

Date: May 2, 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: What to do with free books from a group that closed.

Twelve Traditions: The Twelve Traditions were read by Barry L.

Roll Call: Executive: Paul B. -Chairperson, Bill P. -Co- Chairperson, Jacqueline K. -Treasurer and Trudy D. - Secretary.

Committees: Sheila C. -Literature Chair, Mike H. – Hospital Visitation Chair, Pedro G. – Webmaster, Natalie C.- Entertainment Chair- **CSRs & Alt's-** Alan M. -Sunrise, Andrew S. - Atlantic, David R. - Living in the Solution, Gig M.- Early Risers, Perry B.- Welcome, Beth P.- Downtown Dartmouth, Barry L.- Back to Basics, Jeff D.- Fresh Start, Ron H.- Colby Village BBSG, Alan M.- Second Chance, Gerry L.- Sunday Night Serenity, Marianne S.- Alt. CSR Serenity Sisters, Eric L.- Alt. CSR Four Seasons -**Others:** Cathy M.- DCM District 2

7th Tradition: \$25.95 collected, taken by Jacqueline K.

Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting: Moved by Eric L., seconded by David R.- adopted unanimously, no errors or omissions.

Reports:

Chair: My apologies for the lack of participation this month. This month, I attended the work shop over at district 2. This was a very productive workshop and there was close to 20 in attendance. I made my usual calls to see if I can be of assistance and everyone I spoke to seemed to be doing just fine. I want to thank all of you who sent in your report to our secretary.

Co-chair: This past month I attended the meetings of district 1 and 2 on behalf of C.S. I reported to district 2. Flowing from last months meeting I conferred with the webmaster on adding items from the GSO website to our web page. This is a work in progress. As a duty of co chair I am responsible for overseeing the insurance policy. The details of the premium and policy won't be available until September.

Treasurer: The opening balance on April 1 was \$5,091.38. Debits= \$310.66. Credits= \$96.55. Closing balance= \$4877.27. Prudent Account balance is \$4169.51. The Revenues and Disbursements sheet is provided for the groups on the last page of these minutes.

Secretary: This month has been very quiet. I sent out the minutes with no replies for any changes to be made. I did not get any questions about the attachments sent out. I sent out a reminder for both the Committee reports and the general meeting reminder. Thanks to everyone who sent me their reports. If there is anything that I should be doing but am not please let me know, if I don't know I can't do! Thanks for letting me be of Service.

Bluenose Bulletin: The May 2017 Bluenose Bulletin had fewer birthday celebrations, but still had its share. We always hope to see many of our AA members at these events. As before, most people, in the Districts were kind enough to get their Emails to the Committee on time. Once again, I would like to again take this opportunity to remind everybody that the deadline for announcements to be included is the 25th of each month. It is very also important that Birthday Announcements be sent to the Committee via Email, and not by phone or texting, if possible. The newsletter Committee is still looking for a new newsletter co-chair, so we ask that the word be spread to the various groups. Knowledge of MS Word is a requirement. We had a number of event announcements, ranging from AA bowling to the Bridgewater May Day to the Nova Scotia provincial round-up and also AA Karaoke. As before, 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.

Webmaster/Website: We had 4747 views of the web site in April. The top pages/posts visited continue to be: Meeting List, Newsletter and Service minutes' page. We have 590 subscribed members getting the monthly email, up by 12. The mail list distribution list is constantly changing with new subscription added every month but also some removed. These are the statistics of last few email campaigns: Sent but not opened 62.2%; Opened 22%; Opened & clicked 15.3%; Unsubscribed 0.4%. This tell us that the vast majority of recipients do not read the email (62.2%). I will work on changing the email content to attempt increase the number of readers. Other activities I performed during April are: Web site maintenance (backups, clean up); Fixed mobile version menu to correct new contact list page; Updated meeting list. Once again, I appreciate the

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help and support I receive from everyone. **Questions:** When you say 4747 views does that mean unique visits or if I click on a different tab does that count towards that number? **Answer:** If you visit the website and click around the tabs it counts as 1 visit. If you close the browser and re-enter again it counts as a separate visit.

Email: This is an overview about help emails during the month of April. In total, there were 5 emails; The emails were all from individuals who have never been to AA and looking for the courage to attend that first meeting. Suggestions were offered on how to make that 1st step of walking thru the doors of AA. While I will be on vacation, this account will be still managed and if any new emails arrive the report will be Amended. At this point, I have still been unable to find a permanent -Chair for Help Emails; however, I have been putting the word out about this vital position. Hope this information proves helpful. Thank you for allowing me to be of service with the Help Emails during the month of April. **Question:** What is the requirements for this position and are they written in stone? **Answer:** Common sense and computer knowledge is needed. 2 years is preferred but not written in stone. If the person has a knowledge of AA Steps and Traditions and has some Service experience we can teach the rest.

Hospital Visitation: Nothing to report. No one hospitalized this month. Healthy month. **Question:** Do you have funds for this committee? **Answer:** no funds, just part of the job.

Telephone: Good evening everyone, sorry for not being able to attend the meeting but I am away. Phone committee is still in need of a co chair, I have been announcing it at most of the meetings I attend. Will be looking at getting cases for the evening and night phones as the day phone has a case that was donated. Please keep announcing at the meetings the need of members manning the phones and to put their name on the 12-step list. See you all next month

Entertainment: Spring is slowly but surely giving away to summer, who isn't thrilled with that? Looking forward to our Annual AA CAMPING and Picnic in the coming months. On May 27th, we will be holding our first Karaoke night at Club 24 in Dartmouth. Tune up your pipes or your clapping hands and come out to support all the awesome talent we have in the rooms. Time is 8 to 12, cost is 7th Tradition and the kitchen will be open for snacks. This is the kick off to our next event which will be biweekly kitchen parties also held at Club 24. More info will be available in the June Bluenose Bulletin. We are also waiting for the next group to host a POP UP DAY. Great way to build group spirit and unity. Bowling is continuing on a bi-weekly basis. Please see the Bulletin for the schedule. Please forward any ideas, suggestions or questions to: Entertainment.aahalifax@gmail.com or contact Natalie or Cassy. Thank you for your past and future support.

Literature: The balance of the literature account as of April 24, 2017 is \$2817.78. The inventory value to date is \$ 6,605.00 and cash on hand is the \$35.00 float. A deposit of \$253.00 was made April 24, 2017. **Question:** Did we decide what to do with the old stock? **Answer:** It is not old stock, it is Grapevine stock that hasn't sold. If anyone has a suggestion please email Sheila.

2018 Mid-Winter Round Up: No new developments since last report as we haven't had a committee meeting since last CS meeting. Next meeting May 14th.

District 1: As you can see, both myself and the ADCM are unable to attend this meeting tonight. We send our regrets. Dist 1 is running well, busy getting ready for the Service Weekend, hope many of you will attend. Great opportunity to learn about service and great fellowship.

District 2: District 2 is doing well. We are having consistent turnouts of 9 out of 14 of our groups. During our April meeting we dealt with several things. First, 7/9 indicated their groups support of the motion to transfer the subcommittees from the Districts to CSC. 2 groups had not yet met so we will have our final vote in May. Secondly, we talked about the low volunteerism in Service with groups. This was added as new business and we had a good discussion about this common problem. All committees attended and there were questions and answers from many GSRs. We reviewed agenda items for the Service Weekend. Next month we will be reviewing the contents of the GSR kits as a new business item and my focus will be on confirming GSR attendance at the Service Weekend on June 2-4 in Truro. Observers are welcome and will be able to participate but not vote. There was a second workshop on chairing group meetings. It was well attended and very helpful. The next workshop is being put on in District 1 at the George Dixon Centre on Sunday May 28th from 1-2 pm. It is on the role of the GSR. All are welcome Thank you for the opportunity to share new activities.

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Area 82: I am sitting at J.F.K. Airport on my way home from the General Service Conference. This week has been an amazing experience for me, to sit in a room with Delegates, Trustees, and Staff members striving to carry out our primary purpose to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic. What an honour and privilege, for which I am most grateful. I am looking forward to my Report which will be given at the Service Weekends and I would ask my fellow Area Officers and D.C.M.'s to encourage as many G.S.R.'s and Group members to attend. It is my opinion that this is an exciting time to be in the A.A. Service structure, as we try to carry the message in new and exciting ways, (more to be revealed). There is a lot of work to be done in our Area but I am confident that we have the resources to carry out this important work, and I am looking forward to working with you all over the next 20 months. The Conference process is a wonderful opportunity for our group conscience to be heard. Let's do all that we can to see that your groups voice is heard loud and clear. I will be away on vacation from May 3rd to 10th and will be ready to hit the ground running when I return. Thanks to all for an experience of a lifetime, see you soon.

All Reports were motioned for approval by Alan M. Seconded by Eric L. Vote taken - passed unanimously.

Old Business: Elections -

1. Help Email Chair- Beth P. Nominated, accepted and qualified. Vote taken, passed unanimously. Welcome Beth!
2. Literature Co- Chair- none
3. Telephone Co- Chair- none
4. Newsletter Co- Chair- Eric L. Nominated, accepted and qualified. Vote taken, passed unanimously. Welcome Eric!

New Business:

1. What's new tab update- Bill has passed the information on to Pedro and he will start building the tab on the website. If anyone sees something they like please pass it on to Bill.
2. If any committee would like an announcement in the Bluenose Bulletin please email the newsletter and it will be included.
3. Mike was given some free books from the Baby Steps group that closed. They wanted them to go to the Detox if that is ok with all. Consensus of the room was to do that. Jacqueline took them and will deliver soon.
4. Contact list- The contact list is available on the newsletter and website contact list. It was brought up that the contact list with personal phone numbers is on the website. If you are looking for the emails you can find them there. **Question:** Is this the personal phone numbers of individuals? **Answer:** Yes, this is the committee chairs and district committee chairs only. Some people are uncomfortable with this. After some discussion, it was decided if anyone does not want their phone number on the web then let Pedro know and he will remove it. Pedro will also inform the Bluenose Bulletin Committee so they can adjust the contact list at the back of the bulletin.
5. Paul asked if everyone got a copy of the Proposal that was included in last months' minutes. A few hadn't realized that the CSRs had received it in email, not the Alternates. Paul had some extra hard copies and handed them out. He asked all to review this information so if this does come to our table we will be able to discuss it.
6. Paul thanked everyone who sent in their reports early and wanted to make sure people understand how important this is for the flow of the committee. Everyone is doing an amazing job getting them in so thank you.
7. For anyone who printed off the first version of the Bluenose Bulletin the Mid Winter Round-up
8. Eric brought up 3 items from his group. **Question:** For 3 months in a row there has not been announcements for their group in the bulletin. Can we get an auto-reply set up? **Answer:** There is an auto-reply already set up. If someone emails and does not receive the auto-reply please call or email again. **Question:** Can we have a printer friendly version of the newsletter? **Answer:** This will be looked at by the newly elected co- chair! **Question:** The disconnect between the Bulletin and the meeting list has been addressed by Pedro. **Answer:** The meeting list has been updated this past month to reflect the recent changes.

Announcements: New group started on Saturday afternoons at 2 pm called Sober Today. They meet at St. Paul's Church corner of Windmill Road and James Street. Please enter at the Orange door.

The next CS Meeting is June 6, 2017. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm with the Serenity Prayer.

