

DISTRICT 28

Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2018

Welcome by DCM:

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

Roll Call:

13 groups were represented. 9 votes required to achieve substantial unanimity.

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM – Paige B.
Alternate DCM – P.J. O.
Treasurer – Shana D.
Secretary - (position vacant)
Accessibilities Chair- John H.
Archives Chair – Dean B.
Corrections Chair (Men's) – Bob M.
Corrections Alternate Chair - Mary F.
Grapevine Chair – Kim W.
Literature Chair - Kathie S.
NCI Liaison – Denis S.
Public Information Chair – Janet B.
CPC Chair – (position vacant)
Treatment Chair – Lynn D.
Workshop Chair – Kim W.

GSRs, Alt GSRs and Visitors

Dennis F. GSR, Beverly Hills Group
Sandy H. GSR, Crystal River Group
Steve N. GSR, Freedom House Group
Al M. GSR, Holder Way of Life
Paige B. GSR, Keep in Step Group
Rick T. GSR, Monday Night Men's Group
Jack B. GSR, Rainbow Group
John H. GSR, Sober Nooners Group
Lynn D. GSR, No Name Group (Chassahowitzka)
Lacy E. GSR, Sober Sand Gnats Group

- Linda A. Alternate GSR, Women's Friendship Group
- Agnes T. GSR, Won Rebos Group
- P. J. O. Alternate GSR, Won Rebos Group
- Mike D. GSR, Real Happy Group
- Dean B., Alternate GSR, Sober Sand Gnats Group
- Denis S. Alternate GSR, Crystal River Group

Visitors:

None

Secretary's Report: (Position vacant)

Paige noted that the Secretary's position was still open. There were no volunteers to fill the position but, P.J. will take the minutes for the remainder of the year.

Minutes from the August meeting were not available They were not backed up electronically Notes were taken. Several members who attended were asked to help review them prior to distribution.

Treasurer's Report: Shana D.

Shana submitted the District 28 Income and Expense Report, the Group Contribution and the Pink Can Reports for August 2018.

Income and Expense³ for August 2018:

Beginning Balance:	\$3,406.72
Total Income:	\$590.52
Total Expenses:	\$691.04
Ending Balance:	\$3,306.20
Group Contributions:	\$385.00
Pink Can Contributions:	\$173.52

Treasurer's Report accepted on motion and second, subject to audit.
(Reports to be attached to Minutes)

Paige advised that the budget process for the next panel would soon be initiated. We will wait if possible to see who the new officers will be so they can have input. A draft of the 2019 budget will be submitted at the October meeting and voted on in November.

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibilities: John H.

John announced there was nothing new to report. Our proposal that perhaps a meeting could be established in a retirement home turned out to be not feasible and will not be pursued. There have been no calls about other issues.

Archives: Dean B.

Dean was not able to attend the annual AA State Convention in Ft. Lauderdale. He contacted the Convention Committee and donated his registration and banquet ticket to someone who might otherwise not be able to attend. He has downloaded a large file on group histories. He hopes to have a complete list by the time of the Gratitude Dinner. He read an example of one of the histories, from what started out as the Inglis Group and ultimately became the Sober Sand Gnats. There is a lot of material to go through. He will have flyers for the Corrections Workshop in Winter Park. He may do a history on Corrections in our District.

Dean B.

Archives Committee Chair

Cooperation with the Professional Community: (Position is vacant)

Corrections (Men's): Bob M.

Meetings are going well, with plenty of participation by the inmates. They are also taking plenty of literature. Our meeting on the 29th was cancelled due to some of the men acting out. The issue has been resolved and things are back to normal. There will be Corrections Workshop, the annual North and South Area 14 & 15 in Winter Park, at the Redeemer Lutheran Church from 2-4 p.m. on November 3. The flyer is on the Area website. He thanked all of the volunteers who have been helping him. He was commended by Paige for his work at District and at the Area level

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Bob M.

Corrections (Women's): Mary F. for Lina R.

In August we presented all of the meetings we were allowed to attend. One meeting was cancelled by the facility. We are averaging 25 women in attendance at each meeting.

Grapevine: Kim W.

We are working on shirts and whatnot for the Grapevine Room at the Area Assembly in Gainesville. District 28 is hosting the room at Area this quarter. That is all.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Kim

Nature Coast Intergroup Liaison: Denis S.

Just prior to this meeting, Intergroup had its monthly meeting. Chairperson Steve presided. Linda took roll. Ten groups were represented. No new reps. Previous meeting minutes were accepted. The treasurer reported that there was a balance of \$5187 on hand. The web report was presented; there were 1156 visits to the website. Plans for next weekend's Picnic in the Park are in place. Arrangements for food and drinks have been made and a speaker is lined up. They have begun working on the Gratitude Dinner, which is scheduled for Sunday, November 4th, at St. Benedict's Church in Crystal River. Alt. Chair Dean advised that he was not able to attend the Archives event at the State

Convention. Dean is also available to discuss Group histories. Chairperson Steve made his report and noted that the 12 Concepts of World Service can be found in their full form in the AA Service Manual. Under Old Business, resumes were read for two people who are interested in two upcoming service positions on committees, and Lacy for the position of Alternate Chair. There will be an Open House here before the December meeting, starting at 3:00 p.m.

Literature: Kathie S.

I was able to attend the workshop on The A.A. Service Manual Combined With Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W., by invitation of District 19 and presented by Area 14. It was held at Emmaus Lutheran Church in Orange City FL. on August 11th (Everything you ever wanted to know about our AA Service manual but were afraid to ask). Joyce, Annette, Vivian and Richard were among the presenters. Discussion on the process of upcoming elections and positions of service on Area committees helped me to better understand what will happen at the next Area Assembly in Gainesville, FL. I also received a copy of the 2016-2018 Edition of The Service Manual to add to our current Literature.

At the Florida Convention in Ft. Lauderdale on August 16th, 17th, and 18th, (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday), I attended Workshop: Anonymity in the Age of Social Media by Christian D., Paul B., and Annie C. on Thursday.

I learned how the Anonymity of others are broken and affected by media posts. When posting I need to ask myself "Is it Spiritual to or for others"? Using text and Skype is preferred when speaking to others concerning recovery.

Gail L presented "An Interview With Bill W." on Friday and "The Early Akron Pamphlets" on Saturday. She is an enthusiastic member from Akron, Ohio and was able to bring early captions of Bill as well as voice recordings of Bill and Bob to tell o our history. I was able to purchase the Akron Pamphlets to add to our literature.

Public Information Committee: Janet B.

The big gold rush is over and now I am checking sites for refilling our Where and Whens. It was no surprise that Western Judicial Services and West Central Drivers Improvement needed schedules.

John H. reported that Club Recovery was running low, so I gave him a stack.

At the Highland Laundromat our Where and Whens in our own pamphlet holder continue to be the only publication, in the only holder on the only table in the waiting room.

Respectfully submitted.

Janet B.

P. I. Chair

With regard to Public Information, Paige reported receiving concerned feedback over a locally sponsored recovery parade. District 28 was not contacted regarding

participation. A group, an individual or a group of individuals chose to represent AA publicly. Paige reflected on a few points mentioned here. Groups are autonomous. A district does not exist as an authority but, to serve and to guide ever upholding the Traditions and Concepts. AA is not punitive. In all things we are guided by a Higher Power and cautioned against controversy especially, in the public eye.

Technology: Steve N.

AAAdistrict28.org received 1369 visits in the month of August 2018, with in excess of 1000 unique visitors who were mostly looking for information about meetings, Where and When, Calendar Minutes, Meetings by Day, Monday Meetings, Dunnellon Meetings, Meetings by Location, Inverness meetings, and Links. The reported bounce rate was 70%. Steve questions that figure and believes there may have been inaccurate reporting.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Steve N.

Treatment: Lynn D.

Lynn reported that things are in transition at the Centers. It is coming under new management. At this time we do not know where we will fit in their program. New patients will be required to have insurance. We will try to cooperate as best we can.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Paige commended Lynn on the excellent job she had done in her position, under difficult circumstances, and all were in agreement. We will remain willing and able to continue our service there if permitted. Paige also reported that since many of the patients at the Centers will be leaving under uncertain circumstances, Lynn had asked if we could allow them to take our literature with them. Since these women are admitted alcoholics, and it is part of our role to provide literature, it would be good to let the ladies take the literature with them. Upon motion and second, it was voted to give the literature to the women.

Workshop Committee: Kim W.

We have been preparing for the next Long Timers Speaker Meeting, which is scheduled for October 24, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Tree of Life Church. We have lined up speakers, both of which have been confirmed.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,
Kim W.

Ad Hoc Committee Report on Structures and Guidelines Revisions: P. J. O.

Report deferred to the Old Business portion of the meeting.

DCM: Paige B.

My name is Paige, I am an alcoholic. It is a privilege to serve as your DCM. Thank you all for your time and participation. In particular, I want to acknowledge our newest GSRs, Agnes T. and Mike D.

The Annual Picnic in the Park was an amazing event and opportunity for fellowship and service. Much thanks to The Nature Coast Intergroup and all the volunteers who made that event possible.

The New Business portion of the meeting today is devoted to our Third Legacy election process where we observe the principle of rotation and elect officers to a two year panel beginning in January 2019. Serving Alcoholics Anonymous is an honor and an education in working with others, in humility and self-sacrifice. I encourage anyone to stand for a position. If you are unsure, ask a member who has filled the job, read our literature regarding suggested qualifications, chat with your sponsor or service sponsor or contact me at floridadistrict28@gmail.com.

Old Business:

P. J. presented the Ad hoc Committee report on *Structures and Guidelines* revisions.

P. J. reported that the committee had addressed the three responses and suggestions that had been submitted in response to the publication of the proposed final revisions. The first suggestion had to do with the Responsibility Statement, to which the committee had made some changes that, on review, were agreed to be clumsy and inappropriate. In response, the language was changed to state the title correctly and follow the language in the A.A. Service Manual. A second response that had been received took exception to the use of the initials, e.g., “SM31”, as a parenthetical reference to the page number in the Service Manual on which quoted language would be found. While it is true that the Service Manual itself uses only “S” for its pagination, the committee noted that ours is a separate document and it was felt that the use of both initials when citing to the Service Manual would add clarity for the reader. A third objection was that the committee had added the language “and ability” to the other qualifications to serve as a Trusted Servant or Chairperson of a standing committee. The committee felt that “the ability” to serve was pretty much assumed or taken for granted as a qualification to serve in those positions, and that the specific inclusion of that language would not be a detriment in any way.

There being no further questions or objections, a motion to remove the question of adopting the proposed revised Structures and Guidelines from tabled status was made, seconded and passed without objections. The Motion to adopt the revised Structures and Guidelines, previously made and seconded, was called for a vote and passed without objection. The document will be placed into final form, distributed and posted on the District 28 website.

On behalf of all of District 28, DCM Paige

P. J. advised that the District Motions and Advisory Actions, which are posted on the website, have been brought up to date.

Paige acknowledged that during the earlier discussions about revisions, it had been suggested that chairpersons of standing committees should have a right to vote by virtue of that status, even if the person was not a GSR. In view of the controversy and lengthy discussions that would be involved in taking up that issue, it will be addressed separately at a later time.

New Business:

The only item of new business on the agenda was the election of new officers for the next panel, panel 69, being the DCM, Alt. DCM, Secretary and Treasurer. There is no election for standing committee chairpersons, as those positions are appointed. Paige had not received any resumes from interested parties for officer positions. She explained the voting process, which is the Third Legacy procedure. Paige summarized the job description for DCM, and asked those in attendance if anyone was interested in serving as DCM. No one responded. Likewise, no one expressed interest in serving as Alt. DCM, Secretary or Treasurer. Paige acknowledged that this situation sometimes happens in any given District. What may happen is that GSRs will stand in on a temporary, round robin basis until someone steps forward. It has been a long time since District 28 was in this position but it has happened. In any event, the district will move forward. Rotation is imperative. P. J. acknowledged that he will help out with various tasks periodically, but cannot take on an officer position at the present time. Others likewise advised that they would do so, and that this was a good opportunity to get new people from the home groups to get active in District service. Steve suggested that we all need to go out to the groups and tell them that people need to step up and take on service work. Paige observed that many members have served in earlier days prior to relocating to Florida and bring much needed experience. No one of us is an expert. With the support of others we learn as we serve.

Announcements:

P. J. reminded everyone that the next Area Assembly was coming up two weekends for now. He will make reservations for all those who are interested. Several people expressed interest and the information was submitted, including modification of existing reservations. The Assembly will be September 28-30 at the Wyndham in Gainesville.

P. J. also asked that new people contact him to give him their contact information for the updated Resource Page.

Paige reminded everyone of the Long Time Speakers Meeting coming up on October 24th. Flyers are available.

Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

A.A. Traditions and Concepts

Tradition IX: AA, as such, ought never to be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve. 1. Do I still try to boss things in AA? 2. Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative? 3. Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility? 4. Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take? 5. Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job? 6. Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and bylaws? 7. Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully—and profit thereby—when the time comes? 8. What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

Concept IX: Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees. Do we discuss how we can best strengthen the composition and leadership of our future trusted servants? Do we recognize the need for group officers? What are our criteria for election? Do we sometimes give a position to someone “because it would be good for them?” Do I set a positive leadership example?