

Date: September 5, 2017

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

Welcome and Open: Meeting opened by Bill P. at 7:00 pm with a few moments of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Call for Items to be added to the agenda: none

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

Roll Call: Executive: Paul B. -Chairperson, Bill P. -Co- Chairperson/ PI Chair, Jacqueline K. -Treasurer, Trudy D. -Secretary **Committees:** Heather C.- Telephone Chair/ CSR 4 Seasons, Rob A.- Newsletter Chair, Sheila C. -Literature Chair, John H.- Co-Chair C.P.C. Committee, Pedro G. -Webmaster, Beth P. -Help Email Coordinator/ CSR Downtown Dartmouth, Natalie C. – Entertainment Chair, Kelly D. -Corrections Chair, Chris R. -CPC Chair **CSR's:** Marianne S.-CSR Serenity Sisters, Ron H.- CSR Colby Village BBSG, Gig M.- CSR Early Risers, Barry L.- Back to Basics, Andrew S.-CSR Atlantic, Dave R.-CSR Living in the Solution, Donald B.- CSR West End Step, Barry L.-CSR Back to Basics, Jeff D.-CSR Fresh Start, Alan M. -CSR Second Chance, Fred L.W.- CSR Cole Harbour, Cathy M.-DCM District 2 **Observers:** Eric L., Emily T. S., Murray L.

7th Tradition: \$ 52.75 collected, taken by Jacqueline K.

Approval of the Agenda: Amended agenda approval motioned by Eric and seconded by Heather. All approved

Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting: Moved by Natalie C., seconded by Heather C. - adopted unanimously, no errors or omissions.

Reports:

Chair: Well it hard to believe, that there is only 4 months left in this year's term. This month I attended the District 2 meeting. There was a great turn out and lots of great discussion. We now have 8 Committees under Central Service and it's a good idea to start announcing we in need of a lot of volunteers. In all of the conversations with some committee chairs, that main topic is volunteers. Reminder, that the executive elections are next month. Please spread the word to get more people involved in service. All 4 positions are open.

Co-chair: The month of August was somewhat slow for activity, however Central Service received the invoice for the 2017- 18 insurance year. The policies were organized in packages and a method was developed for the collection and documentation of premiums from groups insured under the policy. The Co—Chair made an appearance at the District 1 meeting although due to a mix of times, late for the main portion of the meeting. The Co-Chair was also tasked with preparing the draft amendments to the CS Guidelines and Procedures in light of the 4 new committees moving to our mandate.

Treasurer: Opening balance- \$4,665.07, debits- \$615.55, credits- \$114.90, Closing balance- \$4,164.42. Prudent Reserve- \$4,170.22

Secretary: I refilled my printer cartridges this month and it came to \$99.65. My yearly budget is \$100.00. I will be looking for the same amount again in December to replace the cartridges. When I started the year, I made sure they were full. I will also be looking to expense 1 package of 500 sheets of paper for the year.

Bluenose Bulletin: The September 2017 Bluenose Bulletin had a good amount of birthday celebrations, more than were previously included. We always hope to see many of our AA members at these events. Our new co-chair, Eric L was much more involved in this edition, and it is a pleasure to work with him. He will make a great Chair when the time comes. As before, the vast majority of people in the area were kind enough to get their Emails to the Committee on time, including self-corrections and the like. I would like to again take this opportunity to again 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, texting or in person. Once again, the printer friendly version of the Bluenose Bulletin is now online, and that should meet the requirements of those who require less ink when printing out the newsletter. 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 4196 views of the web site in June, down 16% compared to July. The top pages/posts visited continue to be: Meeting List, Newsletter and Contact Us pages. We have 598 subscribed members getting the monthly email, like previous month. This past month has been quiet without much going on. I continued to work on a new form that will include a Spam protection. I've tested a dozen or so free plugins until I found the one that works. Initial tests are promising and I've replaced it in the meeting list page. Next one will be Hospital Visitation. I attended District 1 General Service Meeting this past month and discovered that the calendar in the Web is completely wrong. I fixed it now to reflect that the meeting has 2 different schedules. On the 4th Sunday of the month it will alternate between 1pm and 2pm. When it's at 2pm there will be a Workshop at 1pm. Makes sense? 😊 Other routine tasks I performed during August were: Web site maintenance (backups, clean up), Posted announcements as received from Groups and/or Districts. Once again, I appreciate the help and support I receive from everyone.

Email: August has been a quiet month for emails. I have replied to six emails - most of which were requests for information on when and where meetings are taking place. Also, responded to a person who has been affected by another's drinking problem and gave them information on how to reach out to Al-Anon.

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Hospital Visitation: I will be in Hawaii for the next few weeks and unfortunately cannot attend September's meeting. My co-chair is also indisposed at this time to represent. There have been no visitation requests. There has been a continuous stream of spam entering the web into the hospital visit site that eventually ends in my personal email basket. To remove the personal risk of a worm or virus would be to disconnect my personal email from the site. But this would remove my service duty of helping another alcoholic in need. I request the website administrator find an immediate solution.

Telephone: The phone committee is struggling as I have been reporting at our meetings, we have lost our phone Tec last month so I am looking for someone to take this on, we also still need a phone co-chair to look after the day phones, we have recruited a few members to man the day phones, still looking for members for the night phones. The phone committee is putting on a work shop at the end of the month so please make sure this is announced at your meetings. The phones are a great way to give back, what was so freely given to us. I got a call from a member wanting to share this message, we had two out of town members in our area ' when they called the phones for a meeting someone answered, they were so grateful to be able to talk to another member, they only have an answering service in their area, they were so impressed that after they got home they called our phones thanking us for having members answering. This is what is all about, We are responsible.

Entertainment: The Entertainment Committee is pleased to share with you we have planned for the, dare I say the word.....FALL! But first let me tell you about the Annual AA Camping Weekend at Dollar Lake Provincial Park, August 4 - 6. I am pleased to say it was a great weekend with almost equal representation from Halifax, Bedford and Sackville. With 34 tents and 4 trailers and approximately 80 campers we looked like a tent city. Each evening there was a meeting under the stars. Saturday at 6pm was the potluck and what a variety of delicious food was available. The meeting following had 65 in attendance. Costs for camping, supplies and food were 324.89. The generosity of the Fellowships 7th Tradition was 223.70. The amount covered by the Entertainment budget was 101.19. A great value for the fun and fellowship. Bowling will resume Sunday October 1st, 1 - 3pm at the Bowlerama on Bayers Rd. I know that you aren't tired of the catch phrase yet.... " Use your SPARE time to STRIKE up some Fellowship" (insert groan here, lol) Later this month the AA Annual Picnic will take place. Sunday September 24th from 1 – 4 by the Sailors Memorial in Point Pleasant Park. Donations are welcome and the cost is the 7th Tradition. The Entertainment Committee is looking for a Co-chair. Please forward any ideas thoughts or comments to Natalie C at 902-219-7287

Literature: The balance of the literature account as of August 11, 2017 is \$3645.79, which includes a deposit of \$156.95 made that day. On August 8, 2017, I placed a literature order in the amount of \$322.25 and on August 15, 2017 another order in the amount of \$775.80. A cheque in the amount of \$1,098.05 for these 2 orders will be issued tonight. I apologize, but I don't have an accurate inventory value to date as I have been out of province for a couple of weeks. Cash on hand is \$53.75 which includes a \$35.00 float. I will be placing an order for 2018 calendars and pocket minders in the next couple of weeks. Please advise if anyone or their groups know quantities in advance as it will make ordering more accurate (these cannot be returned if not all sold). Orders can be sent by email at literature.aahalifax@gmail.com or by calling 902-266-3369

2018 Mid-Winter Round Up: There is really not much new to pass along to CS, we haven't had a committee meeting since last time. We still need an Entertainment Chair and Co-Chair, as well as a Hospitality Co-Chair and a Co- Treasurer. Please pass this along to your groups. If you or anyone in your group is interested please come to the next Mid- Winter Round Up meeting at Club 24 on Sept 10th at 1 pm.

CPC: CPC has taken a summer break but our first committee meeting is in September we just finalizing some dates. There are 5 members of our committee. We did presentation for the Atlantic School Theology on July 5, 2017. This was interesting presentation because we asked back to give a presentation for the summer term. They talked about having the committee back in the winter for next year.

Public Information: The committee met this past Saturday September 2,2017. The main purpose of the meeting was to orient new members to the committee and a general discussion of the various activities of the committee. A member has arranged for the distribution of our business cards through the social workers of the Provincial Department of Community Services. Other initiatives remain pending including recruiting for new members.

Treatment: My apologies for not able to be in attendance for the Central Service meeting. The change in the schedule has not been working thus far, I'm hoping to get this worked out. There has been no real change since last month's report within treatment. Meetings are ongoing. We still need members support for Forensics and members to keep their commitments at the group level with Detox. We appreciate all the members that have been able to carry the message and now that summer seems to have come to an end, previous commitments and routines by members hopefully will continue and get back on track.

Corrections: Since the end of Jun 17 this committee does not have a Chair. I have been filling the role as A/Chair. It is requested that you get the word out to find someone who would consider accepting the nomination for this position or as Co-Chair. Two meetings in Aug had to be cancelled as there weren't any volunteers available to co-chair the meeting. We are short on volunteers to put on meetings for both men and women. At this time, there are seven men and seven women available to put on meetings. The optimum number is 10 men and 10 women. A call out for volunteers has gone in the bulletin as well as being spread by word of mouth. As of today, no new volunteers have come forward. The meetings this month were small but well received. The Correction volunteers have been dedicated to ensuring if at all possible meetings are put on. They also have been extremely supportive to me during this transition. An order for books for inmates will be going in this week. Over the last couple of months, I have attempted several times to gain access to the Corrections email address. I have

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been liaising with Pedro on this matter, but as of yet the matter is not resolved. As of yet I have been unable to get the contact name and number on the website to reflect my name as contact instead of Tom's name. I am meeting with the Superintendent of Programs at the prison in early Sep to get an orientation and to obtain clarification on their policies that are unique to this facility. This will be a positive step forward in creating a working relationship between this committee and the facility.

District 1: no report

District 2: District 2 had its regular monthly meeting in August and attendance was excellent. I was unable to attend due to a twelfth step call but the Alternate DCM chaired the meeting. There was more discussion regarding items to be voted on at the fall Assembly. The last thing to discuss in detail is the Area Inventory which we will do at our September meeting. I believe that 5 or 6 of our GSR's will be in attendance at the Assembly and we are looking forward to going to St. John's. There was a workshop held in August as well on the topic of safety in alcoholics anonymous. Equal numbers from both districts were in attendance and it was very informative. Pete L from the Valley was the facilitator and presenter. Our next workshop is on Sunday October 8 at 1:00 at Club 24 (3 Dundas Street). The topic will be the 12 Concepts and facilitators will be Foster L and Rod M from Dartmouth. Please let your groups know and urge members to attend. It is in the September newsletter but there is a change of presenters. We have a committee of 5 to review the District Guidelines now because of the change in committees.

All Reports were motioned for approval by Rob A. Seconded by Jeff D. Vote taken - passed unanimously.

Old Business: Elections -

1. Literature Co- Chair- none
2. Entertainment Co- Chair- none
3. Corrections Chair- Kelly D. nominated, qualified, all in favour, congrats and welcome Kelly
4. Corrections Co- Chair- none
5. Insurance- I left the invoices on the back table. Total cost is \$1247.00 and premiums are the same as last year at \$40.00. When the group pays then I will give you the groups policy. I will be available at both District meetings this month and the October CS meeting.

New Business:

1. CS Amendments to Procedures and Guidelines- Discussion around what will be added. Motion to suspend the rule specifically to how we amend our Guidelines made by Sheila C. and seconded by Kelly D., no debate, all in favour, motion passed. Motion made by Marianne S. and seconded by Kelly D. that the CS Guidelines and Procedures be amended to incorporate the 4 sub-committees, namely: Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Corrections, Public Information (PI) and Treatment, no debate, all in favour, passed unanimously.

Announcements: Literature Chair reminded everyone to please let her know the numbers of Calendars and pocket minder you may want to avoid over ordering an amount that cannot be returned. Sober Today can still use some support. There is a big need for volunteers. Please announce this at your groups we need ground troops. New Years dance will be at St. Theresa's. Bedford/ Sackville AA Days September 23rd 12 noon to 12 midnight.

The next CS Meeting is October 3, 2017. Meeting adjourned at 8 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

