

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 September CSC meeting.
- **Call for Items to be added to the agenda:** No items to add.
- **Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Reed.
- **Roll Call:**
Executive: Foster L. – Chair, Arlene P. – Secretary, and Andrew P. – Treasurer.
Committees: Jacqueline K. – Mid-Winter Round-up Chair, Bill P. – Bluenose Bulletin Editor, Leah C. – Phone Chair, Michael H. – Hospital Visitation Chair, Samaira G. – Entertainment Chair, and Curtis F. – Literature Co-chair.
CSRs: Ken C. – Keep It Simple, Pedro G. – Atlantic, Gerry L. – Sunday Night Serenity, Brad A. – Fresh Start, Mary T. – West End Step, Mike H. – Cole Harbour, Glenda K. – Colby Village BBS, Rick H. – Highland Park, Debbie W. – Downtown Dartmouth, Garry M. – Second Chance, Darla W. – Timberlea, and Allan M. – Sunrise.
Alt-CSRs: Bruce M. – St. Margaret's Bay, Jennifer S. – Acceptance, and Lisa N. – Hubbards.
Double Duty: Heather L. – Web Admin. / CSR Back to Basics, Heather C. – Phones Co-chair / Alt.CSR Four Seasons, and Evan McF. – Literature Chair / Four Seasons CSR.
Others: Reed H. - observer, Doug P. – observer, Paul B. – observer, Cathy MacN. – District 2 Alt.-DCM, and John MacF. – District 1 Alt. DCM.
- **7th Tradition:** \$33.25 collected, taken by Andrew P.
- **Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:** There were no errors or omissions.
Recommended by approval – Bill.

Before Reports, the Chair moved up the Elections from Old Business (one nominee had a prior commitment to attend and needed to leave early)

Old Business:

a) Elections:

- i. **Committee Co-chair** – Paul B. was nominated, after introducing himself and answering questions, his nomination was accepted by the table. Welcome!!!
- ii. **Hospital Visitation Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
- iii. **Newsletter Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
- iv. **Entertainment Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
- v. **Phones Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.

- **Reports:**

Executive:

Secretary: Greetings, my apologies for taking so long to get the minutes completed and onto the website. Unfortunately I have had some family issues to contend with this month as well as my usual work commitments. I did not up-date the contact list in August, but I will in September. **(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.)

A reminder of my last month's request that all reports be sent in the day before our scheduled meeting. Only three reports were sent in by Monday night, the rest continue to come in the day of the meeting. And if you will be unable to attend and need me to read your report at the meeting, I really need it the night before.

My appreciation, as always, to the folks who took the time to send in their reports ahead of time. I didn't have a chance to send out confirmation emails to all who sent in their reports. 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 Samaira.

Treasurer:

August's numbers: opening balance \$6927.91, credits \$161.75, debits \$ 1315.44, closing balance \$5774.22, outstanding cheques, \$1229.41, and prudent reserve \$3165.38. Total operating funds available \$7710.19.

Yours in Service, Andrew P., Treasurer

Question – What group contributed on the balance sheet? Name was not noted on sheet. Andrew will contact them with the answer, didn't have the receipt for that transaction with him. Recommended for Approval by Heather.

Co-chair: (No report as the position was only filled this evening.)

Chair: Good evening, my report this month is short. Summer is winding down and I suspect things will start to pick up on the service front soon. This past month was quiet. I attended the both District meetings and fielded a number of queries from committee chairs. I had the pleasure of spending a week in Ontario with my former sponsor who was celebrating 41 years of sobriety. It was truly a privilege to be there.

As we get closer to the end of the first year of our mandate (only 3 meetings left after tonight), I would ask committee chairs to spend some time in reflection on how things have been going so far and how we may improve. I continue to promote Central Service at every opportunity in hopes others will pick up the service banner and join us.

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

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Pedro.

Committees:

Mid-Winter Round Up: There is no report as there has no meeting since last central service meeting. Next meeting is Sept 13 at 1pm at Club 24. Still looking for volunteers for committees.

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

Questions – Has the website been up-dated with the costs of the Round-up such as Registration, Banquet tickets and cost of hotel rooms? The only price that has changed is the hotel rooms, which has been up-dated. The date of the Round-up? February 19-21, 2016.
Recommended for Approval by Glenda.

Webmaster/Website/Email: We had 2,035 visits to the web site in August. Top pages continue to be the Meeting List and Newsletter. Our subscriber list added 3 more users last month with a total of 493 subscribers receiving the monthly e-mail.

Last month, a member at this table put forward an idea to add a web page that would allow AA members to volunteer for positions on committees, in Central Service and at District. Work has not yet started on this idea, but progress on this will be coming.

Last month I had reported that I had all Central Service and District email accounts and passwords information except for treasurer and secretary for district 1. Since then I have gotten the password for the secretary, but as yet I have not received information about the District 1 Treasurer's gmail password. However the Secretary for District 1 has suggested that it should in fact be the DCMs that take care of the gmail passwords for each district. She will raise this suggestion and will get back to me as to who should keep record of passwords for Districts 1 and 2.

I updated the header image on the top of each page of our web site. Pedro had provided 3 lovely images and we've used the lighthouse image so far. I have changed to one that includes the AA chips. After a few months, I'll change to the 3rd image which is a sunset. Again, many thanks to Pedro for helping me so much with the maintenance and upgrades to the web site.

I welcome feedback and ideas of what you'd like to see on your website. As always, you can reach me via email at webmaster.aahalifax@gmail.com.

Yours in service, Heather L., Web Administrator

Comments –

- The AA chip picture used for the website – GSO does not endorse the use of AA medallions. Heather will discontinue its use. (Later comment that the Lighthouse wasn't associated with us either.) (Secretary Note: I have an idea about this...I will present it in my next report for October.)
- A discussion started surrounding who should have governance over the Districts' email passwords and it was decided that the matter should be taken back and discussed at the District table.

Questions –

- Is there any way to keep track of website's usage of the Newsletter? Heather will look into it.
- Where are the event fliers located on the website? The fliers for an event are attached to the event itself in the Google calendar.

Recommended for Approval by Leah.

Help Email Co-ordinator: (Absent, report sent in and read by Secretary.) Good day all, this is an overview about help emails during the month of August 2015. In total, there were 7 email requests for help. Keep in mind that this does not include responses by email or phone calls. Requests ranged from those asking questions about their first meeting to a request from

one person looking for further assistance when contacting the AA phones. 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 Michael.

Hospital Visitation: I was notified that Ricky K. from the Fundy Group was in QE2 Rehab for two weeks. I visited him on August 7th. He seemed to be in good spirits. He was very appreciative of our visitation program. I was able to use this visit time as an opportunity to educate the rehab staff of our AA Website. I showed the staff the dropdown menu for hospital visitation. I informed the Addiction staff to use this anytime someone wanted an AA member to visit. I phoned Mac R. on August 8th and Mac eagerly accepted responsibility to meet Ricky and take him to a few meetings in his busy work schedule. I am very appreciative of Mac being part of the solution.

Final thoughts: I believe there is an opportunity to promote an AA meeting program at QE2 rehabilitation facility, same as at Dartmouth Rehabilitation. The staff was very curious to learn of our AA program, and perhaps, with the right approach, they would approve of weekly AA meetings at their facility.

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

Question – While doing the phones, there was a member calling about getting a ride to the hospital for necessary surgery (needs to be escorted before surgery performed), is this a service the Hospital Visitation committee provides? No it is not. But there may be members willing to perform that task, but it would be up to the individual member for responsibility, liability, transportation, etc.

Recommended for Approval by Heather.

Telephone: Good evening everyone, I am very happy to report that I have been contacted by another group who are willing to take the weekend phones. I am in the process of fitting them in the schedule. I would also like to report the following: we have had 4 members step down from the daytime phones, but luckily we had 3 new volunteers so the daytime is still in great need. I also had 5 members step up for the evening phones and 3 for the overnight shift. The numbers are now daytime-9, evenings-13, and overnight-6. A member has also volunteered to join our phone committee to maintain the 12 step list.

I ask that all of the CSRs continue to announce at their groups the importance and great need for more volunteers. It would be nice to have members from all of District 1 and 2 carrying the phones and not just the Sackville area. I will advise the newsletter by the September 25th deadline as to the date of the workshop in October.

Thank you, Leah C., Phone Committee Chair

Question – The phone bill for last month (August) was significantly higher than other months. Is there any way of finding out why the increase (ie: long distance phone calls being returned, etc.) Leah will find out.

Recommended for Approval by Rick.

Newsletter: September Report

1. A new revised Newsletter was posted for September 1, 2015. The previous version required a couple of corrections to the Contact Sheet.

2. It is important to have most if not all the announcements for the newsletter sent to the newsletter website. The preparations for the next Bulletin begin on the 25th to the end of the month. The emails on the website are my main resource and they are not archived until gone through two or three times and the newsletter proof read. Notes and phone calls earlier in the month with my other service work are in danger of being misplaced or walk out of my memory.
3. I am blessed with having a convivial relationship with the Webmaster and she is very tolerant of my lapses and revisions.

All in service, Bill P., Bluenose Bulletin Chair

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Garry.

Entertainment: As of Sept 01, 2015 all seems to be going as planned. We will be starting up the Crib games on Sat the 26th at 1pm. Always lots of treats and fun to be had. Hope to see everyone at the AA Picnic this Sunday at 1pm. Ball is running smoothly and will have an end report next month.

Please bring back to your group that we are looking for some more activity for the coming months. Please feel free to call or text me at 476-3057.

Yours in service, Samaira, Entertainment Chair

Questions –

- What time are the crib games? They are at 1:00 pm.
- Are the ball game and the picnic going on at the same time? Samaira was unsure if the baseball had concluded or not, as of the last of August, someone else was looking after that department. There may be a possibility of the last game happening on the same day.
- With the annual Cocktail Party approaching, has there been any work in finding a group willing to host it yet? No, not as yet, but the CSRs are asked to approach their groups to find out if a group would be willing to host and if their location would be available for the event (it is held on December 24 between 1pm and 4 pm Christmas Eve). Some venues are not available that day due to Christmas activities by the church.

Recommended for approval by Evan.

Literature: Good evening all, it's great to be back at the table with you guys again. It's sad to see the summer come to an end, but at the same time, life will get less hectic. I have taken a bunch of orders recently and have been trying to stay on top of things. I intend on placing an order with GSO this week (possibly Wednesday) in case anyone was wondering. There were no orders placed since the last meeting. As it looks right now, I am going to have the "literature showing" on Sunday November 1st. I just need to get Club 24 booked. I don't intend on bringing all the literature with me on that day. Just a few of each of what we have for anyone interested to see and learn about. This could be a good chance to get an idea of what literature you may want to pick up at the Mid-Winter Roundup next year.

As of today, we have an account balance of \$837.60, a total inventory of \$6394.70, and \$345.90 in cash.

I've covered pretty well everything there is to cover. I meant to get the date for the literature day set so it could go in this month's bulletin, but obviously that didn't happen. I'll get it on the website as soon as I can after I contact Club 24, and it will be in next month's bulletin.

Yours in Service, Evan McF., Literature Chair

Questions –

- The date of the Literature Day? November 1st.
- Is the inventory declining? (pertaining to previous concerns of how large an inventory we are carrying) Yes, we have been selling a lot of Big Books.
- Will the book prices rise due to the exchange rate for money? (As the books are bought in US funds) Not as yet, but if there is a significant change, he will let us know.
- With the literature order list available on the website, are there a lot of orders through that venue? Yes, quite a few orders come through the website, but members also call their orders in as well.

Recommended for approval by Michael H.

District 1: (The Alt. DCM, John, read Fred's report) I would like to welcome all GSR's, visitors, and guests. I am trying to get back to my role as DCM as of this month. Yet the last two months have been very hard because of two deaths in my family, first was my brother, then his son's wife.

So here we go. First I was at the CSR meeting the first Tuesday of the month. At that meeting, Foster had many things to talk about. Next, I went to the District 2 meeting, they had a lot of discussion around the four committees keeping their own financial records. The GSRs at District 2 are really coming out to attend their meetings, which is nice to see. Once again, there was some talk about where District 2 stands with the split for the four committees. I made a reply saying that this is between the two Treasurers of Districts 1 & 2. District 2 is really having a hard time when it comes to their budget. I think if we are doing all right with our budget that maybe we could see our way clear to helping them out. But I will leave it up to the table to decide. Now we have to make a decision on the District Inventory and when to do it in what month. I did e-mail Tim, our Alt. Delegate, and he has agreed to run this inventory. We will talk about this under old business. It looks like all four committees are running well and bringing new items forward.

Today, I have my expenses for the Area Assembly for Newfoundland - Flight \$ 337.99, Registration \$ 20.00, Banquet \$ 30.00, Hotel \$ 271.40, Meals \$ 50.00, Total \$ 709.39. I do have the latest agenda for the Assembly, which is on the Area Web Site. If you want it, I will bring some to our next month's meeting.

This week, I got to the Bedford Group meeting and let them know about service at the district level and that we always need help with the committees. Monday, August 24, I went to the Second Chance Group in Sackville Heights, they had a great turn out. This was my 20th group this year to attend as DCM, only eight more to go.

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

Questions –

- The agenda for the Area 82 Assembly? It can be found on the Area 82 website. There is an on-going need for women to volunteer for the Margaret Centre in Tantallon.
- There is information in the Bulletin on who to contact, when the meeting is, etc.

Recommended for Approval by Mary.

District 2: (Cathy spoke, but no written report was submitted.) She said Fred said everything she wanted to say. All was going well at District 2. She announced the next workshop, which can be found in the Bluenose Bulletin.

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Bill.

Area 82: no report tonight

Other: no report tonight

Old Business:

- b) **CS New Meeting Location** – Foster gave report as an update of progress so far – Mike H looked into the possibility of obtaining space at the Family Resource Centre in Windsor Park, however, they are unable to accommodate us. It was suggested that we try St. Theresa's on North Street and they also are not able to provide space. A request has been sent to St. Mark's on Russell Street and an answer should be available before the next meeting. Foster will confirm we are good here until December and suggested we may need to be willing to change our meeting date. All agreed this may be a possibility. This will be an on-going old business topic until resolved.
- c) **Group Insurance Update (Info)** – Foster – A cheque was written to cover the insurance policy for the full amount as it is due on September 11. Invoices for \$40.00 are ready for each group named on the policy, so the CSRs need to pick up the invoice for their group and take it back to their group treasurer. He had only found out this evening that there have been 2 policies mailed out to each group, listing each group as being in District 1 and 2. He did not realize that they would be mailed out this way and he will be calling the Broker to clarify which groups are in District 1 and which groups are in District 2. (These policies were mailed out to the addresses supplied by the groups when this was initially set up.) The previous two years, it was handled differently with all policies sent to one address to be handed out, but this is a new company that holds the policy that we are dealing with and there are some bugs that need to be ironed out. Please be patient, more information will be forth-coming.

New Business:

(There wasn't any new business to put on the agenda, but ...)

The Alternate DCM from District 1, John, presented a cheque to Central Service from the now defunct Mutual Group. When the group decided to close their doors, they split the remaining funds between District 1, Central Service, and Area 82. Many thanks from the Central Service committee.

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

Highland Park Group – along with the move, Highland Park Group is now starting a noon time meeting at the same location on Tuesdays. (The meeting is being held at the Family Resource Centre in the Windsor Park Complex. To enter Windsor Park and find the Centre, take the entrance off Windsor Street near the Canex Store, and follow Watchdog Drive to the large parking lot on the right. The Resource Centre is adjacent to the parking lot.)

Next CSC Meeting is October 6, 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm with the Responsibility Pledge.