

**CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**St. Mark's Church**  
**5522 Russell Street, Halifax**

- 1) **Welcome and Open:** Meeting opened by Foster L. at 7:00 pm with a few moments of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. All were welcomed to the August CSC meeting.
- 2) **Call for Items to be added to the agenda:** New item to add – New Business – December 24 Cocktail Party (Christmas Social)
- 3) **Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Alan.
- 4) **Roll Call:**  
***Executive:*** Foster L. – Chair, Paul B. - Co-chair, and Arlene P. – Secretary.  
***Committees:*** Bill P. – Bluenose Bulletin Chair, Samaira G. – Entertainment Chair, Leah C. – Phone Chair, Rob A. - Bluenose Bulletin Co-chair,  
***CSRs:*** Ken C. – Keep It Simple, Ron H. - Colby Village BBS, Doug MacD. – Highland Park, Clare L. - Welcome Group, Gerry L. – Serenity, Brad A. – Fresh Start, David R. – Living in the Solution, Natalie C. – Circle of Sisters, Mary T. – West End Step, Hamish M. – Live for Today, Pamela M. – Acceptance, and Alan M. – Sunrise.  
***Alternate CSRs:*** Margaret S. – Acceptance, and Barry L. – Back to Basics.  
***Double Duty:*** Evan McF. - Literature Chair / CSR Four Seasons  
***Others:*** Fred DeM. - District 1 DCM, and Trudy D. - District 2 DCM.
- 5) **7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$39.20 collected, taken by Paul B.
- 6) **Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:** No errors or omissions.  
Minutes motioned for approval by Ron, Seconded by Pam. Vote passed unanimously.
- 7) **Reports:**

***Executive:***

**Secretary:** Good evening. It took a little longer than usual to get the minutes completed, reviewed and on the website. I also up-dated the contact lists with the information contained on the attendance sheets from the last couple of months. I have also purchased a voice recorder to use at the meetings. This recorder will be able to connect to a PC and download the voice files. I will keep them for a six month period, in case there are any questions arising from the minutes, and then erase them. The recorder will be part of the Secretary's affects and it will be passed along to the in-coming secretary.

I have also started a document that will contain the changes that were made in the meetings that are reported through the minutes as far back as I can go. I did not know that this was a requirement of my position when I started in 2015. I will need to find out how to document these changes properly for a matter of record. As of the moment, I am noting the date, the motion or recommendation made and who made it, the person who seconded the motion, the vote count and if the motion/recommendation passed or failed.

I also found out the information about the decisions for the Mid-Winter Round-up seed money which I will further discuss in Old Business under said topic.

Concerning last month's meeting and the questioning of the accuracy of my recording keeping in the previous months' minutes, I can only say this. As I mentioned at the last meeting, I am not a professional stenographer and I had thought everyone was okay with the generalization of the discussions in the minutes. Each month, I have asked folks to contact me if there were any problems with how I was taking the minutes. And to date, no one has contacted me. If the Central Service table so wishes, I will gladly step down as secretary and let someone else more gifted with words take my place. Otherwise, I will continue to do what I can as your secretary until my term finishes out at the end of the year.

I was able to send out confirmation emails to all those who sent in their reports before Tuesday. Thanks again for putting in the extra effort by getting them in early, I do appreciate the help.

Yours in service, Arlene P., Secretary

No questions or comments.

**Treasurer: (Absent, report sent in and read by Foster.)** July's numbers: Opening Balance \$7,350.72, Credits \$478.35, Debits \$50.00, Closing Balance \$7,779.07, Outstanding Cheques \$3,388.84, Operating Balance \$4,390.23, and Prudent Reserve \$4,167.93. Total available funds \$8,558.16.

Submitted by Andrew P., Treasurer

Foster – The six month Group contributions is missing from the back of the Treasurer's statement. Foster will see to it that an electronic copy is sent out to everyone so the CSRs can check with their groups to verify the amounts they contributed.

No questions or comments.

**Co-chair:** Dear All, this month, I met with Foster and discussed the agenda for today's meeting. As well, I attended the District 2 meeting, which was very informative and productive.

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

No questions or comments.

**Chair:** Good evening, it was another quiet month with not a lot happening behind the scenes; I had separate meetings with Andrew and Paul and a brief discussion with Bill on the guidelines. I thank Paul for attending the District 2 meeting while Mary and I enjoyed the hospitality of St. Andrews, New Brunswick. We had a marvelous few days away.

I also want to extend a special thanks to Pedro for all the work he did on red-lining the guideline documents. It turned out to be far more labour-intensive than was expected.

I remind you all that next month, the elections will be held, so I encourage all of you to talk to others about accepting service nominations. As well, we will be hosting the September 11<sup>th</sup> workshop at Club 24 and are hoping for good committee representation.

Enjoy what is left of your summer.

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

Question – What is the topic of the workshop? It is a repeat of the workshop that was held in May. Foster is hoping there will be a good turn-out of the Executive members and Committee Chairs in attendance. Paul has offered to chair the workshop as Foster will be away in Ontario.

**Committees:**

**Mid-winter Round Up: (Absent, no report sent in,)** Foster - The deposit was returned from the hotel as they will not be able to host the round-up due to renovations taking place during that time period. So the committee is now looking for a new location.

**Webmaster/Website/Email: (Absent, report sent in and read by Secretary.)** Sorry I could not make this meeting, but I am away on vacation in Cape Breton.

We had 3,928 views of the web site in July. Top pages/posts were: Meeting List, Newsletter and the Contact Us pages. We have 566 subscribed members getting the monthly email (up by 4 from last month).

This was the quietest month yet with no web-specific activity to report!

Yours in service, Heather L., Web Administrator

**Help Email Coordinator:** Dear Central Service, here is my report for the month of July: I was on vacation for the last two weeks in July. I still checked in and answered the email requests for help. Again, it was a quiet month. There were two requests for meeting info. There were three requests which were directed to Al-anon because it was the spouse or relative asking for help for them instead of the drinker. They were still given our information as well. There was one request for literature to be mailed to them. I forwarded the information to the literature committee.  
In service, Shawn M., Help Email Chair

**Hospital Visitation: (Absent, report sent in and read by Secretary.)** I have nothing to report this month. This doesn't mean there isn't anyone; it just means I haven't heard.

See you tonight, Michael, Hospital Visitation Chair

**Telephone:** Good evening everyone, things are going well with the phones. We continue to try and get members to volunteer to answer the phones. We ask that you continue to announce at your meetings that we are looking for members to be added to the daytime and overnight lists, especially.

Thank you, Leah C., Phone Committee Chair

No questions or comments.

**Newsletter:**

1. The Bluenose Bulletin for August is now posted on the website, as of today, in corrected form.
2. We did have delays due to the Natal Day weekend and weekend recreations.
3. Rob has begun taking the main share in the preparation of the Bulletin and tackling the glitches, as they occur.

4. A notice will be posted in the September edition asking groups to advise us on when they arrange birthday celebrations during the month. We would like to compile a master list to avoid mistakes with birthdays in the future. This may be known to groups, but to no one else.
5. The work continues to be interesting and fun and recommend it to others as a path to service to the larger community of A.A.

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

No questions or comments.

**Entertainment:** Well, it was another wonderful AA Camping and Potluck this year. Many enjoyed three relaxing days under the sun. Meeting old friends and making new ones. God was very kind to us and cleared the skies so that during our nightly meetings, we could see many, many stars. It was beautiful.

This year we had around 26 campers for the weekend. Some stayed for the whole weekend and others joined us for a night. The total cost of the camping trip was \$169.60. That amount was paid on Saturday morning. I was told I was paying for two days for camp sites, 1, 2, 3, and 4. I had told them I wasn't sure how many would be staying for Sunday and was told, "No worries, come in Monday and we will square up." I went in Monday morning and told them we only had 10 for Sunday night and she said, "That is all right, it's a joy having you guys here every year and you are all paid up". That was very wonderful to hear as we do represent AA as a whole and we seem to have done a great job. I thank you all for that.

For the Potluck, we again had lots of food and more than a few laughs. I truly thank you all for the wonderful support this year. With all the excitement with the Camping, it seems I forgot to put in the newsletter information about the AA Picnic this year. It will be held at the Sailors' Memorial Monument located at Point Pleasant Park on Sunday, September 4 at 1:00 pm. Please pass the word around and it will be on the Website.

Thank you, yours in service, Samaira, Entertainment Chair

Question – Are you in need of any BBQs or donations of charcoal for this year's picnic? In the past, they have used only propane BBQs, but members are asked to bring along whatever they want. (Please contact Samaira if you have any questions.)

**Literature:** Good Evening, Everyone, there isn't much to report this month. I've been in contact with District 8 and none of the French groups up there want the books we have, so I think I'll try some New Brunswick groups next. I placed an order with GSO last week. There was a deposit of \$439 on July 16th and a cheque cashed for \$1100 on the 28th. Our inventory, as of today, is \$7012.55 and our bank balance is \$2205.38.

That's all for now.

Yours in Service, Evan McF., Literature Chair

Question – Is there an itemized list of the inventory and could it be brought in so that we could see what we have on hand? Evan will bring that list in to next month's meeting.

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Comment – Evan also mentioned that there seems to be a drop in the cost of currency between the USA and Canada, so he was going to reduce the cost of the literature. He would have that ready for the next meeting. Someone asked in the reduction was necessary and Evan believes it will be at least a ten percent difference, so he will drop the prices accordingly.

**District 1:** Well, it's hard to write a report when you have been away for a month. I think the district is still well. But I will know better when I get into the swing of things. I am sure the four committees are doing well. Yet the summer months are slow, so this report will be short, real short.

I know we will be having our elections soon for the District DCM and Alt DCM, Secretary and Treasurer. They will be held in September and I will get Tim M. our Alt General Service Delegate to hold these elections. Then we will get the Chairs for the four committees and Co-Chairs from our GSRs of the District. I hope this all goes well and we make the right choices when it comes to Public Information, CPC, Treatment and Corrections. This will all be done by Nominations by members of the district, so please make sure when it comes time to elect the right members to fill these positions. I have members in mind that I will nominate for these positions that I know can fill them and do a good job.

This is all I have to say for now and my term is coming to an end. I thank God for letting me do this position and I hope this will be the last for me at district. Yet I say this every time I end a position.

Yours in Love and Service, Fred DeM., District 1 DCM

No questions or comments.

**District 2:** District 2 is doing well. We have made contributions to Area 82 and GSO and our rent is paid up-to-date.

Our district has a concern about committees not fulfilling their commitment, as the guidelines state, in attending both District meetings each month with a report. One committee, in particular, has sent in the same report since November of last year and has not had a physical presence since then. We will be discussing this matter with District 1 as we share the committees (more to be revealed!)

Everything else is good at our district and the group visits are going well. Elections are September 18<sup>th</sup> and Committee Elections on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm before the District 2 meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Trudy D., DCM District 2

No questions or comments.

**Area 82:** no report tonight

**Other:** no report tonight

All Reports were motioned for approval by Mary. Seconded by Ron. Vote passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

a) **Elections:**

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

b) **Guidelines Review** – Foster – He gave an overview of what has happened so far. It took far longer for Pedro to “red-line” the document, as he was unable to use an electronic program to do a step-by-step comparison, so it was all done by hand. Many thanks to Pedro for his dedication to the task. Discussion followed concerning the Guidelines as they were presented in their revised state. Foster wanted to know if the presented document accurately reflected the positions of the committees and the Executive, etc. General consensus at the table was that the revised guidelines did reflect what was needed. Plus we are in need of continuing the process of keeping the changes up-to-date and from time to time, updating the Guidelines to reflect such changes made at the Central Service table.

Foster called for a motion to be put on the floor so that we could vote on acceptance of these revised guidelines. Bill P. put a motion on the floor “that we accept the guideline as they have been revised at this time”. Seconded by Evan MacF. No further discussion. Vote was taken, For – 18, Opposed – 1, Abstaining – 1. Minority voice did not have any additional information that wasn’t already shared. The motion passed. Many thanks to all that were involved in this arduous, but necessary task.

c) **Mid-Winter Round-up Seed Money** – Foster – carried over from the last meeting, Arlene read off what she was able to find out by going back through the minutes. These were the dates, motions and decisions made by Central Service back in 2013. (Secretary’s **Note:** I have included what I have found in this report.)

**March 5, 2013** – A motion was made by Foster to have the start-up funds for the Mid-Winter Round-up to remain with the committee instead of going back and forth from the treasurer to the committee. It was 2nd by Jamie – Moved. It was suggested by Arlene P. to put a footnote on the bottom of the budget noting that the \$1500.00 remains with the committee.

**April 2, 2013** – Mid-Winter Round-up: Bill advised he has the final numbers from the Round up. There is \$2000.00 start up for the next committee in the bank. They took in \$1448.52 at the round up. New Chair Murdo advised they will be having their first meeting on Sunday April 7th 1 pm. They need volunteers if anyone would like to go to the meeting. Chris suggested if they need volunteers that he will put it on the website for them. Hopefully it will help him get some volunteers. Arlene asked why there is \$2000.00 in the account when it was approved for \$1500.00. Bill advised that \$500.00 has always been there as start up funds. Recommended for approval by Chris – Approved.

**June 4, 2013 - 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.

After some discussion, someone asked how long in between one Round-up committee closing down and the next committee starting, Tim replied it was the very next month. (In actual fact, the one committee doesn’t close down until the next committee is voted in, so technically it happens in the same meeting. One committee gives their closing report one month; the next meeting is the election and the beginning of the next committee. As soon

as the next committee is elected, things are turned over to them immediately and signing officers are changed. ) So the confusion was what would be the benefit that we ask for the money to be turned over to the Central Service committee only to have to give it right back the next month? It kind of hand-cuffs the committee from starting right away due to having to wait to get the monies back from Central Service, if our meetings don't coincide time-wise. Deposits need to be made to the hotel to secure the date of our round-up.

Tim M., Chair of the Round-up Committee, wanted a motion made "for the \$2000.00 float money to remain with the Mid-Winter Round-up committee and Central Service to account for it in our financial statement". Allan M. made the motion and it was seconded by Evan MacF. There was no further discussion. The vote was taken. For – 20, Opposed – 0, Abstaining -0. No minority voice. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

- a) **Resolutions Register – Foster** – So due to the Guidelines Review, we realized we were lacking a Resolutions Register. So the question is how do we track and change the guidelines. There was already a motion in the minutes that this was the job for the secretary. It needs to be a separate document. There was some confusion over which document was being discussed and the clarification is that the Guidelines are a separate document from the Resolutions Register. Not all Resolutions made at the Central Service table would involve making changes to the Guidelines, but they all need to be kept track of. One suggestion that came from the floor that would definitely help the secretary when it comes to motions and voting procedure was that the motion would be made and then the secretary would read the motion again to get clarification of the wording before the voting would proceed.

Foster wanted a motion made from the floor that "The Central Service Committee maintains a separate Resolutions Register that reflects all motions passed at the table." Ron H. made the motion. Seconded by Bill P. No further discussion. Vote was taken. For – 18, Opposed – 0, Abstaining – 0. No minority voice. Motion passed.

- b) **Hand-over Procedures (All Positions) – Foster** – He would like all of the Executive members and Committee Chairs to write up a document that would describe, in more detail than what is in the Guidelines, what the successor would need to know when they take the position over. We are lacking such a procedure document. Discussion followed. Some people believe having a coffee with the new person would be enough to cover the bases, but others mentioned worse case scenarios like the person dies or has a health issue and can't communicate all the ins and outs of the position. Plus you can't remember everything entailed in a position, so the document would allow for memory lapses.

Hamish put a motion on the floor that "all committee chairs and Executive Committee members document hand-over procedures for their successors." Seconded by Samaira G. No further discussion. Vote was taken. For – 17, Opposed – 0, Abstaining – 1. No minority voice. Motion passed.

- c) **September Workshop (Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> Club 24) – Foster** – This will be a repeat of the May workshop. Paul will be chairing this workshop as Foster will be away in Ontario during that weekend. He would like all the Executive members and Committee Chairs to attend so that they can explain their positions during the workshop.

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**d) December 24 Cocktail Party (Christmas Social)** – this is for information only – Arlene brought this up only to get groups talking about who would be willing to host this year's event. There have been complaints each year of why isn't there a rotation of where the event is held, so now is your chance to volunteer to host this event in your district. There is a start-up fund budgeted for this event, so please go back to your group and see if your group is willing to host and then find out if your location is available for December 24, 1pm to 4pm, preferably.

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

No missed announcements tonight.

**The next CS Meeting is September 6, 2016.**

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:43 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.