

**Date: February 7, 2017**

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

**Welcome and Open:** Meeting opened by Paul B. at 7:00 pm with a few moments of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

**Call for Items to be added to the agenda:** Pop Up AA Day, Weekend Phones contact list

**Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Heather C.

**Roll Call:**

**Executive:** Paul B. – Chair, Bill P. - Co-chair, Jacqueline K. -Treasurer and Trudy D. – Secretary. **Committees:** Heather C. – Phone Chair/ CSR Four Seasons, Rob A. - Bluenose Bulletin Chair/ CSR KIS, Sheila C. -Literature Chair, Pedro G. -Webmaster, Natalie C. -Entertainment Chair, Michael H. – Hospital Visitation Chair **CSRs & Alt's-** Beth P. – Downtown Dartmouth, Alan M. – Sunrise, Andrew S. – Atlantic, Marianne S. – Serenity Sisters Alt. CSR, Clare L. – Live for Today, Margaret S. – Acceptance, David R. – Living in the Solution, Sarah S. – The Only Requirement, Barry L. -Back to Basics, Donnie B.- West End Step, Perry B. – Welcome, Gig M.- Early Risers, Ron H. -Colby Village, Chris S. -Highland Park, Jeff D. -Rep. Fresh Start, Ellen S. -Alt. CSR Second Chance **Others:** Cathy M. - District 2 DCM, Samaira G. - District 1 DCM, **Observers** – Cassy D., Tom P., Murdo M., Lisa N.

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$34.15 collected, taken by Jacqueline K.

**Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:** No errors or omissions. Minutes motioned for approval by Mike H., Seconded by Rob A. Vote taken – passed unanimously.

**Reports:**

**Chair:** By now a lot of you from the various committees have heard from me and or gotten a email to keep in touch. This will be a monthly thing just so we can all work and be a support for one another in our monthly goals. They say you learn patience in the AA well this month was all about patience and saying the Serenity prayer. Being in a phone centre for 7 hours when you don't work there on a Sat and then returning on a Monday for 3 hours and not even getting mad, just frustrated is telling me yes, I am growing. Thank you, Heather. The month of Feb, was just as busy as the first month with getting all the bank requirements setup and making sure all the loose ends are tied up. Went to the district 2 meeting and it was very informative and it was good to see a lot of the GSRs Present. Bill and I met for a few hours to discuss several adjectives that we are trying to put together. Such as a how-to binder. This will be discussed in the new business portion of the evening. Jacqueline and I met to go over the budget and to make sure we are all on track for the upcoming year as for our finances. More to be discuss in the new business portion of the evening. We have a several positions in the Co-chair role that needs to be filled so please spread the word. These positions are vital in our committee structure.

**Co-chair:** Having been given this privilege of serving in the capacity of Co-Chair, now comes the reality of coming to grips with the various tasks which comes with the position. At this apprentice stage, the effort is to acquire the practical experience of how things really work before any thoughts of some grand vision. To this end, I would like to participate as an observer on the various Committees to learn and appreciate the mechanics and issues faced by the Committees to complete their responsibilities. I have sat in as an observer with the Bluenose Bulletin Committee which is a different role for me. Paul and I got together. Our main discussion concerned the E-mail Help Line. Paul will report specifically on our discussions. And finally, there is a particular issue which I think needs to be

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addressed that is service volunteers and leadership development. As long as I've been in A.A, there have been concerns and pleas about volunteers to fill various leadership positions and service volunteers for the troops to fulfill the work of the Committees. I think we need to put our heads together in some fashion and apply some fresh analysis and ideas for action. The issue has not gone away and complaining about it has not provided solutions. At this time, it is simply to raise this concern with hope that it will become a focus for discussion leading to some concrete proposals for action in the near future. Due to the work required to finish the year end Treasurers duties, I have done nothing as the Co- Chair.

**Treasurer:** The opening balance on January 1 was \$3757.37. Debits= \$293.00. Credits= \$469.25. Closing balance= \$3933.62. Prudent Account balance is \$4168.82. Literature account opening balance= \$1782.03, Credits= \$469.00, Debits= \$0.00, Closing balance= \$2251.03.

**Secretary:** I am Alcoholic named Trudy. This month was quite active between getting to the bank a few times to get the signing authority finalized, and trying to update the contact list for CSC. I believe I have most of the groups covered with CSRs. The Districts have been a bigger challenge but I believe I have done the best that I can for now. The Area list is updated as well. The GSO list has not even begun to be started, let's all remember I have a 1 year term!!! I sent out a reminder to a few of the committees that hadn't sent me a report by this morning. I did get a few so thanks for that! If you still haven't sent me or given me tonight a report by tomorrow I will put a No Report next to your name.

**Bluenose Bulletin:** The February 2017 Bluenose Bulletin, much like the January edition, was full of birthday celebrations. We hope to see many of our AA members at these events. Once again, most people, in the Districts were kind enough to get their Emails to the Committee on time, including self-corrections and the like. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everybody that the deadline for announcements to be included is the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. The Committee is looking again for a new newsletter co-chair as Scott T is unable to fulfill the role due to family and work obligations. As always, the Committee is looking forward to maintaining the quality, readability and integrity of the Bluenose Bulletin as a tool to be used to spread accurate information to the AA community at large.

**QUESTIONS:** Can we use the blank page four (if double sided) as a contact page? **ANSWER:** Yes, we can.

**Webmaster/Website/Email:** We had 4735 views of the web site in January. Top pages/posts were: Meeting List, Newsletter and Service guidelines page. We have 609 subscribed members getting the monthly email (up by 29 from last month). During January, I continued setting Gmail accounts up and providing support to the people taking over positions in Central Service Executive and Committees. I added a disclaimer in Volunteer form stating this is only for AA members. This will prevent well-intentioned but not AA members from offering to volunteer. Together with Sheila, Literature Chair, we've updated the literature request form and removed the book of the month section. In the coming month, I will start cleaning the access to the CSR/GSR Area contact list. This list should be restricted to only current active members. This will create some inevitable complaints as we remove access to former members. I will direct those to each group's CSR representative who will be the one with access. I paid the Web hosting fee for 2017. I forgot to bring the receipt this month, I will bring it next month to be reimbursed. I also have told people to let me know if something is not working let him know, you need to activate your email for it to work.

**CONCERN:** Community Liaison is not an AA term that we use, it should be changed to subcommittees.

**Hospital Visitation:** The month of January was busy regarding hospital visitation. There were 2 new long term patients. One that was a hopeful to come into AA. The hopeful was a visit that turned into an "intervention" meeting. Both Mike and I visited and carried the message. The two-long term members were both on the same floor but different wings. One could walk, so I walked him over and introduced him to the patient who couldn't get around. They visit each other and have friends as well that know them, so not lonely. Also, Mary R. is back in the hospital. Mary is a member of the Acceptance Group. She is not well and I can give details if people wish to visit.

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**Telephone:** It's been a busy month getting settled into my new position. We need another Co- Chair, as I have also been doing that position along with my own. I have been recruiting new members to do the phones for the day phone. Sharmian has also been doing the same. We are desperate for members on our 12-step list. If you can take this back to your groups, we are in the process of updating these lists. Paul has been busy with our Committee this month, we have updated the phones to smart phones as our contract for 3 of the phones were up. Paul put many hours into getting us the least expensive contract. These phones are now in service. I also need the new contact numbers for the groups who are taking the weekend phones, the list I have is not up to date.

**Entertainment:** The ground hog has predicted an early spring, but that's not all we have to look forward to. On March 25 at Club 24 we are holding our first of what we hope will be many Pop Up AA Days, sponsored by the Entertainment Committee, Early Risers and Circle of Sisters. It will be a Day full of fellowship and fun. Hoping for a successful event and that other groups will be inspired to host a Pop Up day of their own. Please contact Entertainment with your dates and ideas. AA Bowling is starting up again. Use your spare time to strike up some new friendships. Every second Sunday afternoon at Bayer's Road Bowlarama 1- 3 pm. Starting March 12 or 19. Cost is \$7 which includes 2 Strings and shoes. On Saturday April 1, there will be a Beach themed dance at Trinity Church on Main Ave in Fairview (Back to Basics meeting location) Details will be available at next month's CSR meeting. Please forward any ideas to the Entertainment email or to myself. **Questions:** Bowling might be \$7 for 3 strings instead of 2? **ANSWER:** Natalie will check on that and clarify.

**2.** Does the bowling start on March 12? **ANSWER:** 12<sup>th</sup> or the 19, not sure exactly. Then it will be every other Sunday. Will confirm and let people know.

**3.** Did you say the Pop up AA day is the Entertainment Committee? **Answer:** The Entertainment Committee and 2 Groups. Gig will talk more about it in his report under new business.

**Literature:** The balance of the Literature account is of Feb 7/17 is \$2595.53. The inventory value to date is \$5922.20 and cash on hand is \$9 as well as the \$35 float. A deposit of \$344.50 was made today Feb 7/17. On Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> I placed a Literature order of \$738.33 USD.

**Question:** Why did we remove the book of the month club? **Answer:** It was a choice I made based on inventory.

**District 1:** District 1 is to announce that we have a full Executive Committee. We would like to welcome Racquel as our new Alt DCM and Hamish as our new Treasurer. Racquels email address is altdcm1.aahalifax@gmail.com. We are still in need of a Co-Chair for Treatment. Should have at least two years of sobriety for the position. Please contact Tina, her number can be found on the website. District 1 is looking forward to the Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service on Feb 24th to 26th. you can still register on the website. "The purpose of C.E.R.A.A.S.A. is to develop greater unity among the members, groups and Areas of the Eastern Canada Region; to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences; and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Assembly and the C.E.R.A.A.S.A. committee always try to foster our legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service." Great way to learn more about yourself and others through active service. **QUESTION:** Do we have a Co- Chair for PI? **ANSWER:** No, we do not.

**District 2:** We had our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with our newly elected GSR's the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in January. It was well attended i.e. half our GSR's came. We discussed how to become more involved in AA. As such, we will be adding an agenda item of the mailing Box 459 from GSO to start. As well we will distribute the Agenda items for the April GSO Conference, NY. Our Alternate DCM as the Workshop Co- Chair has scheduled the first workshop of the year for Feb 12 at 1 pm, Club 24. Topics will be 1) Chairing Group Meetings and 2) How to do a Group Inventory. We have also set up a subcommittee to propose a budget at our Feb meeting. This meeting happened a few weeks ago, and we have a preliminary budget to submit on Feb 19. We have passed on amounts to District 1 that we already approved last GSR meeting with regard to joint committee allocations.

**Area 82:** No Report

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All Reports were motioned for approval by Rob. Seconded by Perry. Vote taken - passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

**Elections -**

1. **Literature Co-chair** - no nominations
2. **Entertainment Co-chair** – Cassy D.- accepted- qualified- no questions- passed unanimously
3. **Hospital Visitation** – Co-chair - Michael A.- accepted- qualified- **Question:** how long sobriety time? **Answer:** 1 year. Concern was brought up about doing visits alone- Mike H. clarified it is a visit not a 12-step call, thus it can be done alone. Mike H. has been doing visits alone for 2 years.
4. **Mid- Winter Round Up Chair**- Murdo M.- accepted- Over qualified! - No questions- passed unanimously.
5. **Newsletter Co-Chair**- no nominations
6. **Telephone Co-Chair**- no nominations
7. **Help Email Coordinator** – no nominations

**New Business:**

1. **Budget**- Jacqueline presented the budget. I have included a copy of this budget in these minutes for the Groups to have a copy. **QUESTIONS:** Is there a certain percentage we send to GSO or do we keep money back in case we need it? **ANSWER:** We have a sufficient amount if we need it for extra costs. Alan Did not to vote without seeing a hard copy of the Budget. We found some copies for people to look at. Gig motioned the Budget be approved, Margaret 2<sup>nd</sup>- vote taken. 30 for- 0 against- 1 abstention. Budget approved.
2. **Leadership and development**- Bill covered all his comments in his Co- Chair report
3. **Help booklet**- Paul and Bill want to put together a how- to booklet. They are presently working on that. More to be revealed.
4. **Phones**- Contact list needs updating. Please look at the list and change the contacts if needed. The CSR should be the contact person.
5. **Pop Up AA Day**- Gig M. said that the Early Risers Group came up with the idea of a Pop Up AA Day after the 2016 Round Up was cancelled. Early Risers is putting up the rent money of \$75 and they will not be charging for admission. There will be 6 meetings at 45 minutes long. Natalie would like to have the Entertainment committee to coordinate so groups do not overlap if they want to have these a few times a year. **QUESTION:** Will this be coming out of the Entertainment budget? **ANSWER:** I don't think so. **QUESTION:** So, this is just to coordinate not as an Entertainment event? **ANSWER:** I must investigate if I can put money towards sandwiches or things. **CONCERN:** The big issue might be making sure that these days do not take away from other events around the province. **ANSWER:** We are aware of this and are just trying to make a few events for the fellowship.

**Announcements:** New women's group in Hubbard's, more details in the Bluenose Bulletin. West End Step group has its 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and everyone is welcome. More in the Bluenose Bulletin. Lefty is celebrating 46 years; Dave E. is 41 years and Fred LW is 3 years at the Downtown Dartmouth group the last Monday of February.

**The next CS Meeting is March 7, 2017.** Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

