

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2020

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. Nine groups were represented.

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM and Corrections - Bob M.

Treasurer – Linda A.

Archives – Dean B.

Corrections Coordinator (Men) – Bob M.

Grapevine Service Coordinator – Denis S.

Literature Service Coordinator - Gina S.

NCI Liaison - Mike C.

Technology Service Coordinator – Steve N.

Treatment Coordinator – Lisa R. B.

Workshop Service Coordinator – Steve N.

GSRs Alt GSRs and Visitors

George H. – Attitude Adjustment Group

Sandy H. – GSR, Crystal River Group

Steve N. – GSR, Freedom House Group

Bob M. – GSR, Holder Way of Life Group

Kim W. – GSR, Lecanto Group

Harry J. – GSR, Miracles Group

Gina S. – Alt. GSR, Miracles Group

Mike D. – GSR, Real Happy Hour Group

Linda A. – GSR, Women’s Friendship Group

P. J. O. – GSR, Won Rebos Group

Corey, from the Crystal River Group.

Secretary’s Report: (P.J. O., Acting Secretary)

Upon motion and second, the Minutes of the, 2020 meeting were accepted.

Treasurer’s Report: **Linda A.**

Linda submitted the District 28 Income and Expense Reports, the Group Contributions and the Pink Can Reports for February, 2020.

Income and Expense Beginning Balance: \$ \$4,818.44

Net Income:	\$ -\$169.00
Expenses:	\$ 169.00
General Fund Ending Balance:	\$ 4,649.44
Group Contributions:	\$ 0.0 0
Basket	\$ 20.00
Pink Can Contributions:	\$ 25.00
Pink Can ending balance:	\$ 945.86

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:

Archives Committee: Dean B.

Good evening. I'm an alcoholic. I participated in the Archives Workshop Teleconference on Wednesday, February 5th, finalizing plans for the 5th Annual Florida State Archives Workshop.

I attended the 64th Florida State Convention Planning Committee as Co-chair of the Archives Committee on Saturday, February 15th in JAX.

The committee, Gina and I attended the 5th Annual Florida AA Archives Workshop in Winter Park Friday February 21st and Saturday the 22nd. Friday evening, we were given a tour of the Area 14 Archives Repository in their storage locker by our Delegate Annette. It was quite a good use of space with shelves, desk, and battery-operated lighting.

On Saturday, we got busy setting up our Interactive District 28 display. I was fortunate enough to be able to view our District Webpage on my 43" television from my laptop and the event's WIFI. We also brought a few items personal to our District collection. I taught Gina how to access everything for visitors at the event. She caught on really quick.

The event was very informative with presentations on: *Florida AA Group History Tree, District 28 & 17 History Tree*. (Since Tom W., JAX, introduced us to the Tree Project, we not only have trees in JAX and District 28, but also two trees in District 17 Ocala, St. Augustine has started a project, St. Petersburg, Tampa, and Palm Beach all have trees. So now we have a small grove.) *Oldtimer Interview and Sharing, Archives 101 – How to Start, Dr. Bob's Letters and GSO Archive* (5-minute movie of Bill, Lois, Dr. Bob and Anne together. This is the update for the New and Revised DVD 'Markings on a Journey'). This presentation was done by Michelle M., GSO Archives Chair, *Collection and Copyright Policy, Digitizing AA Archives Material, Sharing AA Archives Material, National AA Archives Workshop Brief, Quarterly Florida Archives Newsletter, Group Histories Online and in Book Form, and the descriptions of the various displays*. (Gina handled that part and did

a wonderful job describing our District Archives Display). We had close to a hundred people in attendance this year.

(Gina, do you have anything to add about the Workshop?)

I have submitted the District Archives reimbursement request of \$212.87 for hotel, registrations, and mileage. That is \$79.73 less than I had asked for in the Archives budget and includes Gina's registration.

We will have the Archives collection moved into storage soon. We may also be asking for shelves and a desk or table and couple of chairs to use as a workstation unless it will be okay to remove various items from time to time other than for Founder's Day and Gratitude Dinner, or requests for a viewing.

As a side note, I was approached by John L. from Club Recovery and he will be putting in the following blurb in their Newsletter:

"The history of District 28 belongs to you, it's members, along with all of the wonderful material collected over the years.

The Complete District 28 Archives can be viewed on the District website: aadistrict28.org or the Archives Committee is willing to come to your meeting place and provide a viewing of our archives including the movies: *District 28 History*, *District 28 Inventory*, *AA Comes to Florida*, and *Markings on a Journey*."

Contact Dean B. via email: archivesdistrict28@gmail.com

Men's Corrections Committee: Bob M.

There were no meetings this month due to the mock inspection of the jail, which failed, so they took the meetings and other events away in order to get the jail in shape for the County inspection.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Corrections Women: Mary F.

No meetings in February for the reasons set out in Bob's report.

Grapevine: Denis S.

While attending the Area Assembly I went to the Grapevine Workshop and acquired some literature, leaflets and other items for distribution. Prior to the Chili Cook-off I went to Wal-Mart and bought a display board and some other items. I took them to the Cook-off and put up the Grapevine display board along with about 20 grapevine subscription forms. Five of the forms were taken and I hope put to good use. I am encouraging all of the Groups to promote the Grapevine and subscriptions.

Literature: Gina S.

Not much to report this month. The GSO has acknowledged my appointment as Literature Chair, and sent me all of the free literature that I had requested. I will be putting a book together for the materials and will submit a reimbursement form for that.

Intergroup Chair: Mike C.

I attended the Intergroup meeting. Ingrid, the Chair, opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. We had the roll call; nine groups were represented. Dennis, the Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting and they were accepted. The Treasurer, Mike F., gave his report. There was a beginning balance of \$7103.63, income of \$587, and expenses of \$759, so a net loss for the month of \$172 and a closing balance of \$6931.63. There was a Hotline Report. The March Journal is out and will be on the NCI website soon. Regarding Events, Mike reported that the Chili Cook-off was a big success. \$94 was raised by the raffle. Plans for the Spring Fling on April 16 are under way. The date of September 19 was set for the Picnic in the Park. There was also discussion of the Gratitude Dinner; they are looking for an appropriate venue that will be convenient for as many as possible. Steve N. gave a detailed report on the Website, and the report will be posted on the site very soon. Steve also gave a comprehensive explanation of the difference between District and Intergroup. Linda has volunteered to help with the Website. Mike thanked everyone for allowing him to serve.

Website: Steve N.

There were 1619 total visits in February by 827 unique visitors who looked at an average of 1.6 pages per visit. In addition, our data base was visited 4364 times through the national meeting guide app. The bounce rate dropped to a phenomenal 49%. The average user stayed for 6 minutes 25 seconds. This really exceptionally long visit time was a result of the following archive materials being watched often: Markings.mp4, Dr Bob's House Early AA.mp4, Archives Inventory movie.mp4, Moses.mp4, Bill Wilson Story Alcoholics Anonymous.mp4, Carrying the Message Beyond These Walls 1998 AAWS.mp4, Sandy B Tampa Fl An Overview of the 12 Steps Daytona Beach July 7 to 11 1999.mp3, BB Part 1.mp3, AA History.mp4, and A Vision for You_01_1.mp4.

There was no demographic analysis of our visitors this month as too low a percentage of our visitors this month were known by Google analytics. 68% of the visitors came directly to the site and 32% came from search engines. 49.6% of the visitors used mobile devices and 51.4% desktop devices. The top five pages visited this month were Meeting Guide, Where and When, Calendar, Archives Movie, and Archives Home.

The data base for the National Meeting guide App was updated four times as meeting information changed. The meeting guide data base was modified so that meetings locally and nationally are now also sorted by Men's and Women's meetings.

Three 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. A special thanks to Cathy D for offering to help keep the Meeting Guide National data base current. All help is greatly appreciated. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Steve N., Webmaster

Workshop: Steve N.

Steve reported that he has considered a Workshop on AA slogans and sayings. There are at least 182 of them, his favorite being KISS: Keep it simple, stupid. What this meant to the early members was that AA unity depended on a simple singleness of purpose: the desire to stop drinking,

He did a mini-workshop for the Intergroup, part of the District 28 Presents that we did several months ago.

Alt. DCM: This position is open. Anyone interested in serving please let Bob know.

DCM Report: Bob M.

This is going to be another busy month. We have the Pre0-Conference Agenda on the 14th. The flyers are on the web thanks to Steve; please come and join us.

We will be doing another printing at the end of this month.

We have the Assembly coming up on the 3rd through 5th of this month. We didn't have time to get the extra room for groups without funds before the rooms were all booked. However, if we have any GSRs who want to go but don't have group funding, if they can find someone who is already going District will pay for half of the room expense if there is room-sharing. Linda has already reserved rooms for the July and September Assemblies. Our District meeting for April has been moved to the 19th because of the conflict that month with Assembly dates.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Old Business.

Linda A., Treasure, made a motion to increase line item 5040, the Post Office, by \$12. The rent has been increased by that amount. The motion was seconded and passed.

New Business.

Bob asked if there were any nominations to fill open positions. The positions of Alternate DCM and Secretary are open. There is a two-year sobriety requirement. Corey, a visitor from the Crystal River Group, will be interested in helping Steve on the Website. Bob mentioned the Pre-Conference Agenda on March 14th. P.J. will send out copies of the Agenda to all the GSRs.

Steve made a motion to amend the Structures and Guidelines in two different places. With regard to Section II E, Duties of the Trusted Servants. With regard to the duties of the Accessibilities Chairperson, (page 5) there is a motion to delete "Chair will be funded to attend Area Assemblies" and replace that language with "Should attend and participate in all District meetings and is encouraged to

attend Area Assemblies.” With regard to the duties of the Nature Coast Intergroup (N.C.I.) Service Chairperson, there was a motion that the language “Is responsible for keeping the District informed of N.C.I. activities” would be deleted and replaced with “If requested by N.C.I., will keep N.C.I. informed of District activities.” With respect to the first motion, the Accessibilities Chairperson, Steve explained that when section was added, it was not the intent to fund the Accessibilities Chairperson’s attendance at Area Assemblies any differently than the other committee chairperson; they should all be treated the same. The second motion is just to clarify the manner of communication between District and NCI. Each motion was made, seconded, and then tabled for thirty days or until the next meeting pursuant to Section VII of the Structures and Guidelines regarding amendments. All in attendance were urged to share this information with their home groups.

Announcements:

Dean thanked District 28 for funding the travel of himself and Gina to the Archives Workshop, and also thanked Denis and Paige for showing up in support. It was a great experience and was worthwhile.

Upon Motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

The next District meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 19, 2020, 5:45 p.m. at the Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church, 2540 West Norvell Bryant Highway, Lecanto, FL 34461.

A.A. Traditions and Concepts

AA gives us thirty-six Principles which, when practiced in all our affairs as a way of life, will enrich our lives far beyond our fondest dreams. These thirty-six Principles are grouped into three sets of twelve each. The Twelve Steps of Recovery awaken us to a Higher Power, a higher self with the ability to both give and receive love. The Twelve Concepts of Service are guidelines and tools for our passing on this love through Service. The Twelve Traditions of Unity teach us how to relate lovingly to others, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Tradition 3 - The only requirement for aa membership is a desire to stop drinking. The principle found in this Tradition is one of the basic laws of all successful relationships with God, with people, places, or things. It is so very simple we often miss it. We must first want the relationship. When we want a relationship enough, we will find every way we can to make it work. When we no longer want the relationship enough, we will find every reason for it not to work. Your motive only matters at the time you have that "want". As any relationship with God, with people, places, or things progresses our motive may change from day to day, hour to hour, maybe moment to moment. Our Higher Power or Higher Self only needs our willingness to want to open the door. An honest motive is not likely at first; it is useful not to judge the motive. It is enough to want to do whatever it takes. There will always be a great many who need something far more than we do; however, they must want to change before the healing can begin. Sacrifice for Tradition 3 - "Am I willing to sacrifice who I will sit with in an A.A. meeting?"- Chet P. Affirmation for Tradition 3 - Let me remember that out of enlightened self-interest I want and I choose to share all I can with whomever He brings.

QUESTIONS for Tradition 3 1. When and with whom have you been willing to do "whatever it takes" to make "it" work? 2. When you no longer wanted the relationship enough, did you find every reason for it not to work? 3. Do you tend to get stuck with your or someone else's motive? Give examples. 4. What qualifying information do you seek entering into a relationship such as this? 7 5. One person cannot make a relationship successful alone and unaided. Both must want the relationship even if it is for different motives. Can you give examples when there was a mutual desire to make it work and when this mutual desire was not present? 6. In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as losers? 7. Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group? 8. Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony? 8. Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, or other such things interfere with my carrying the message? 9. Am I over impressed by a celebrity? By a doctor, a clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us? 10. When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he had been to AA before? What his other problems are?

Concept 3 – To ensure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. — the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional "Right of Decision." The principle behind the third concept of service is that we serve by acting on our conscience through our "Right of Decision." This is another delegation of authority

by the overall group conscience. It means that when informed if we as representatives of our group or Area find additional information changes our opinion from group conscience then we can vote our conscience. We also trust others when they exercise their “Right of Decision.” This concept says that as a trusted servant I am expected to serve by acting on my conscience. I am not simply a messenger. I do not neglect consulting others though. I first exercised my “Right of Decision” in the third step when I decided to turn my will and my life over to the care of God. I now exercise it by choosing to pray for direction in all areas of my life: personal relationships, work, and other areas. When I act in accord with my conscience I am at peace. This concept emphasizes the importance of A.A. groups respecting the right of its trusted servants to act on their conscience in light of further information presented. Knowing that theirs is the final authority, the groups are sometimes tempted to instruct their delegates exactly how to vote upon certain matters in the conference. Because they hold the ultimate authority, there is no doubt that the A.A. groups have the right to do this. If they insist, they can give directives to their delegates on any and all A.A. matters. But good management seldom means the full exercise of a stated set of ultimate rights. For example, were the groups to carry their instruction of delegates to extremes, then we would be proceeding on the false theory that group opinion in most world service matters would somehow be much superior to Conference opinion. Practically speaking, this could almost never be the case. Questions for Concept 3: 1. Do we understand what is meant by the “Right of Decision”? Do we grant it at all levels of service or do we “instruct”? 2. Do we trust our trusted servants — G.S.R., D.C.M., area delegate, the Conference itself? 4. Am I acting in any area of my life that is contrary to my own conscience? 5. Am I mistrustful of the decisions of others in authority over me? 6. Am I demanding that anyone else act contrary to their conscience in order to please me?