

Date: December 4, 2018

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

December 4, 2018

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:

- Hospital visitation chair added to elections
- request to hold CSR meeting the second Tuesday of the month in January - on Jan 8 instead of Jan 1

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

ROLL CALL:

Executive	Committees	CSR	CSR	Observers
Michael H - Co-chair	Natalie C - Entertainment chair	Eric L - CSR 4 Seasons	Alan M - CSR Sunrise	Cathy M - DCM Dist 2
Emily S - Secretary, CSR Acceptance	Jodie T - Public Info co-chair	Tim D - CSR Hubbards	David R - CSR Living in the Solution	Curtis T - Sunrise
Bruce B - Treasurer	Trudy D - Literature chair	Jeff D - CSR Fresh Start		Mike M - Four Seasons
Bill P - Chair	Beth P - Help Email chair	Fred L - CSR Cole Harbour		Foster L - Cole Harbour
	Rob A - Newsletter chair	Michael A - CSR Keep it Simple		Stephanie J - Serenity Sisters
	Heather C - Telephones chair	Donnie B - CSR West End Step		
	Sue C - Hospital visitation chair	Sandy K - CSR Serenity Sisters		
	Shawn M - Mid-Winter Round up chair			

7th Tradition: \$29.95. Collected, noted by Bruce B.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Heather C and seconded by Rob A.

Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting: Moved by Alan M and seconded by Freddy W. Adopted unanimously, no errors or omissions.

REPORTS

Secretary:

Hello everyone, I had a member email this month email to point out that the November 6 minutes on the website were labelled as September. I believe this has been fixed by the webmaster. The individual also asked me to note the date of the meeting within the body of the minutes, not just in the header on each page. I have made this adjustment at the top of the first page of the minutes along with the location of the meeting. I had a question concerning the minutes regarding the questions and answers section on the Corrections report, and I checked with the Corrections chair to make sure I did not misquote her. Thank you, Emily S.

Treasurer:

Opening balance:\$3045.35

Closing balance: \$4235.11

Debits: \$489.82

Credits: \$1661.50

Prudent account: \$4889.70

Literature: \$3147.91

You will see spreadsheets of the full year's budget and where we currently stand. If you see any errors just let me know. Currently we need contributions of \$1082 to meet our budget this year. We are waiting for roughly half of the groups to pay their insurance premiums at this time.

Question: Has this table put forward a motion to cover any shortfalls if insurance premiums are not paid? **Answer:** No. Any previous budgets' shortfalls were assumed without a motion in the past.

Question: What is the \$1100 miscellaneous expense on the budget for? **Answer:** This was added to bump up the prudent fund once the new committees were moved to Central Service from District this year.

Co-chair:

A great November for recovery. I have an e-copy of Insurance and will be placing it on-line for transparency purposes. If any groups wish to have a hardcopy for file due to lack of IT within the group, I have copies for you. Yours in service, Michael
Co-Chair CSR

Question: Could you send an email out to all groups as a reminder about paying insurance premiums on time? If Central Service has paid shortfalls in the past, we don't want groups to assume it is free. **Answer:** That's a great idea, thank you.

Chair:

During the past month the Chair participated in meetings of the Public Information meeting and Mid-Winter Round Up. The new Chair and Co-Chair for the CPC committee participated with the PI Committee meeting and looks to be a dynamic New Year for that Committee.

Initiatives coming out of the PI Committee with senior citizens will have impact on the work of the Hospital Visitation Committee. The development of our web site, the meeting list as a phone app and the PSA through the university radio stations should begin laying AA roots among the university community and attracting new young people into our fellowship.

The Chair also attended meetings of District 1 and District 2 representing Central Service. The greater focus on the work of the larger fellowship in terms of the Assembly more keenly exposes our local fellowship to ideas, trends, initiatives and challenges to bringing the message to the suffering alcoholic in this century. There is much to learn from this collective wisdom.

At this time, I speak for this table, to wish the collective gratitude of our fellowship for the work of the Committees, their chairs co-chairs and volunteers.

To all who have participated and brought their experience, strength and hope in the work of Central Service Committee, the best of Glad Tidings for the Christmas Season.

Best Regards in Service, Bill P. Chair

CPC:

I have been working closely with the PI committee and we attended meetings at Northwood this month. They hold monthly information fairs and in March of 2019 they will hold one focussed on AA. Over 2000 flyers go out to clients and there are also apartment complexes involved. CPC has been asked to put on a presentation for doctors and staff.

Question: Will the CPC committee be involved in the fair or only working with professionals?

Answer: This CPC committee will be working hand in hand with the Public Information committee. In different AA areas these committees work almost as one.

Comment: In the past, there was discussion to have one of the two committees (PI and CPC) eliminated, but the decision was made to keep both committees in this area.

Corrections:

I regret I am unable to attend the meeting tonight as I am working overtime this evening.

Nov was a relatively quiet month. The first Wed of Nov the volunteers were denied entry to the prison. They were told that no one knew that there were any volunteers coming. I asked the prison what happened and was told that it was just miscommunications on the guards' part.

Two applications were given for possible volunteers. The meetings were well attended.

Nothing else to report. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Kelly D

Entertainment: Good evening, friends. The entertainment committee is getting ready for our big New Year's Eve Gala. Monday Dec 31, 2018 from 8 PM to 1 AM at St Theresa's Church on the corner of North and Dublin streets in Halifax. 8PM - meet and greet, 9 PM - supper with pot luck dessert, 10PM - Dance. We will have door prizes, spot dances, 50/50 draw and much more. As always, any donations are greatly appreciated. If anyone has ticket money to turn in or would like to sell more please see me after the meeting. It has been my pleasure to serve as your entertainment chair and appreciate the support received. Yours in service, Natalie C.

Help Email:

November has been a very quiet month for emails. I have replied to four requests for meeting information by forwarding our meeting list. Yours in Service, Beth P

Hospital Visitation:

The committee continues to respond quickly to requests to visit people in hospital in metro.

A note was put in the Bluenose Bulletin this month encouraging people to think about members they know who, for whatever reason, are unable to get to meetings. Perhaps they're elderly, in hospital or a nursing home, or just have difficulty getting out. They might like to be taken to a meeting or perhaps two or three people can take a meeting to them. What a lovely thing to do for a fellow AA member, especially at this time of year. Please let the Hospital Visitation Committee know if we can assist you in any way.

I'm encouraged by a conversation that I held last month with the chair of the PI committee about the strong possibility of an ongoing commitment within the nursing home community here in metro. As nursing home visitation falls within the mandate of this committee, the potential for a significant increase in requests for visitation is real and will, in that case, have a large impact on the current structure and focus of this committee. Working with seniors has always been a delight for me and, as my term as Chair ends, I look forward to being able to continue on the committee and to be part of this initiative going forward.

Our committee member numbers have more than doubled from 4 to 10 in the past month thanks to a member's successful recruiting efforts. Just in time for that potential increase in service opportunities. The magic continues...

And finally, as my brief term of service ends, I would like to thank the fine members of this team for giving me the opportunity to work with you and be inspired by your selfless service to your fellow AA members. You truly are an inspiration.

Yours in service,

Sue C. Outgoing Chair, Hospital Visitation Committee

Question: Do you keep a list of people in the hospital? In the past the hospital visitation chair drew up a letter which was given to hospital chaplains, and also the nurses were shown how to navigate the AA website if hospital patients were looking for help.

Answer: I am only informed of members in the hospital when I am contacted directly through the committee email or phone number, and we have had very few this year. Many requests we have had are from out of town, areas like Windsor. I am encouraged by talks concerning nursing homes and what we can set up and offer in the future.

Comment: Often groups take care of their own members and visiting takes place without members having to go through this committee. **Comment: Strategies for the Hospital Visitation committee can be noted as a point of New Business to be discussed in the new year.**

Literature:

CUA account balance is \$3147.91

Scotia account balance \$646.79

I deposited \$1378 into the Scotia account today. I then placed an order from AAWS for \$1182.04. The total in the Scotia account is now \$646.79. I have a good selection of Grapevine books that people seem to enjoy. With Christmas coming just around the corner it's a wonderful way to give a sponsee or a sponsor a gift that is thoughtful and personal. I have printed a statement from both accounts if anyone would like to see these. I also have a copy to pass along to the secretary to keep with the original minutes. I would like to thank everyone for their love and tolerance this year as I took over for Sheila. This experience enriched my sobriety and my personal life immeasurably. You are an amazing group of people carrying on the behind the scenes work that keeps AA unity through service alive and well. Yours in service, Trudy D.

Bluenose Bulletin:

The December edition of the Bluenose Bulletin had its share of AA birthday announcements, and had plenty of Christmas holiday gratitude meeting notices and AA events, including the 40th Annual – the New Years Eve Gala and the 40th Annual mid-winter roundup in Dartmouth. What we would ask though, is that Email to the newsletter be sent to the newsletter Email address only when on the newsletter website rather than the webmaster Email address. For clarity this should be fixed as we don't always receive the Email sent to the webmaster.

As always 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 the newsletter Email, and not by phone, texting or in person, although exceptions are sometimes allowed for members without access to Email. For the most part we are receiving them correctly now.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the last four years regarding my involvement in the newsletter. Eric L. will remain as co-chair and we welcome Kelly as the new Bluenose Bulletin Chair. She will do a great job and was involved when we put together the December issue. Let's give a big welcome to Kelly! Yours in Service, with best wishes, Rob A

Corrections to newsletter: Merle will be celebrating his anniversary with Downtown Dartmouth Group on December 24, not Dec 31. The next Central Service meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 (as opposed to January 1 - see New Business).

2018 Mid-Winter Round Up:

Dear Central Service, The committee met yesterday and my report for the month of December 2018 is as follows.

1. A question was asked by a member of Central Service regarding the need to have a translator for the round up. I proposed the question to the committee. The members responded that it had been standard practice to have this service and that there have been A.A. members who have benefited from having the translator there. They voted to keep the service as is.
2. The DJ, the archivist, translator, and round up speakers have all been booked. The program will be out shortly and will be posted to the website as well soon.
3. The receipt books were issued to start taking registrations for the event. The early bird draw for the free room will be drawn on Jan. 15th, 2019.
4. There was an error posted in the newsletter regarding the hotel room rate. The room rate was posted as being \$ 96.00 per night as opposed to the correct room rate of \$ 130.00 per night. The mix up occurred because the Yarmouth round up information was \$ 96.00 per night and the two rounds up events got mixed up. The concern was not so much that an error occurred because anyone can make one, it was that the newsletter staff, all of our committee members, and all of the groups completely missed the error. The information has been provided since the summer. That also tells me that perhaps events and information in the newsletter are not being read at groups with the standard line being, "If you wish to know what's going on it's on a bulletin board, or see us after to view the extra copy we have. I do not wish to make a huge deal of this I just wish to point out that although the fourth tradition states that each group is autonomous and may run their meeting or group as the wish, that the exception is where it effects A.A. as a whole. Our newsletter is part of carrying the message. By letting new comers, blind people, and those with reading difficulties gain access to the information because it's read out loud, we make them and others inclusive to A.A. as a whole. By supporting the activities that go on we demonstrate unity.
5. Due to the error that happened, the committee voted to create a new chair position for this round up and for future round ups as well. The new chair position is called the, "Communication Chair". The person elected for this position will be responsible for making sure that flyers and information gets out to the, newsletter, multi-media outlets (Website) and to place like the Grapevine, and other districts and areas correctly. They will also be responsible for proof reading and distribution of advertising material and information for the round ups (including public service announcements). Although most of the work for this year has been done, the new chair will prepare the person for next year.
6. Our committee chair persons are starting to make their lists for volunteers for the event. All things are coming together nicely. Sincerely, Shawn M

Comment: Could we suggest that CSRs take back to their groups the correct pricing on the round-up hotel rooms and also the new Communication Chair position which is now open for election.

Comment: We would ask groups to consider making a donation of a few tickets for individuals who can not afford to attend. A few of these donations have already been made. Just speak to any member of the Round Up Committee.

Question: How is the sale of tickets being promoted? **Answer:** Groups are promoting ticket sales.

Comment: I have heard negative comments about the price of the tickets and the banquet along with ticket sale announcements in meetings - I would suggest these comments are kept to a minimum. If banquet ticket sales are down, will this affect future costs for the round-up or rental costs? **Answer:** No, if we held no banquet, we would have the same rate for convention services. The hotel is not making money on the banquet, the cost per plate is within a dollar or two of the basic food

cost. Members can attend to hear the banquet speaker after the meal is over and can attend the dance without attending the banquet.

Public Information:

Over the last month we have been very busy. Members of the committee attended several events/meetings. We've been to Success College, Northwood and will be attending the Network Café put on by the school board for guidance counsellors on Friday. We have discussed the needs for display material when attending these events. We are currently having a display created to put up with our literature rack

We have created a list for our local shelters, and are in the process of contacting them in the hoping of having pamphlets delivered before Christmas. We are still in the process of contacting local nursing homes to supply with our pamphlets

We have reviewed our current inventory and projected needs for the New Year. With this we were able to put together our budget requirements.

We have elected a new secretary for our committee. Stephanie J has volunteered to take this on. We also have a candidate for the co-chair position which we will bring forward for a vote at tonight's meeting

We have many ideas for future endeavours but need to focus on what we are able to accomplish now. As always our most demanding need is volunteers. Yours in service, Jodie T, Co-Chair, PI Committee

Telephone:

Everything is going very well with the telephones. Thank you to everyone for giving me the opportunity to chair this committee. I will be meeting with the incoming chair to discuss going forward. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Yours in service, Heather C

Treatment:

DETOX

This past month the Detox meetings have been going well with group's participation.

I am still looking for female members with good sobriety to contact to assist with putting meetings on at the Marguerite Center, meetings are held the first wed of every month at 7:30. I have not received any communication offering support. If members could carry the message that female members are desperately needed, I would appreciate it.

Also; As I am in my final term in this position and a new Chair of Treatment will be starting in the new year, I would like to request additional funds \$200-\$300 added to Treatment for the year, as we will require to take on purchasing literature and tokens for the Marguerite Center. They could use books and pamphlets moving forward as they currently do not have any. The Serenity Sisters in past had been supplying the tokens at meetings and it is now treatments responsibility moving forward. I also plan to contact the treasurer to see what is remaining in funds for this end of year, to purchase any additional literature (books/pamphlets) (no tokens) to re-stock the Detox and Forensics, as that has not been done for some time and are running low, as well so the new Chair will have what they need on hand.

I truly enjoyed my 2 year term as Treatment Chair with all its challenges at times it have been my pleasure to give back in Service as my responsibility to AA and all its members.

To better support our incoming Treatment Chair, Please ensure all contacts for members are up to date to make it easier for all involved to continue to host meetings at all locations we serve © Tina M. Treatment Chair.

FORENSICS

This past month the Forensic meetings have not been going well. I encourage all groups GSR's to try and get their group members to step up and try service work in Treatment – Forensics. Average attendance is about 5 - 10. I am still looking for new members of the fellowship to step up and join the forensic teams. Tom S. Treatment Co - Chair.

Questions: It is mentioned that 5 - 10 members attend the meetings, how many AAs attend? Was it discussed that groups might take on Forensics meetings as part of a roster like they do the detox meetings? **Answer:** 4 - 5 members attend, for safety and to make sure there is a mix of sobriety time in meetings. At the last few meetings there were only two AAs who attended, but the client attendance is growing. No criminal record check is required, guards are next door to the meeting room.

Comment: It was my experience when attending forensics meetings that there was no guard presence felt and I did not feel safe. Some imposing clients would dominate the meetings and I did not feel we had control or that we accomplished much.

Comment: While putting a meeting on at the corrections unit I pressed the button once and the guard response was immediate.

Comment: I worked for years in the mental health field and worked with people who were coming out of the forensics unit and there were serious behavioural issues and individuals were often highly medicated. What if someone from the program was hurt? It seems to me a forensics unit falls under the banner of professional help.

Comment from the chair: We are merely accepting the committee chair's report at this time, there is no item open for discussion. These are points which we can bring up for discussion at a later meeting.

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Webmaster/Website:

No report at this time.

District 1:

No report at this time.

District 2:

We held our meeting on the 3rd Sunday of the month. We have a new group: the Eye Opener meeting at 3 Dundas Street 10 AM Saturday mornings has now registered with New York. We have updated the Grapevine kit. Our December meeting is a social and potluck and all GSRs and alternates are invited to attend. This meeting will act as an initial step in handing over duties to the newly elected executives.

Area 82:

No report at this time.

All Reports were motioned for approval by Eric L and Seconded by Dave R . Motion carried.

ELECTIONS

Bluenose bulletin co-chair: Eric L elected unanimously.

Webmaster chair: none

Entertainment co-chair: none

Literature chair: none

Hospital visitation chair: none

Corrections co-chair: none

Public Information co-chair: Mike M elected unanimously.

Treatment co-chair: Sandy K elected unanimously.

Old Business:

Xmas eve social to take place at 45 Connolly Road. It was previously voted that the Back to Basics group host the social this year but subsequently a conflict has arisen with the church schedule. Notice of the social and its location are in the current Bluenose Bulletin and there are flyers available.

Comment: In the spirit of rotation the Four Seasons group voted against the social taking place at Connolly Road two years in a row. **Comment:** In the past, rotation of group host/location for this event has been pretty good - hopefully it will continue to rotate in the future.

New Business:

Meeting List discussion paper

Only a handful of CSRs had the chance to discuss this with their groups. This discussion will be tabled until the February meeting, as January CS meeting will be focussed on budget and elections.

Budget for Public Information committee:

A Motion was made by Jodie T for the Public Information committee to have an additional \$200 to finish out their financial needs in 2018. Seconded by Heather C. Motion carried.

Budget for Hospital Visitation committee:

There may be a need for this committee to have a budget in the future due to possible needs for literature in nursing homes and future ventures. Possibly a line item can be added to the budget for this committee. This will be discussed between the Central Service Treasurer and Hospital Visitation chair for the time being and possibly discussed at the table during budget preparation.

Vacancy of Literature chair:

A concern was expressed by the outgoing literature chair that the position may not be filled before January 1st when the insurance for the inventory ends and all the literature stock may not be moved from its current location in time. Central Service Chair stated that this issue is now a function of the executive and will be taken care of.

Next Central Service meeting date:

A motion was made by Emily S that the next Central Service meeting be moved from January 1st to January 8. Motion carried.

Announcements from Groups :

There are several candlelight gratitude meetings being held in the area over the holidays.
Dec 16th at Cole Harbour is a candlelight meeting and celebration of the group's 31st anniversary.
On Christmas Day the Sackville Serenity Sisters meeting will be an open meeting, all welcome.
All meetings at 3 Dundas Street in Dartmouth will follow the regular schedule over the holidays.
The Lost and Found group are hosting an event on Christmas Day.

Adjournment:

The next Central Service Meeting will be Tuesday, January 8, 2018 at 7:00 pm (St. Mark's Church).

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM with the Responsibility Pledge.

2018 Approved Central Service Budget									
Revenues	Budget 2018	Jan to Jun	July	August	Sept	October	November	December	Totals
Group Contributions	\$8,170.00	\$3,965.40	291.9	\$132.85		\$860.00	\$1,432.20		\$6,682.35
7th Tradition	\$400.00	\$175.15	26.6	\$26.10	30.73	\$41.00	\$29.30		\$328.88
Insurance premium	1200				80	320	\$200.00		\$600.00
Entertainment Comm.									\$0.00
Transfer from Litature				404.2					\$404.20
Miscellaneous	1800	1134							\$1,134.00
Business Account Totals	\$11,570.00	\$5,274.55	\$318.50	\$563.15	\$110.73	\$1,221.00	\$1,661.50	\$0.00	\$9,149.43
Expenses									
									Balance left
Rent - Church Hall	\$720.00	\$360.00	60	\$60.00	60	\$60.00	\$60.00		\$660.00
Telephone Committee	\$3,200.00	\$1,484.36	242.8	\$242.80	243.95	\$243.95	\$248.28		\$2,706.14
P.O. Box Rental	225				218.5				\$218.50
Insurance Premium	\$1,300.00				0	\$1,284.00			\$1,284.00
Area 82 Contribution	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00							\$1,000.00
GSO Contribution	\$800.00	\$800.00							\$800.00
December Social 2015	\$400.00								\$0.00
Bluenose Bulletin	\$150.00	\$46.00	45.94	12.65	30.73	\$30.73	\$25.00		\$191.05
Entertainment Committee	\$700.00					\$545.00			\$545.00
Webmaster Expense	\$175.00	\$136.94							\$136.94
Treasurer Expense	\$50.00								\$0.00
Secretary Expense	\$150.00	\$154.65					\$63.24		\$217.89
Chair Expense	\$100.00	\$17.25							\$17.25
Co-Chair Expense	\$100.00								\$0.00
CPC	\$300.00	\$67.86							\$67.86
Corrections	\$1,000.00	\$564.80		50		\$30.00			\$644.80
Public Information	\$800.00	\$72.20		200.83	150	\$30.00	\$168.57		\$621.60
Treatment	\$300.00								\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$1,120.87							\$1,120.87
MWRU Room \$404.20/ Prudent	\$716.67								
Business Account Totals	\$11,570.00	\$5,824.93	\$348.74	\$566.28	\$703.18	\$2,223.68	\$565.09	\$0.00	\$10,231.90
							Grand Total		(\$1,082.47)

				Closing Balance of	
				All Accounts Dec 31 2017	
			Jan To June	Checking	\$4,512.10
Prudent Account	Insurance Deductable	2000	2000	Prudent	\$4,170.92
	Prudent Acc.	\$2,170.10	2888.67	Literature	\$4,010.27
	Total	\$4,170.92	4888.67	Total	\$12,693.29
Literature	4010.27		Revenues:	5723.66	
			expenses	5918.72	
			Net	\$2,228.33	
			Derbit card	731.54	