

CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING

**St. Mark's Church
5522 Russell Street, Halifax**

- 1) **Welcome and Open:** Meeting opened by Paul B. at 7:00 pm with a few moments of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. All were welcomed to the October CSC meeting.
- 2) **Call for Items to be added to the agenda:** No new items to add.
- 3) **Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Ken.
- 4) **Roll Call:**
Executive: Paul B. - Co-chair, Bill P. – Interim Treasurer and Arlene P. – Secretary.
Committees: Shawn McG. – Help Email Chair, Michael H. – Hospital Visitation Chair, Rob A. - Bluenose Bulletin Co-chair, Bill P. – Bluenose Bulletin Chair, Leah C. – Phone Chair and Samaira G. – Entertainment Chair.
CSRs: Ken C. – Keep It Simple, Mary T. – West End Step, Ron H. – Colby Village BBS, Deb W. – Downtown Dartmouth, Alan M. – Sunrise, Garry M. – Second Chance, Natalie C. – Circle of Sisters, David R. – Living in the Solution, Hamish M. – Live for Today, Pamela M. – Acceptance, and Reed H. – The Only Requirement.
Alternate CSRs: Lisa N. – Hubbards
Double Duty: Heather L. – Web Admin / CSR Back to Basics, and Evan MacF. – Literature Chair / CSR Four Seasons.
Others: Fred DeM. - District 1 DCM, and Trudy D. - District 2 DCM.
- 5) **7th Tradition:** \$36.25 collected, taken by Bill P.
- 6) **Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:** Error – During the elections, for Phone Chair – it should read Leah nominated Heather for Chair position. Minutes were not motioned for approval, nor seconded. A vote taken – passed unanimously.

7) **Reports:**

Executive:

Secretary: Good evening. It seems the average time is 2 to 3 weeks at the moment to get the minutes completed, reviewed and on the website, my apologies, but my schedule has been a little nuts with personal and professional commitments. I was able to send out confirmation emails prior to the meeting. Again, my thanks to all who put in the extra effort to get your reports in before the meeting. It makes my job easier.

Still working on my copy of the Resolutions Register, I have it with me if you want to see it. Also working on the Hand-over Procedures document for the in-coming secretary. Hope to have both finished this month.

Yours in service, Arlene P., Secretary

No questions or comments.

Treasurer (Interim): (No report sent in for the minutes.)

Co-chair: Dear Central Service Committee, my month consisted of going to the District Two committee in which some new executives members were elected and seeing how the spirit of rotation is alive and well. Last month, I was supposed to send out a sheet for confirming addresses for the insurance policy; however I since learned there were only three groups changing addresses, so I decided to get the addresses myself and make the change to the insurance company, to save time. Foster and I have had several talks about the agenda just to make sure we are all on the same page. He wants all to know he is doing well.

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

No questions or comments.

Chair: (Absent, report sent in for the minutes.) Good evening, as was the case last month, much of September was devoted to family matters and some much need time away. My mother passed away September 26th and the majority of my time was spent at the hospital with her. I extend a sincere thanks to Paul for all his support throughout the month and for chairing this meeting in my absence. I look forward to being back at the table in November.

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

Committees:

Mid-winter Round Up: Jim H., Co-chair – (Secretary’s note: I only have the Resolution that was passed to me at the meeting. This can be found in New Business. No formal report was sent in for the minutes.)

Webmaster/Website/Email: There were 3,819 visits to the web site in September. The Meeting List page continues to be the most visited page followed by the Newsletter and Contact Us pages. We have 572 people subscribed to the monthly email list (up by 5 people this month).

It’s been a quiet month for me with only these couple of activities to report:

- The approved Central Service Guideline document has been posted on the web and the draft copy removed.
- The Treasurer Gmail account automatic forwarding has been changed from Andrew to Bill P.

Yours in service, Heather L., Web Administrator

No questions or comments.

Help Email Coordinator: Dear Central Service, in September we had three people asking for help in finding meetings. We had one email seeking to attract business from our website. (For Web design). I let the person know that we did not need their services. I did attend the workshop on September the eleventh. That was all for the month.

In service, Shawn M., Help Email Chair

No questions or comments.

Hospital Visitation: It gives me great pleasure to say that I have nothing to report!

Yours in service, Michael H., Hospital Visitation Chair

Question – How many members do you have on the Hospital Visitation list to do visits? Right now, there are 12 members.

Telephone: Good evening everyone, things are going well with the phones at this time, although we are desperate to get members to step up and volunteer to take the overnight phones. We have at this time four members for the overnight phones. I ask that all CSR's please announce at your meetings that we need people to answer the overnight phone. Also the evening co-chair has 13 people answering the phones and the daytime co-chair has 9. Considering the amount of members in District 1 and 2, the numbers are very low. Recently I have had some calls from members from groups who do the weekend phones asking for the contact number for the group they pass the phone on to next. As it is the same group who gives the phone and takes the phone every time, could each group keep this information available for members who volunteer in their group?

Finally, I am trying to update the group contact list, so if your group takes the weekend phones, can you please see me after the meeting to let me know who your group contact is.

Thank you, Leah C., Telephone Chair

No questions or comments.

Newsletter:

1. The Bulletin was posted over the weekend with a couple of late reported birthday celebrations.
2. There is a glitch for some members printing off the bulletin in that the second or third page gets cut off at the bottom. We have tried to leave a larger margin at the bottom of the page to solve this. It may be the change from Word to a PDF or the program in the member's computer. It looks okay in Word, but not so okay on the Website and if okay on the website, not so okay when some members print it off. We have a new member joining the committee who is more tech savvy, who may be able to solve the mystery.
3. Rob moves forward in his apprenticeship and is catching on to the mysteries of the A.A. Groups and committees.

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

No questions or comments.

Entertainment: All is going well with plans for our Halloween dance on Oct 29 at Club 24. Tickets still available for \$5. Look out in the coming weeks for our New Year's Eve tickets. Again this year, we will only have 110 tickets available. Details will be on the website soon.

Yours in Service, Samaira, Entertainment Chair

Literature: First of all I want to apologize for missing last month's meeting. I had a long day and it completely slipped my mind. There has been some activity with literature in the past couple of months with book orders. I made an order at the end of September with GSO for books totaling \$499.79. I was able to find a use for one of the brail big books by giving it to the Nova Scotia Archivist at Bedford-Sackville AA Day, and he was quite grateful. I've also emailed

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the Archivist in NL, but I didn't get a response. I emailed again today, and if I get no response again, I'll give a call to inquire if he'd like one as well.

My on-going saga of trying to find a good home for the French text Big Books continues as I still have not found any takers. I believe where I left-off at the last meeting in August, I had contacted Cape Breton Area groups with no interest. More recently, I have sent out an email to Area 82 asking if there was any interest. I didn't receive a response, so I sent another email today. As well, I was in Fredericton last week and I attended a meeting while I was there. After the meeting, I talked to a couple of members and I inquired about the possibility of some groups/members wanting some French text books. I was told it wasn't likely as a lot of the meetings are bilingual as opposed to French only and even the people who speak French find it easier to discuss the literature in English as all would understand. Also, some of the content doesn't correlate properly with the other language version, so it can be difficult to follow along. (The content is the same obviously, but when you translate a text in a different language often the words don't translate exactly as they are in the other language.) If I get no response in the next little while, I'll move on to the next province and inquire in Quebec. I don't believe I'd have any problem if I have to go that route.

I don't have any financial information as I have yet to get to the bank, but I'll be going this afternoon to make a deposit, so I will have the info for tonight's meeting.

I have stopped tracking the inventory numbers for the year, as I'll be doing them again in a couple of months when the incoming chair begins his/her familiarization with their new duties. At that time I (along with the new chairperson) will do a thorough count of the Literature inventory. I will say that we have sufficient inventory for the time being. There are a number of orders pending at the present time, so there will likely be another order going to GSO in the coming weeks. That is all for now. See you in November

Yours in Service, Evan McF., Literature Chair

District 1: District # 1 is doing its best to maintain the work that they are doing. We have had our Elections on September 25th and elected a new DCM, Samara G. from the Second Chance Group. Then we elected Susan N. from The Live for Today Group as our new Secretary of the district. Now we need to find a new Alt DCM and Treasurer. Now if someone is interested and wants to come to District # 1 for a change in services, please come to see me first.

Now it is Area 82 Assembly time and our Alt Delegate Tim M. has had some heart problems, so please keep him in your prayers. There will be a lot of business going on there, so it would be nice to see some of the Central Service members there. Please come and see what is being done in Area 82 Services.

At the last meeting in Sept., we had a lot of talk about the District Guide Lines and how they need to be revised. So they are going to strike a new Ad-Hoc Committee for the revisions. This will make the Guide Lines much clearer when dealing with the district business. Now it time for me to step aside and let the new members take over - this is called rotation which makes AA work so well. By the way I am very tired and the work is getting to me, so please bear with me for now.

Yours in Love and Service, Fred DeM., District 1 DCM
No questions or comments.

District 2: (Present for meeting, but no report sent in for the minutes.)

Area 82: no report tonight

Other: no report tonight

All Reports were motioned for approval by Lisa. Seconded by Heather. Vote taken - passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- a) **Hand-over Procedures – Paul** – This will be added to the November Agenda as Foster had more information on this.
- b) **The December 24th Cocktail Party (Social) – Arlene** – This was brought up last month as a chance for all the CSRs to go back to their groups and ask if their group would like to host this event. You would also need to ask if your facility is available for the afternoon of the 24th, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Some churches are not available due to the Christmas Activities. There is a budgeted amount from CS for buying supplies, etc., so there is no cost to your group, only need of volunteers. As there have been complaints over the years of why doesn't this event move around, as it once did, here is your chance to host in your city/town/area.
- c) **Group Insurance Update – Paul** – All the invoices are out to the groups and if your group hasn't already paid, it is now due. Please bring the monies into the next CS meeting.
- d) **Elections: (Trudy, District 2 DCM)**
 - I. **Secretary** – 3 calls for nomination, no nomination, carried over to November meeting.
 - II. **Telephone Co-chair (x2)** - 3 calls for nomination, no nomination, carried over to November meeting.
 - III. **Literature Chair** - 3 calls for nomination, no nomination, carried over to November meeting. (Co-chair position cannot be filled until Chair position is filled.)
 - IV. **Bluenose Bulletin Co-chair** - 3 calls for nomination, no nomination, carried over to November meeting.
 - V. **Webmaster Chair** – Heather nominated Pedro. He accepted the nomination. He answered all questions. Vote was taken – For-20, Opposed-0, Abstaining-0. Vote passed. Congratulations Pedro!
 - VI. **Help Email Coordinator** - Shawn nominated Jerry P. He accepted the nomination. He answered all questions. Vote was taken – For-20, Opposed-0, Abstaining-0. Vote passed. Congratulations Jerry!
 - VII. **Entertainment Co-chair** – there wasn't 3 calls for nominations, but the CSRs are asked to take it back to the group to see if there is any interest in the position.

New Business:

- a) **2017 Mid-Winter Round-up – Decision - Paul and Jim, Co-chair of MWRU** – There was a lot of discussion around this topic, so this is a synopsis of that discussion. In a nutshell, the Holiday Inn is not available due to renovations. The committee had an agreement with the Westin, which was for \$6000 plus sales tax. The Westin was the only hotel to fit the bill, so to speak, as per our other round-ups at the Holiday Inn, numbers of attendance, etc.

They had voted, as a committee, to have the round-up and take the loss. But when Tim, the Chair, called again to try to work out a better deal, the Westin informed him that they have forgotten to put on the 17 percent Administration fee on to the agreement, which put the bill over \$8000. Also, parking being an issue as well. With the new information, at the last meeting, the committee voted to cancel the round-up for this up-coming year. The MWRU committee was coming to Central Service with the following Resolution:

2017 Mid-Winter Round-up Resolution

As the 2017 Round-up could not take place at the Dartmouth Holiday Inn due to renovations: the Committee canvassed the Halifax Regional Municipality for a new venue for February; the only facility meeting all the requirements for the Round-up was the Westin Hotel, who submitted a proposal after negotiations with committee representatives.

The over-all budget for the Round-up was developed taking into account significant higher costs for the facilities. The forecast projected a serious deficit requiring coverage by the Central Service Committee.

In consultation with the Executive members of the Central Service Committee, it was determined that the probable deficit was beyond the means of the Central Service Committee.

Therefore, be it resolved that the 2017 Mid-Winter Round-Up be cancelled.

As Central Service only votes on motions, Jim made a motion that "We, the Central Service Committee, due to financial restraints, cancel the 2017 Mid-Winter Round-up." Allan seconded the motion. A lot of discussion followed this motion.

What came out of the discussion was that the committee has used only the requirement from previous round-ups, that there hadn't been much discussion on reducing numbers and the make-up of the round-up, programs, how many days needed, etc. Many people believed that even if it was only a one or two day event and if the numbers were reduced, that more venues would be available. The change would be just for this upcoming year and the next committee could look at returning to the previous set-up, if financially feasible. Many ideas were floated, but it would be up to the MWRU as to how to proceed. A call to vote on the previous motion was made. A vote was taken – For – 6, Opposed – 13, Abstaining – 3. Minority voice was called, no additional information was presented. No votes were changed. The 2017 Mid-Winter Round-up has not been cancelled. We have asked the committee to get back together before our next meeting in November and bring us more information on what they plan to do.

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

There weren't any missed announcements this month.

The next CS Meeting is November 1, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.