

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2019

Welcome by DCM:

Bob M., DCM, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Serenity Prayer

Declaration of Unity

Responsibility Statement

Roll Call:

P. J. O. took roll call and Minutes of the meeting. Twelve groups were represented.

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM and Corrections -Bob M.

Treasurer – Linda A.

Archives – Dean B.

NCI Liaison and Treatment – Denis S.

Website – Steve N.

GSRs Alt GSRs and Visitors

George H. – GSR, Attitude Adjustment Group

Steve N. - GSR, Freedom House Group

Denis S. – GSR, Crystal River Group

Bob M. – GSR, Holder Way of Life Group

Gina S. – Alt. GSR, Miracles Group

Harry J. - GSR, Miracles Group

Rick T.- GSR, Monday Night Men's Group

Lynn D. - GSR, No Name Group

Mike D. – GSR, Real Happy Hour Group

Lacy E. – GSR, Sober Sand Gnats

Linda A. – GSR, Women's Friendship Group

Lisa R.B. – GSR, Women's New Beginnings

P. J. O. – Won Rebos Group

Secretary's Report: (No Secretary) The minutes of the District 28 meeting on September 8, 2019 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Linda A.

Linda submitted the District 28 Income and Expense Report, the Group Contributions and the Pink Can Reports for August, 2019.

Income and Expense Beginning Balance:	\$ 4149.60
Net Income:	\$ 790.11
Expenses:	\$ 610.04
General Fund Ending Balance:	\$ 4939.71
Group Contributions:	\$ 1379.15
Basket	\$ 21.00
Pink Can Contributions:	\$ 115.96

The Treasurer's Report was accepted on motion and second, subject to audit.

(Reports for all funds will be attached to Minutes.)

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibilities Chair: No report.

Archives Committee: Submitted by Dean B.

Good afternoon, I'm Dean and I'm an alcoholic.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Steve N. our Webmaster for the wonderful job with the updates on the District website. For those who have not looked at it lately, there are now hundreds of audio, video, and pdf files in the Archives Area. The descriptions are too numerous to mention, but for those that remember the Archives Spreadsheet passed out previously, that will give you a good idea. Again, many thanks Steve.

I attended the Area Assembly Saturday, including Archives of course. Prior to the workshop I had given Beth E., the Area Archives Chair, a thumb-drive of our archives collection including the addresses of the District and NCI websites. I was surprised when during the workshop that she asked me to explain the process the committee went through to get everything on the website. Although we need to think about future anonymity breaks being a

public website. When I mentioned that the Archives Committee will do a mobile display for any and all groups/meetings and found out that we have not had any interest to date she said she will spread the word throughout Area 14, and that funding is available if needed. I also gave a brief history of the Miracles group, starting out by stating that we mostly deal with researching histories of past and present groups that have been in existence forever, or 'extinct'. Think of your own home group, and now imagine this. A meeting starts up in a local community a year ago July hosting 13 meetings a week. This past July they hosted their anniversary picnic. Today they have 5 meetings Monday through Friday 6-7 pm. The meetings are Open Discussion Big Book, 12 and 12, Living Sober, and Open Discussion with pizza, and a monthly business meeting. They are a registered group contributing to NCI, District, Area 14, and GSO. They have about 15 home group members, a GSR, and a new Alt GSR who attended her first Area Assembly this weekend as a voting member of her group in the GSR's absence. As of their last business meeting, they figure that they will be fully self-supporting in the immediate future. That is the Miracles Group. That is how history starts, and why documenting Archives is so important.

I was approached by Bill C., DCM of District 27 to co-host their Archives Workshop in the future. More information to come. And we were invited to participate in the District 19 Debarry, Florida 4th Annual Unity Under the Stars Campout, March 27-29, 2020.

Also, Old Time A.A. presents: A Day for Dr. Bob's Home. January 18, 2020, Tampa, Florida. Information at www.oldtimeaa.com.

Our archives Committee has been asked to attend the JAX Archives Committee meeting to bring some files needed for the Statewide Archives Workshop in February to make sure everything is compatible with their audio/visual equipment.

The Statewide Archives Workshop teleconference will be this Wednesday evening October 9 at 8;15 pm.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Dean B. *District 28 Archives Committee Chair*

Men's Corrections Committee: Bob M.

Meetings on the new schedule are going very well. There will be some changes coming soon as Pastor Savage is leaving on October 25th. We will have to get used to the way the next pastor does things. On a good note, the orientations time has been cut from 8 hours to 4 hours. Also, there is a new system for getting people cleared and badged. The next orientation will probably be in January.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Bob M.

Women's Corrections: Lisa R-B, for Mary F.

My sponsor, Elizabeth, is very interested in working on the Corrections Services Committee, as am I, and she has a lot of experience in working in this area for many years. I will have her call you.

Nature Coast Intergroup Liaison: Denis S.

We have the Gratitude Dinner coming up, and we need volunteers to work at the event and to sell tickets beforehand.

Dennis raised an issue regarding the position of District 28 Intergroup Service Chair. District should appoint an Intergroup Liaison who would go to NCI meetings then report back to District about what transpired. District should not have input at the NCI meetings. Denis was not asking to serve in that position. Dean pointed out that the recently revised District 28 Structures and Guidelines created the position of Nature Coast Intergroup Service Chairperson and recited the duties set out there. As a point of order, Steve pointed out that District can't tell NCI what to do. District hasn't appointed an Intergroup Liaison because nobody

submitted a resume. We should review the Structures and Guidelines.

Intergroup met here just prior to this meeting. Ingrid chaired the meeting. We had ten groups in attendance. Our Treasurer reported that we received \$800 from the groups, which was great. We had \$580 in expenses but we still have about \$6000 left. The Trustees, Dean, Lynn and Terry, were satisfied with the state of affairs. The Hotline program is going fine. Connie had the Hotline phone for three months, and it has now been turned over to George H. for September, and it will be carried in October by Dean B. Anyone interested in carrying the Hotline phone for a month please let anyone on the Committee know. Webmaster Steve said we had 6461 visits to the website, which is great, and told us about the new AA app, called Meeting Guide, which can be used anywhere. He sent it out to everyone by email, and it is also available for download from the website. It is updated every two minutes. We discussed the Journal, and have considered increasing the number from 30 to 400. In New Business, we talked about the Where and When, because we are going to pick up half of the cost. There is a new system set up, District is doing all the work and NCI will pay half of the expense. It will be printed four times a year, 1500 copies each time, which will facilitate keeping the information current. Steve did an excellent job.

Bob remarked he has worked with the printer and has set up a new format, which is easier to follow, one day per column.

P.I./C.P.C: Janet B. absent, no report.

Treatment Committee: Denis S.

I have visited several of the facilities in the county and went to the Treatment Workshop at the recent Area Assembly, and there is a new development there. Anyone can go into detox or rehab; those facilities are for alcoholics. But in order for one of us serving on the Treatment Services to get into a hospital or licensed treatment facility for addicts, you first have to get official clearance, which can be difficult. There needs to be a background check.

Technology Committee/Website: Steve N.

There were 2835 total visits in September by 882 unique visitors who looked at an average of 2.5 pages per visit. There were 45066 hits. The bounce rate dropped to a 63.2%. 78.3% of the visitors were new and 21.7% returning. The average user stayed for 2 minute 58 seconds. 50% came directly to the site, 50% came from search engines, none by referral from other AA sites, and none were referred by Social Media. 49.5% of the visitors used mobile devices, 48.5% desktop devices, and 2% tablet devices.

The top ten pages visited this month were. I listed the individual group pages visited in the NCI report to emphasize that the national meeting guide links to individual group pages and it is very important to your group that the info on those pages is accurate. (The groups visited multiple times were: Attitude Adjustment, Crystal River, First Things First, Inverness Beginners, Grupo-Mano, Floral City, Early Birds, Holder Way of life, No Name 2, Share at Noon, Crystal River big Book, Old Firehouse, Inverness Monday, No Name, Floral City Men, Freedom House, Wahoo, Monday Night Men, Sober Sand Gnats, 24 Hour a Day, Quail Run, Fellowship by the Sea, Dunnellon, Chassahowitzka, Bright Spot, and Won Rebos.) So, go to the meeting guide app and access your group's page and let me know of any corrections or updates.

The data base for the National Meeting guide App was updated six times as meeting information changed. Four updates were made to the Where and When. Please inform me of all meeting changes so Meeting Guide and the online Where and When is always completely current. The calendar was updated two times, and the index page was updated three times. Current minutes were uploaded.

The audio and visual components of the archives were all digitized and are now online for your listening and viewing. This project is still ongoing as we lost some files when we had to transfer to a

different server due to the growing size of our site. The new server is case sensitive where the old was not so some links may not work. Be sure to let me know when you find any so we can fix them. Some videos are still left to be uploaded.

Dean commented that we are trying to keep our long-time speaker presentations District 28 specific. Denis pointed out that as of right now, the speakers who are recorded on the website have more than 35 years sobriety. He would like to raise it to 40. That is where you get the good information. Dean noted that Area recommends that the recorded presentations be informal, like casual coffee conversations.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. Steve N. Webmaster

DCM: Bob M.

The Assembly went well. It was a much better information gathering and networking time than before. We got a lot accomplished up there, so it was really good. It looks like we have a lot of work to do with regard to the Gratitude Dinner coming up November 17th. It is an honor to serve at this level, the bottom. I appreciate all the help that everyone gives me. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Bob M.

Alt. DCM: Position vacant.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Linda discussed the budget for 2020, noting first that the Structures and Guidelines require the budget to be presented in November and voted on in December. She distributed a sheet showing, in comparison, the budgets for the two previous years' budgets, final 2019, and proposed for 2020. We need to pass the basket at Workshops. She noted that the projected figures for Assembly expenses reflects the price increases that will take place at the hotel. Dean noted that his expenses for 2020 may be higher than anticipated, and he will need some District input on this. This

is to be taken up in December, and all committee chairs can have input. All the comments were positive.

Linda asked for a motion to amend the 2019 budget by increasing line item 5510, DCM Assembly expense, by \$35.52, to reflect the actual total cost for four room rentals in 2019. We were over the budget by that amount. The motion was made, seconded and passed.

Linda also announced that Deb E., our Area Treasurer, is willing to come and do a “Treasurer 101” training session for all those who might be interested. Linda will definitely attend, and Paige B., Finance Chair, will also be invited. She would like to do this on December 7, and she is trying to secure the Holder facility for the presentation. It would be from 1-4 p.m. She will make flyers once the location has been secured. Lynn suggested that the trustees attend, as they do the audits.

The Gratitude Dinner organization meeting will be on November 2, a Saturday, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Benedict’s, after the noon meeting. On the day of the event, turkeys and hams can be brought any time after 1:00 p.m., so we can keep them warm.

Pre-Conference and post-Conference Agenda meetings for next year are March 14 and May 16, respectively, from 1-3 p.m. They will probably be at the First Presbyterian Church in Dunnellon; flyers will be sent out later and it will be on the website.

Bob thinks there should be some changes to the Structures and Guidelines, as there was some complication with Lynn’s position, and some other things, so we need another ad hoc committee. Lynn, Linda, Bob, Steve and P. J. will be on the ad hoc committee. Date and meeting place will be set later. Be sure to have a copy of the AA Service Manual.

Dean remarked about the process of recording conversations with Old Timers. He offered to help, but he encouraged everyone to get involved when appropriate, and try to get speakers with more than 30-35 years sobriety, and we prefer people with local information.

Bob also announced that Lynn had been appointed Chair of the Accessibilities Service Committee.

It is recommended that all Committee chairpersons have at least two years sobriety. Anyone interested in chairing a position should let him know.

Interest was expressed by others in Literature and Workshop chairpersons; they will submit resumes.

Announcements:

The next District meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 3rd, 2019, 5:45 p.m. at the Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church, 2540 West Norvell Bryant Highway, Lecanto, FL 34461.

The ad hoc committee to consider revisions to the Structures and Guidelines will meet immediately after the District meeting.

Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

A.A. Traditions and Concepts

Tradition Ten: Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy. 1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an “AA opinion” on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen? 2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the “AA opinion”? 3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition? 4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life? 5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be? 6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways? 7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?

Concept Ten: Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined. --Do we understand “authority” and “responsibility” as

they relate to group conscience decisions by G.S.R.s, D.C.M.s and our area delegates? --Why is delegation of “authority” so important to the overall effectiveness of A.A.? Do we use this concept to define the scope of “authority?”