

CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING
United Memorial Church
5350 Young Street, Halifax

- **Welcome and Open:** Meeting opened by Foster L. at 7:00 p.m. with a few moments of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. All were welcomed to the October CSC meeting.
- **Call for Items to be added to the agenda:** Items to add to New Business – Christmas Cocktail Party.
- **Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Michael.
- **Roll Call:**
 - Executive:*** Foster L. – Chair, Paul B. - Co-chair, Arlene P. – Secretary, and Andrew P. – Treasurer.
 - Committees:*** Michael H. – Hospital Visitation Chair, Jacqueline K. – Mid-Winter Round-up Chair, Samaira G. – Entertainment Chair, Bill P. – Bluenose Bulletin Editor, and Curtis F. – Literature Co-chair.
 - CSRs:*** Rick H. – Highland Park, Allan M. – Sunrise, Glenda K. – Colby Village BBS, Bruce M. - St. Margaret's Bay, Sarah S. - Living in the Solution, Brad A. – Fresh Start, Deb W. – Downtown Dartmouth, Pamela M. - Acceptance, Hamish M. - Live in Today, Garry M. – Second Chance, and Ken C. – Keep It Simple.
 - Double Duty:*** Heather C. – Phones Co-chair / Alt. CSR Four Seasons, Heather L. – Web Admin. / CSR Back to Basics, and Evan McF. – Literature Chair / Four Seasons CSR.
 - Others:*** Fred D. – District 1 DCM and Trudy D. – District 2 DCM.
- **7th Tradition:** \$42.40 collected, taken by Andrew P.
- **Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:** There were no errors or omissions. Recommended by approval – Bill.
- **Reports:**

Executive:

Secretary: Greetings. Due to some of the same issues that I am continuing to have stalled my getting the minutes completed and on the website in a timely fashion (over two weeks this time). I apologize for any inconvenience this may be causing, but at the moment, this is the best I can do.

As I complete the minutes from month to month, I have been noticing some patterns in how people are writing their reports. I would appreciate it if you would take the time to compare what you sent in as your original report and what I have changed it to in the minutes and see if you are comfortable with the changes. As Secretary, I was told I have some leeway in changing spelling and grammar, but I don't want to step on any toes, so to speak. So if I have gone too far with changing your reports, please let me know. I am in service to you, the Central Service committee, to make sure the minutes are accurate and reflect what is happening at the monthly meeting, so if you could assist me with feedback in this regard, it would be greatly appreciated.

My idea that I hinted at in regard to the pictures being used on the District 1 & 2 website is this - since we are District 1 and 2, comprised of groups from Halifax, Dartmouth, Bedford, Sackville

and surrounding areas, why don't we as members submit some photos from our area (i.e. major landmarks) to make it more local? We must have some shutterbugs amongst our membership and then we wouldn't have to fret about copyrights with the images. I realize that the landmarks themselves have nothing to do with AA as a whole, but it would make it more local to our meeting area. If you were really creative, you could add a big book into the picture and that would make it more relative. Just remember though – if you take pictures with people in them, just make sure there are no identifiable faces in the pictures (only back of people's head), like the examples you have seen in the Grapevine issues, for anonymity purposes. But of course, it is up to Central Service as to how they would like to handle it, I just thought it might be a fun thing to do to get more members involved.

(For those not in attendance of tonight's meeting - please send in your contact information, especially if you are your group's representative (CSR, Alt. CSR or contact person.)

My thanks to everyone who made the effort to get their reports in early to me, it is greatly appreciated as I am again working the day of our meeting. Having the reports a day earlier (or more, in some cases) allowed me to compile things the night before. And especially since my laptop's motherboard has died, I am using a much older computer and freeware to complete the minutes, so I needed the extra time to get used to the new program. I did send out confirmation emails to all who sent in their reports early. Please email secretary.aahalifax@gmail.com if there are any questions pertaining to the minutes.

Yours in service, Arlene P., Secretary

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Rick.

Treasurer:

September's numbers: Opening Balance \$5774.22, Credits \$1346.32, Debits \$2495.26, Closing Balance \$4625.28, Outstanding Cheques \$222.46, Operating Balance \$4402.82, and Prudent Reserve \$3165.38. Total available funds \$7568.20.

Yours in Service, Andrew P., Treasurer

Comment – The cell phone bill is a little higher than usual...could Leah please look into why? Andrew will send a copy of the bill to Leah for further research into the reasons why.

Recommended for Approval by Samaira.

Co-chair: I would first like to thank the committee members for electing me as Co-chair of the Central Service Committee. Recently, I met with Foster L., who provided me with an overview of the Central Service. Some of the topics we discussed were the insurance, the process in which meetings are run and the on-going search for a new location in which meetings will be held. I was recently provided with a password for the Co-chair email account, however I attempted to change the Co-chair password and as a result, I ran into some difficulties in changing back to the original password. You will notice that my new Co-chair address is co-chair.aahalifax3@gmail.com I would like to thank Heather for providing me with assistance in this matter.

Yours in service, Paul B., Co-chair, Central Service.

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Heather.

Chair: Good evening, September has been a busy month in which I undertook the following activities:

- Attended the District 1 and 2 meetings to represent this table.
- Offered feedback and assistance to the Webmaster on the new volunteer tab.
- Met twice with Paul to review Co-chair role and discuss up-coming issues.
- Attended several meetings to hand out insurance invoices and contacted all other groups that had not yet received their invoice to make them aware it was due.
- Worked extensively with AA Munroe Insurance and MacLeod Lorway Insurance to finalize our policy (update under old business).
- Prepared a letter for Credit Union Atlantic to facilitate bringing Paul on as a signing officer.
- Worked with St. Mark's Church to arrange a new meeting location (update under old business).

I am pleased to see committee chairs active in their respective roles and look forward to the upcoming Literature day that Evan has planned. I would ask all committee chairs to work closely with Paul and avail yourselves of his experience wherever possible.

Yours in service, Foster L., Chair, Central Service Committee

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Michael.

Committees:

Mid-Winter Round Up: We met on Oct 4 and had 10 people in attendance. We have 2 new people join the committee. Teddy will be a Co-chair for Registration and Pedro a Co-chair for Program. Treasurer – Bill presented a report of the September financial activities. The only disbursement was \$6.50 for Bank Services. The Operating Balance is currently at \$1,279.13. Bruce, Registration Chair reported a meeting with Foster on the details of PayPal. The initial flier is posted in the web site as well as sent to Area 82 website. Hospitality – Evan reported recruiting for Co-chairs. Al-Anon is working on their speakers and there were questions from Al-Anon members about cost of coffee and Banquet. The committee is subsidizing both, so costs will eventually have to go up. The Program Chair was not in attendance at last meeting or this meeting. I have been unable to reach the Program Chair at this time. We are working to ensure the program is brought up to where it needs to be for next meeting. I am working on booking the speakers and putting together a rough draft for approval at the next meeting. Positions need to be filled as soon as possible - Committee Co-chair, Secretary, Entertainment Chair and Co-chair, Program Co-chair and possibly the Chair position, Hospitality Co-chair. Please take this back to your groups and have it announced at the meetings that we need to fill these positions as soon as possible. Next meeting is November 1, at 1pm, at Club 24, 3 Dundas Street in Dartmouth.

Thanks, Jacqueline K, Chair of 2016 Mid-Winter Round-up Committee

Questions – Has the committee used the Bluenose Bulletin yet to advertise their need for volunteers and positions on the committee? Yes, normally they have, but Jacqueline was remiss in sending in one for this month's Bulletin.

Recommended for Approval by Garry.

Webmaster/Website/Email: We had 2000 visits to the web site in Sept. Top pages continue to be the Meeting List and Newsletter. Our subscriber list added 5 more users last month with a total of 498 subscribers receiving the monthly e-mail.

As promised last month, a new menu item has been added to the web site called "Volunteer". This page offers a form where the AA member can check boxes for the various committees he/she is interested in becoming involved with. When submitted, I will receive the email and then forward it to the committee chair(s).

A calendar for Forensics was set up such that any of the teams can see when they are next scheduled to put on a meeting.

In and around Sept 28th, Google made a change to their setup which caused the three Google Calendars that are on our web site to stop working: Events, Detox and Forensics. Thanks to Pedro who was able to figure out what Google required; he made the necessary change and these calendars are once again being fed to our web site.

Due to a computer crash, the email account for Co-chair of this committee was left inaccessible. So our Co-chair created a new Gmail account: cochair.aahalifax3@gmail.com I have updated this email on the web page (Contact US – Central Service), on the CSC contact list and in my Web Admin notes. I also emailed the newsletter chair so he could update the Contact List that goes out with the newsletter. So when you notice a "3" in the email address, it is not a typo!

I'd like to remind everyone that sometimes the note you are sending to the newsletter should probably also be posted on the web; for example an event like the picnic or a change to Detox/Forensics/Weekend Phones. I do browse the newsletter each month and try to pick out what should be on the web as well. It would be easier and more timely if when you are submitting something to the newsletter, just take a moment to consider if that same email should be sent to me as well.

As always, any feedback/ideas that you have are most welcome; you can reach me via email at webmaster.aahalifax@gmail.com.

Yours in service, Heather L., Web Administrator

Comments – Much appreciated the quick turn-around time on the volunteer tab on the website. No questions. Recommended for Approval by Pam.

Help Email Coordinator: (Absent, report sent in and read by Secretary.) Good day, this is an overview about help emails during the month of September 2015. In total, there were 6 emails; however that does not include responses by email or phone calls. There were a number of requests from those who have not yet reached the doors of AA. They wanted to know about "how to join." Details were explained to them and a meeting list attached. One request came from a gal looking to help her Mother. Al-Anon info was forwarded to her, and info about AA for her Mother. My hope is always that all who contact the help email, phone lines, webmaster, etc., have since been to their first meeting and are well on their way to the road of happy destiny! Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Kind Regards, Carol-Anne D., Help Email Coordinator, AA Halifax/Dartmouth, Area 82
Recommended for Approval by Heather.

Hospital Visitation: Samaira notified me of a needed visit of a member who was in the hospital, Mr. B. I immediately found out the details and asked for volunteers to visit. I was able to hook up with a member volunteer whom knew Mr. B. quite well and was willing to take on the visitation task. No hospital visitation requirements were identified through the Hospital Visit website.

Yours in service, Michael H., Hospital Visitation Committee Chair

Question – There are some members unable to attend regular meetings – are there any plans to add home visits to the places the committee would be willing to visit? Oh yes, it would be considered. Comments from the table was that the usual practice for home visits would be that person's home group would arrange the home visit and bring a meeting to the member who was unable to attend the regular meeting.

Recommended for Approval by Hamish.

Telephone: (Heather, the Phone Co-chair, reads Leah's Report) Good evening everyone, I am not able to attend the meeting tonight as I have a family commitment. Things are going well with the phones. I am very happy to report that myself and Heather have been training some additional members for the phones. We now have 5 more members trained and ready to go. I am still trying to put together a telephone workshop, and will have details in the near future. I would also like to report that we needed to purchase a new evening phone as the evening phone battery wore out and Bell was not able to provide another one. The cost of the new phone out of pocket was \$126.39. A copy of the new phone contract was sent to Foster. I ask that you all still continue to announce at your groups the importance and need for volunteers to answer the phones.

Thank you, Leah C., Phone Committee Chair

Question – When Sunrise Group had the phones during the last weekend, someone called looking for information for meetings in the New Glasgow area. Is that information been made available? In the binder, there are lists for all the districts in Nova Scotia. Just to reiterate, it is very important to keep the binder with you while you have the AA phone, so that you have access to all the information in the binder.

Recommended for Approval by Samaira.

Newsletter: Monthly Report

- Greetings: The Group notices were received smoothly with a couple of challenges matching nights to dates.
- The Serenity Corner notice of meeting has reached its six months in the Newsletter and will not be repeated. The notice will be transferred to the Meeting List.
- The Highland Park change of venue will no longer be carried past October as it is in the Meeting List.
- The Highland Park Tuesday meeting will continue in the Bluenose Bulletin for the required six months.

- A Birthday Announcement was received from the Only Requirement Group for a celebration on October 4th. However due to a past resolution of Central Service, the announcement was declined and the Group so notified. The previous resolution directed that no announcements from The Only Requirement Group would be published in the Newsletter.
- The Bluenose Bulletin was filed with the Webmaster for posting on the website prior to the 1st of October.

Best Regards in Service, Bill P., Bluenose Bulletin Chair

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Evan

Entertainment: (Samaira gave a report, but did not submit one for the minutes.)

Question – Are the tickets available yet for the New Year's Eve Dance due to the fact there is a limited quantity of tickets due to the Fire Code Regulations of the location. (110 tickets only available) The cost of the tickets are \$5.00 each. Samaira actually had the tickets with her in envelopes at this meeting and asked if there was people willing to sell tickets for the event. All they had to do was see her at the end of the meeting and she would give them an envelope.

Comment – Thanks so much for the Picnic in the Park – it was a wonderful time.

Recommended for approval by Heather.

Literature: Good evening all, it's been a bit of a busy month for literature with a few orders and getting a date for our workshop/showcase or whatever you want to call it. For those of you who haven't heard about it, the Literature event will be 1:00 pm on November 22nd at Club 24. We have \$6728.70 in inventory, plus \$964.61 in our account for a total of \$7693.31.

That's all for this month. I decided to keep it short. Any questions?

Yours in Service, Evan McF., Literature Chair

Question – Will more literature be purchased for the Literature event being held on November 22, 2015? No additional literature will be purchased for that event.

Recommended for approval by Glenda.

District 1: Well, we are off to the Assembly for Newfoundland 2015 and I am glad to report that District 1 is doing very well. I would also like to thank my Alt. DCM, John M, for helping me with the district by getting out to these very important meetings. Like The CSR meeting last month and then going to the District 2 meeting. It was very important when I could not make it to my own District last month and John M was right there to take over.

All of the committees are doing a great job getting the message out there that AA is up and running well in Halifax. Robert, Chair of CPC and his team are doing more work in CPC this year than has been done in many years. Darren, Chair of Treatment and his team are looking after the Detoxes and making sure they are being handled well. He is also looking into the Abby Lane Hospital in regards to putting on meetings in there. Raquel, Chair of Correction and her team has been getting new members for the Burnside Institution Women & Men meetings. She is making sure that all meeting at the Burnside Institution is carried out by her committee. Jamie, Chair of Public Information and his team are doing a good job of getting the Halifax Transit bus signs installed in the bus routes. They are looking into many other things like putting

literature in some of the medical centres. Well, as the DCM, District 1 is working at getting the message out there.

Yours, in love and service, Fred D., DCM for District 1

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Garry.

District 2: My name is Trudy and I am an alcoholic. I am the DCM for District 2 and a member of the Cole Harbour Group in District 2. Our district met on Sunday past with 7 GSRs and representatives for all the sub-committees present. We discussed the Assembly coming up in two weeks. There will be three groups representing our district attending. We received the agenda and the proposed budget for the assembly. The service weekend minutes have arrived as well. I reminded the GSRs attending the Assembly to please bring their copies of the Service Weekend Minutes from this year, the 2014 Assembly Minutes and the Area 82 Guidelines. Our district is in need of financial contributions from our groups. We announced at our last meeting of our need and the groups have started to respond to our request. Our next meeting is October 18 at 2pm.

Yours in service, Trudy D., District 2 DCM

No questions.

Recommended for Approval by Allan.

Area 82: no report tonight

Other: no report tonight

Old Business:

a) **Elections:**

- a) **Hospital Visitation Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
- b) **Newsletter Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
- c) **Phones Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
- d) **Entertainment Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.

- b) **Group Insurance Update (Info)** – Foster provided an update on the group insurance policy. On September 24th AA Munroe advised Royal Insurance would be dropping the policy as it was written as they now believe each group to be a separate entity and therefore each group would require their own policy at a cost of \$500 per group. AA Munroe does not have a carrier that could help us as they no longer deal with the previous carrier. Foster contacted Economical Insurance (the previous carrier) to find a local broker and then met with MacLeod Lorway Insurance who dealt with Economical and was able to obtain a new policy that is equivalent to what we had for the past two years. We are now insured again with Economical for \$2,000,000 liability with \$1,000 deductible at a cost of \$1200. As our approved budget was for \$1250.00 we are okay to cover the added expense. Central Service Committee is the insured entity and only groups named on the policy are covered under it.

Questions – Is the original policy our new policy? Yes, the policy we originally had is now our newest policy. Is everyone covered under the new policy? Only the groups that are listed on the policy are covered by the policy. Is the up-coming Area 82 Assembly that will be hosted by Districts 1 and 2 covered under the newest policy? Foster will check to make

sure that the event is covered under our newest policy, as the location the Assembly is being held at is asking if we have coverage for the event.

- c) **Meeting Location – Update and Decision** – Foster sent a formal request for meeting space to St. Mark's church on Russell Street in early September. Their council met on September 15th and we have been approved to use their facility for the first Tuesday of each month for our meeting. The move would be effective December 1, 2015 and the cost would be \$50 per month, up from the current \$30 we pay here. The Chair and Co-Chair will require a police check before being issued a key and security code; the cost, if any, is to be charged to Chair and Co-Chair budgets.. Ample parking is available in their lot and on the street. The chair called for discussion and a motion to approve the move and the added expense. Samaira moved that the Central Service Committee sign a lease agreement with Saint Mark's Church at a cost of \$50 per month effective December 1, 2015. Ken seconded the motion. It was an unanimous vote with all agreeing around the table. The Chair will send a letter of thanks to United Memorial Church for the years of service they provided to us.

New Business:

- a) **Christmas Cocktail Party** – Which group would be willing to host and at what location? Keep It Simple Group was the only group to come forward and volunteer to host the Christmas Cocktail Party (our annual social event). It will be located at Club 24, 3 Dundas Street, Dartmouth from 1:00 to 4:00pm on December 24, 2015. Thanks again to the Keep It Simple Group for coming forward to host.
- b) **Photo Idea for AA Website** – (this item was added after the Secretary's report was given.) Much discussion was had around the table about this idea for photos to be submitted to the Web Admin for use on the AA Website. From the feedback gathered from around the table, many were quite pleased with the idea. Even an idea of photos of meeting rooms was suggested from the table, like what you would see in the Grapevine. The Secretary has been volun-told to write up a blurb for the Bulletin on what is being asked for from the membership for submissions of these photos since it was her idea in the first place.

Announcements: (that didn't make it into the Bluenose Bulletin)

(There wasn't any this month.)

Next CSC Meeting is November 3. 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.