

Central Service Committee

June 4, 2013 Minutes

Meeting was chaired by Co-Chair Foster L and opened at 7:04pm with a few moments of silence followed by the serenity prayer.

Call For Items to be Added to the Agenda

Murdo asked that "Disbursement of Funds" be added as there appears to be surplus funds in the budget.

12 Traditions read by Shawn

Roll Call – Foster L – Co chair, Bill P – Treasurer, Brenda B – Entertainment , Shawn Mc – Keep it Simple, Gig Mc – Early Risers, Dave T – West End Step, Zeta B – Colby Village Big Book, Coleen H – Newsletter, Valerie S – Porters Lake, Jamie Q – Four Seasons, Murdo – Chair Midwinter, Arlene P – Cole Harbour, Ron I – St. Margaret's Bay, Betty C– Mutual Group, Darren S – Atlantic Group, Rick H – Highland Park, Mary W – Back to Basics, Elaine – PI Chair, Jim E – A/CSR Cole Harbour

Seventh Tradition - \$26.91

Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Brenda B's name is in the minutes as attended, however, she sent regrets that she couldn't be there that evening. *Murdo accepted minutes as amended to remove Brenda's name.*

Reports:

Secretary – Absent

Treasurer – Bill presented the May numbers and advised he will present a six-month summary of revenue and expenses next month. No questions were raised. Opening Balance \$6,549.50, Credits \$639.06, Checks Cleared \$208.48, Bank Total \$6980.08, Checks outstanding \$30.00, Operating Balance \$6950.08, Prudent Reserve \$2168.13, Total Available funds \$9118.21. *Jamie accepted report as read.*

Co-Chair - May was an active month on the service front. With George away I chaired the May Central Service meeting and represented this committee at the District 2 meeting on May 19th. Additionally, I was at the NS service weekend on Saturday June 1st and, while not an official representative of Central Service, I did represent where needed.

The issue of group third party liability insurance was raised both at District meetings and at the service weekend. This issue, I believe, is a sleeping tiger and one that will at some point need to be addressed by this table. As agreed to at last meeting I have been in discussion with the Newsletter Chair to offer any assistance I can in helping her understand the AA service

structure. Arlene and I offered to edit the June newsletter before it went out and hopefully the changes suggested are positive.

George and I met on two occasions this month to discuss committee matters. On May 25th I hosted a meeting of the two DCMs and the Central Service Executive to discuss future cooperation and explore ways to carry the message. These were preliminary talks and at this point there is little to report, other than to say we are all focused on the same goal and we did agree on a macro level approach. Your input to this is encouraged.

I will provide a briefing of the service weekend under “other” reports.

I am also Chair for the organizing committee for the 2013 Assembly Roundup to be held at the Holiday Inn, Dartmouth and this October 11-13. I spent a fair bit of time this month working with that committee. I would encourage everyone to register early for the event and we are looking for volunteers to assist with hospitality. Yours in service, Foster L Co-Chair, Central Service Committee. *Arlene accepted report as read.*

Chair – Greetings to all my friends in District 1. The 2014 Mid-Winter Round-up Committee still has several openings, the next meeting will be in room 619 at the Holiday Inn on June 2nd at 1:00 p.m. The Central Service Committee still has 1 opening, Telephone Committee co-chair. We have started discussions with Districts 1 & 2 to help streamline the functions among all three committees.

I would like to remind folks that the cut-off date for submissions to the newsletter is the 25th of each month. We are approaching 2,000 hits per month on the AA Halifax website, so please keep in touch with the site for new and updated information. Our committees are all busy and active; please check the website for the Central Service minutes and more details regarding committee activity. After a great discussion the CS Literature Committee will not be selling medallions for the Districts.

Please contact me at any time for any questions or comments you may have regarding your Central Service Committee. Yours in Service, George M. *Ron accepted report as read.*

Newsletter – Coleen thanked Foster and Arlene for helping her compose the June Newsletter. She was questioned about the fact that personal emails are still being used under Useful Contact Information. Foster said there have and will be more suggestions for improving this section of the Newsletter. Murdo asked about the deadline for submission to be amended. Foster explained that the deadline was for Coleen, however, if he people had information they wanted added after the 25th, it would be sent by Coleen to the webmaster, as he can make the changes on the online addition of the newsletter. *Dave accepted report as read.*

Webmaster – My apologies for not being able to attend the meeting this month, I am working in Ottawa this week.

Webmaster/Website/E-mail: Good day everyone. The following is my report.

Help Email: Five people used the service in total, two for administrative matters and three who were looking for help. All three were responded to within a day of receiving their request for information.

Website Admin: there were 1933 page visits during the past 30 days, with most members visiting two different pages while there. The most frequently accessed pages are the meeting list and newsletter page. Of note however, the Events page and Central Service and General Service Meeting Minutes pages had around 150 unique views each. This indicates that people are beginning to access the website for more than only the meeting list and to download the newsletter.

The electronic Mailing list now has 164 subscribers, up from 135 last month, who now receive new information on a monthly basis. Please encourage your groups to sign up for the service, which will ensure that information about temporary meeting closures, events and new initiatives (all of which this service has been used for) will reach the maximum amount of people in a timely manner. If anyone has further ideas for the website please let me know, otherwise please do not forget to send me any new information you have so I can share it with the rest of the Fellowship :) Thank you all for your service and have a great night. Christopher H AA Halifax Website Administrator

Hospital – There is no information to be reported at this point, other than, there has been no calls. *Zeta accepted report as read.*

Telephone – Absent

Mid-Winter Round-Up – The positions of Program Chair and Co-Chair have been filled. They are still looking for Co-Chair of the committee and an Entertainment chair and Co-Chair. The committee is in negotiations with the Holiday Inn for the cost of coffee and banquet. The signing authorities at the bank are up to date. Mary suggested if there is a lapse in committee members being elected that the dollars from the previous committee be transferred back to Central Service until a new committee has been formed. *Rick accepted report as submitted.*

Entertainment – Emailed Report. Last bowling for season is on June 9. Announcement and flyer came out regarding a summer Caribbean Dance being held on July 26 at Farrell Hall in Dartmouth. I explained that the dance would be held in Dartmouth rather than Halifax as it usually is because the churches are charging way too much now. Mary asked if this was because of the insurance costs. Brenda will check into this. *Murdo accepted report as read.*

Literature – Opening Balance \$1,821.14, credits \$790.45, Debits -\$486.58, Balance \$2125.01. Everything is good and another \$700 will be deposited into the bank. *Dave accepted report as read.*

District 1 – Absent. Elaine advised the district is in desperate need of a secretary.

District 2 – Absent.

Other - Foster attended the Nova Scotia Service Weekend, however, not in an official capacity. He raised the issue of having Area cover the 100% of costs of the archivist when he/she is attending Assembly events. They did agree that they would take on this cost in the future for all assemblies. The topic of the area covering 50% costs with non-assembly round-ups will be tabled at the assembly in October.

He spoke to the reason for the difference in registration costs; \$25 for service attendees and \$20 for roundup attendees.

The topic of should the internet be a part of Tradition 11 was brought to the floor. GSO's official stance on this is that it is inherent in the tradition already.

The topic of a 1-800 number being available for the still suffering alcoholic was discussed. There is still a lot of research that needs to be done on this topic before it can be discussed.

Arlene accepted report as read.

Old Business

The Election of Co-Chair Telephone to be deferred until next meeting. The reps were asked last month to go back to their respective groups and discuss the possibility of whether new groups should be added to the group list prior to the 6 month requirement that was existent in the past. There was a lengthy discussion on this. Betty's group thought that the 6 months was too long, however, Ron's from St. Margaret Bay, Dave from West End and Jamie from Four Seasons felt that the 6 months should probably stay the same as it would become difficult to keep up with changes if they were done as requested by groups. This could be done quite frequently and if a group prints off the meeting list for its members and newcomers, it would be impossible to keep up with the changes. Mary asked if the 6 months had to do with GSO or was it because a particular group may not stick around for 6 months. This was answered with both are issues. The consensus from the committee was to leave it at the 6 months as is the current policy.

New Business

A) **Disbursement of Funds** – Murdo queried why there were so many funds in the bank. Foster explained that \$2000 was budgeted for Area and GSO, which is included in the funds non hand. The executive is also aware that there may be a requirement for funds to cover group insurance should Central Service decide they will purchase a group policy for all the groups. Murdo also stated that GSO is in need of money and this is why he has asked. Mary asked is it possible that CSC can make a higher contribution to GSO? Arlene suggested we defer making a decision on this as the CSC 6 month forecast is expected next month. Once this is out, a more informed decision can be made. The executive did decide that the \$1000 will be sent to GSO now. As this is already in the budget no motion was required. It was noted Area does not need funds at this time and any amount budgeted for them could also go to GSO. Foster stated this

will require a motion to change the approved budget and, per Arlene's earlier point, this decision will be deferred to next month.

B) **Group Insurance** – Foster stated that he was approached by the Church where his home group meets about needing insurance if they want to continue renting the hall for meetings. This has become a well-known topic around the districts as most groups have already been approached or will be approached. He has done some research on insurance companies and other groups to see who has been approached. While checking with Narcotics Anonymous he was told that NA purchased a group insurance policy that covers all their groups. Each group pays \$50. The issue was raised at the NS Service Weekend and there was an acknowledgement this was becoming a problem. Several committee members spoke of how their group has been notified of this issue and would support CSC purchasing a group policy. Shawn informed the committee that he is aware of an "outreach fund" that exists at most churches and that these funds are for this type of thing. Mary suggested that more information is required on this before any decisions can be made. Foster agreed and encouraged the committee members to go back to their respective groups and discuss this issue further. However, at this time he is looking for direction from the table that CSC should be the entity to drive a resolution to the matter and that, if approved CSC would be the body to purchase the group policy. A recommendation on the floor that stated, "CSC should be the entity to address the insurance policy issue." Recommendation was carried and all were in favour. No dissenters.

C) **Mid-Winter Roundup Start-up Funds**

Mary placed a motion on the floor that stated, "At the end of the Mid-Winter Round-Up Committee's term, the \$1500 advance will be returned to Central Service until the new committee is formed with its new signing officers in place" Murdo second the motion, the motion was carried , 14 in favour, 0 against.

Announcements

⑤ Ron I – Chair of Courage Round-Up brought flyers for all the groups and handed them out.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30m with the next meeting being set for July 2, 2013.