

CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING

**St. Mark's Church
5522 Russell 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 April CSC meeting.
- **Call for Items to be added to the agenda:** No items to add.
- **Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Heather.
- **Roll Call:**
Executive: Foster L. – Chair, Paul B. - Co-chair, Andrew P. – Treasurer and Arlene P. – Secretary.
Committees: Curtis F. – Literature Co-chair, Bill P. – Bluenose Bulletin Chair, Leah C. – Phone Chair, Robert A. – Bluenose Bulletin Co-chair, Samaira G. - Entertainment Chair, Shawn McG. – Help Email Chair, and Joya G. – Phone Co-chair.
CSRs: Ken C. – Keep It Simple, Ron H. – Colby Village BBS, Allan M. – Sunrise, Deb W. - Downtown Dartmouth, Pedro GdeB. – Atlantic, Reid H. – Only Requirement, Gerry L. - Sunday Night Serenity, Ken M. – Hubbards, Garry M. - Second Chance, Bruce M. – St. Margaret's Bay, Natalie C. – Circle of Sisters, and Brad A. – Fresh Start.
Alternate CSRs: Margaret S. – Acceptance and Barry L. - Back to Basics.
Double Duty: Heather C – Phones Co-chair / Alt. CSR Four Seasons and Heather L. – Web Admin / CSR Back to Basics
Others: Trudy D. - District 2 DCM, Fred D. - District 1 DCM, Anthony D. - Representative for Welcome Group, Dave R. – Representative for Living in the Solution, and Mike C. - Observer.
- **7th Tradition:** \$55.25 collected, taken by Andrew P.
- **Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:** No errors or omissions.
Minutes recommended for approval by Tony.
- **Reports:**

District 1: Well, I would like to say I have not been very well this last two months. First off, I have what they call C.O.P.D. and that coupled with Bronchial Pneumonia which left me without any energy and has kept me under the weather for the last six weeks. So as you can guess, I did not get out to many meetings. Now I would like to thank my Alternate DCM, John M, for all his hard work this month. He has made such a difference when it comes to his commitments. John even took the time to get Mary W. to chair the March meeting last month. I would like to thank the many members who phoned to ask if I was OK.

As we well know, the four committees are doing their best work at both districts which shows all the effort they are putting into their work. Thank God for the commitment of the GSRs who come to this table each month and give their feedback. I would like to thank Samara G. and Barb H. for their work at this table. By having such good members, it makes life much easier. I know this is not much of a report but it's the best I can do for now. I am very tired and wanted to say just a few words of my gratitude. Now I would like to thank Mary W. for taking over for me because of my illness and hope I can now get back to the district business this month.

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

No questions or comments.

Executive:

Secretary: Good evening. I realize the last set of minutes were longer than usual, 12 pages, but I thought it best to add the pertinent information that was handed out at March's meeting in case there was a CSR that couldn't attend or worse case scenario, someone misplaced the paperwork they received. The last four pages dealt with the matters you needed to take back to your groups for their decision on this month's voting. If you have any questions pertaining to the minutes, please don't hesitate to contact me. And as always, please note any changes to your contact information on the Attendance Sheet.

For those who sent their reports in on or before Monday, I did send out confirmation emails. As always, thank you for putting in the extra effort, it allows me greater ease in which to accommodate my job schedule and my service commitment.

Yours in service, Arlene P., Secretary

Comment – Appreciation for the inclusion of the last four pages as the person was not at the last meeting and needed that information.

Treasurer: March's numbers: Opening Balance \$7,672.50, Credits \$0.00, Debits \$596.94, Closing Balance \$7,075.56, Outstanding Cheques \$219.38, Operating Balance \$6,856.16, and Prudent Reserve \$3,167.29. Total available funds \$10,023.47.

Yours in Service, Andrew P., Treasurer

Comments – Foster suggested that rather than waiting to June as was previous said, since we received the cheque from the Mid-winter Round-up committee and the funds were available now, that tonight the Treasurer would issue cheques to both Area 82 and GSO for \$1000.00 each as was passed in our budget for 2016. All were in agreement.

Co-chair: Dear Central Service committee, during the month of March, I have met with Foster. We went over some of the items we are discussing tonight, like the insurance policy decision and the rotation for the committee. I have spoken to St Mark's Church regarding the heat situation and they are going to rectify the issue and make sure that the heat is up to standards. I would also point out that I will not be available for the last two weeks in April, but will check emails once in a while because Cuba is calling my name and my tan needs a refresh. I would like to also apologize for the late report due to issues beyond my control.

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

No questions or comments.

Chair: Good evening, March has been quiet. I attended the District 2 meeting on the 21st and met with Paul as I try to do every month. I did make several calls across the country to find out how other Central Service / Inter-group tables are handling the matter of collecting the 7th Tradition at service meetings and will present the findings under old business.

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I will be out of the country from April 15th to 25th and Paul will be gone during much of the same time frame. If you need to reach me for any reason, I can be contacted on my cell phone.

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

No questions or comments.

Committees:

Mid-Winter Round Up: (Absent, report read by Secretary) Hi Everyone, sorry I am not there in person to give the final report - I have to work. We met for the wrap up of 2016 Round-up and the start of 2017. A copy of the financials is attached and Bill, our treasurer will deliver a cheque this evening for the surplus of \$1597. It was a pleasure to serve on the committee and to work with a great group of people.

Sincerely, Jacqueline K., MWRU Committee Chair

Question – Someone was asked who was voted in as the Chair of the Mid-Winter Round-up for 2017. Tim M. was voted in at the last meeting, as was most of the rest of the positions for the committee.

Webmaster/Website/Email: We had 4,213 views of the web site in March. Top pages/posts were: Meeting List, Newsletter and Contact Us pages. We have 523 subscribed members getting the monthly email (up by 4 from last month).

I now have 15 pictures from HRM AA groups so I have changed the “slide show” on the home page to display 12 pictures at a time. It selects these 12 randomly, as far as I know, and each time someone comes to (or comes back to) the home page, it will grab 12 pictures for the slide show. It's my hope to continue to promote this idea and continue to gather more pictures. Hopefully we can get a picture from every group in HRM. During this time, this slide show will no longer display any steps, traditions or concepts; just pictures. If a CSR or committee member is here tonight from a group who has not yet sent in a picture, please take a picture at your group (no people included) and send it as an attachment to my Web Master Email address. In the email, please include the group name and the night(s) and time(s) your group meets. I updated the banner image on the web site to one of the lovely images that Pedro provided.

The new Help email person, Shawn M, has been set up that emails to the help.aahalifax@gmail.com account will automatically forward to his personal email address. I'd like to confirm that this is the desired set-up, so I will check with both the Co-Chair Paul and Shawn to ensure this is the correct set-up.

I am aware that the displayed calendar for Detox has an issue. Each Thursday/Sunday scheduled group is repeated on the next day. This is not how looks in the actual Google calendar and Detox looks just like Forensics and other Events and those two published calendars are fine when displayed on the web; it's the Detox that seems to have a problem. I have asked Pedro to take a look as I'm really not sure what's wrong. If we cannot find any way to fix this, I will completely delete all entries for the Detox calendar and enter them again just to see if this fixes things.

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Yours in service, Heather L., Web Administrator

No questions or comments.

Help Email Coordinator: The inquiries for the Help area of the website were:

One request for information from a college student who was writing an article for his class. The person was forwarded to P.I.

One request for help for a friend - She was given meeting information.

Two requests for A.A. help. - They were given meeting information.

One request for answers on meeting format information. The format questions were answered and explained.

The last few weeks have been very quiet.

Sincerely, Shawn M., Website Help Chair

Comment – Shawn asked if it was okay to delete the previous emails in the Help Email account as they contain personal information. Foster suggested that Paul and Shawn discuss that more after the meeting.

Hospital Visitation: (Absent, report read by Secretary) This month, there were two people in hospital. Roger from Bridgewater, and Dave C. Roger was very grateful that there was someone in the area that visited. He was well taken care of, regarding his family. So he was comfortable with my one visit. I also kept in contact with Carolyn of Bridgewater updating her of Roger's health. Dave C. was not good for a visit, but we kept in contact via the phone daily until his release. Nothing else to report.

Yours in service, Mike H., Hospital Visitation Chair

Telephone: Good evening everyone, things are well with the phones. We have had a couple of members step down from answering the phones in the last month, but then we had a couple of members step up to answer the phones. When one door closes, another opens.

The phone committee will be having a workshop / training session for the phones in May. We are working on the date and time. The information will be in the May newsletter.

It seems that some of the groups are having an issue with getting in touch with phone numbers for the group that either passes the phone to them or the group that they have to pass the phone to after they finish their weekend. The phone rotation does not change, so you will always have the same group before you and after you. I would like to suggest that each group get and keep a contact number for the groups you are transferring to and from so that members of your groups who answer the phones on the weekend can have easy access.

As always I ask that you all still continue to announce at your groups the importance and need for volunteers to answer the phones as well as getting members names for the 12 Step list.

Thank you, Leah C., Phone Committee Chair

No questions or comments.

1. The Committee met on the 27th of March for final proof reading. The version was posted for the Webmaster on March 30th.
2. Subsequently, by reason of a couple of miscommunications, corrections were required to one birthday and Group announcement. The corrections were posted on April 4th through the graciousness of our webmaster.
3. A new group has been listed for the first month in the Newsletter and will continue for a further five months.
4. The month of April has a richness of birthdays and required some shrinkage to keep everything on the same page.
5. The work is most enjoyable and the Committee no longer makes errors but rather errata.
6. Many thanks to the Committee members and our Webmaster.

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

No questions or comments.

Entertainment: There was nothing to report this month.

Thank you, yours in service, Samaira G., Chair.

No questions or comments.

Literature: (Absent, report read by Literature Co-chair, Curtis) Good Evening Everyone, not much to report this month. There was an order placed with GSO for \$1222.06. We had two group orders and a few individual orders.

There was a deposit of \$1967.25 on March 11th, and a \$503.00 deposit on March 31st. The inventory right now is \$7754.45 and there is no un-deposited cash. That's all I have for now.

Thanks, and I wish you all a good month, Evan McF., Literature Chair

No questions or comments.

District 2: Hi all, District 2 is doing well. We have between 6 to 10 GSRs attending our meeting and all the committees have been doing their part by attending and reporting the many activities they are involved with. I have been attempting to do all the group visits required and have managed to get a few done. Many more to come. I have been asked by a group to attend the business meeting and explain how we work at the district. I am looking forward to this. If any other group would like me to attend their business meeting, please let me know.

We are getting ready for our Service Weekend in Truro on June 3, 4, and 5. Your group can have a representative attend and vote on our AA business even if your group does not have a GSR, or if your GSR cannot be there. Also if your group cannot afford to send the GSR for the whole weekend, they can come to Truro for the business on Saturday, June 4th. Maybe a few GSRs may be able to drive down together and split gas costs. It is a great opportunity for your group's voice to be heard.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be of Service, Trudy D., DCM District 2

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No questions or comments.

Area 82: Tony, Area 82 Secretary / Registrar – The quarterly report for the Area 82 finances was just mailed out. GSO is now putting together the newest directory. If your group is showing as unknown, please send in contact information for your group. This contact person can be your GSR or any representative that your group chooses.

Other: no report tonight

All Reports were recommended for approval by Heather.

Old Business:

a) **Elections:**

a) **Hospital Visitation Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.

b) **Group Insurance Reserve Fund – Recommendation and decision**

Tony put forth a motion that we accept Option B - Create a continuing-reserve fund of \$2000 to be held by Central Service for the deductible – to be funded 100% by Central Service from existing budget funds, or,

- If chosen each insured group would pay their yearly premium and if a claim is made, the deductible would be paid out of this \$2000. Insured groups would be required to top up the fund to the \$2000 level after a valid claim is made and whether a claim is valid remains under the authority of our Insurance Company.

Seconded by Bill. Discussion followed. The responses to some of the questions - the Treasurer of Central Service would be looking after the deductible for the insurance policy and this fund would be available to the groups that are listed on the policy and have their premiums paid up-to-date.

Vote was taken. For – 13, Opposed – 4, Abstaining – 5. Minority Voice was heard from and one changed their vote afterwards. For – 14, Opposed – 3, Abstaining – 5. Motion for Option B was passed. Foster said that he would get Andrew to move the monies from the operating budget to the prudent reserve.

c) **Succession Planning – Recommendation and decision**

After the material was presented, someone suggested we add a sixth option to maintain the Status Quo. So Foster asked each CSR which option their group had chosen.

No conclusion – 1, Not discussed – 4, First option – 3, Second option – 0, Third option – 0, Fourth option – 4, Fifth option – 4, Sixth option – 6.

Samaira put a recommendation on the floor for Option 6 - that we maintain the Status Quo. Vote was taken – For - 7, Opposed – 10, Abstaining – 7. Minority Voice was asked, but no one spoke to it. No votes were changed. Recommendation defeated.

Alan put a recommendation on the floor for Option 5 - The incoming Executive sits for two years and the incoming CSR's sit for one year only. January - December 2017. (Requires groups to hold elections in each of the next two years to get rotation started.)

Vote was taken. For – 12, Opposed – 1, Abstaining – 9. Minority voice chose not to speak to it. No votes were changed. Recommendation passed.

- d) **7th Tradition at Central Service Meetings – Info and discussion** Foster read the information that he had gathered pertaining to the subject.

Reid puts a recommendation to the floor that we discontinue taking the seventh tradition at the Central Service meeting. Vote was taken. Opposed – 23, For – 1, Abstaining – 2. Minority Voice chose not to speak. No votes were changed. Recommendation was defeated.

- e) **In all the confusion**, - we realized that the Central Service Guidelines need to be amended concerning the insurance policy, as in we have insurance, who looks after the deductible and the responsibilities of the Co-chair to look after the insurance portfolio. Bill suggested that we give notice that we will be making amends to the guidelines for the above purpose. He made a recommendation that we have an ad-hoc committee to work on the wording for those amendments and bring them back to this table for voting. He volunteered himself and Trudy D. as they have had experience dealing with guidelines before. Vote was taken – it was unanimous.
- f) **Plus** – we realized that a motion was not made to move the monies from the operating funds to the prudent reserve to cover the additional \$1000.00 needed to cover the decision made in B) Group Insurance Reserve Fund. Bill put the motion to the floor that we move \$1000.00 from the operating fund to the prudent reserve to cover the insurance deductible. Seconded by Tony. Vote was taken, it was unanimous. Motion passed.

New Business:

- a) **Workshop May 8, 2016** – Foster said that Central Service was asked to put on a workshop on May 8 by the workshop committee. The topic would be the Role of the Central Service and the service opportunities available. Paul and Foster would put the presentation together, but they asked for volunteers to help. Bruce, Samaira and Heather volunteered. Foster would like to see as many committee members there, but there may be some conflicts with the chosen date as it is Mother's Day.

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

From Area 82 - For the up-coming Service weekend, if you are planning to attend, could you please register early as the location is doing renovations and they are in need of the funds to put towards the renovations?

The next CS Meeting is May 3, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.