thanks to all who made our Founders Day event a success, especially Steve N for speaking and Sandy H. for chairing the event. The Founders Day event honors our founders,

heritage, fellowship, and continuity. This event was started five years ago in an effort for District 28 and Intergroup to do something in partnership and move forward together. It was a fabulous event that was successful and well attended.

Corrections and treatment are doing amazing work with inmates and the girls in treatment. We would like to encourage women to come forward to bring meetings into the jail. I have applications for that.

We are working on setting up a workshop for Grapevine oral and written histories.

I would like to thank all of you for being here and for your service.

In service,
Paige Bauman

Old Business:

1. District 28 Long Timers Speaker Meeting. The body approved the new date and location. Thursday, August 24, 2017 at the home of the Lecanto Group, Unity Church of Citrus County, located in Lecanto.

New Business:

1. Fall Workshop will be centered around the Grapevine Written and Oral Histories Initiative.. Other committees, Literature, Corrections, Archives, and treatment are encouraged to have visual presentations. Motion was made for the workshop to be held in early October – motion seconded and approved
2. District 28 Workshop Chair – Candidate for position not at meeting. Will read resume and vote at next meeting.
3. District 28 Service Chair Stipend/Mileage Reimbursement – A motion to change the way the Service Chairs are reimbursed was made and approved.
Each Service Chair will receive a \$15.00 stipend for any expenses associated with attending the Area Assembly. If that Service Chair bore the expense of driving they may submit a request for mileage to be reimbursed at the .40 cents per mile rate using the distance from their home to the Area Assembly location.
There is a \$65.00 combined cap on the reimbursement amount...for instance, the maximum a Service chair may receive is \$15.00 for general expenses and \$50.00 for mileage totaling \$65.00. After a motion, and second, the motion was approved.
4. Increase Archives Budget - \$24.05 to cover expenses for State Convention. A motion was made and seconded and approved.
5. Sober Sand Gnats – Request to hold Long Timers Speaker meeting on December 5th coinciding with their monthly pot luck on first Tuesday of each month. Motion, second approved.
6. Sexual harassment policy statement for groups. Discussion over issuing a sexual harassment policy that groups could use as a standard. Paige advised that GSO has a “yellow card” available for groups to use in order to deal with this subject. This will be added to old business for the next meeting to vote on how to pay for yellow card and safety guidelines.

Announcements:

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| 61 st Florida State Convention Area 14 Assembly | July 27-30, 2017 October 21 & 22, 2017 | Jacksonville, FL Gainesville, FL |
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Paige announced that the A.A. Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts would be sent out with the minutes.

Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

A.A. Traditions and Concepts

Tradition VII:

The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then, too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

Concept VII:

The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.