

Date: April 3, 2018

Page 1 of 8

**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:**

Added to New Business: Resignation of CPC chair and VISA/Debit literature account.

**Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Chrissie B.

**ROLL CALL:**

Executive	Committees	CSR	CSR	Observers
Bill P-chair	Heather C -Telephone chair, alt CSR	Jodie T - alt CSR Serenity Sisters	Donnie B. -CSR West End Step	Jerry P - Downtown Dartmouth
Michael H -Co- Chair/ Alt CSR Acceptance	Rob A. - Newsletter Chair	Eric L - Newsletter Co-chair/ Four Seasons alt CSR	Ron H - CSR Colby Village Big Book Study	Cathy M - DCM Dist 2
Bruce B - Treasurer	Trudy D. - Literature chair	Andrew S. -CSR Atlantic	David R. -CSR Living in the Solution	
	Natalie C. - Entertainment Chair	Fred L - CSR Cole Harbour	Alan M. - CSR Sunrise	
	Beth P. - Help Email/ CSR Downtown Dartmouth	Barry L - CSR Back to Basics	Jeff D - CSR Fresh Start	
	Leah C. -PI chair	Chrissie B, alt CSR Back to Basics	Samaira G - DCM Dist 1, CSR Second Chance	
	Pedro G- Webmaster		Gig M Early Risers	

**7th Tradition:** \$34.35 Collected, taken by Bruce B.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Agenda approval motioned by Heather C. and seconded by \* Carried.

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

**\*Please note:** The names of those who seconded motions was not stated out loud on the recording of the meeting and therefore can not be included. This stands for any \* you see in these minutes. Apologies. - Emily S, secretary.

**REPORTS**

**Secretary:**

Hello everyone. Please excuse my absence this month, but I'm happy to be sober and to be able to help my mom with her doctor's appointments in New Brunswick this week. Big thank you to Michael for taking over my duties. This month I was able to make a few adjustments to the Central Service email list to get it up to date. Thank you to everyone for sending in your reports. All the best, Emily :)

**Treasurer:**

Good to be here, good to be sober, good to be back. Opening balance: \$5986.33 Debits: \$528.40. The literature check has not been cashed yet, I understand it was put in today. Credits: \$849.35 Closing balance of \$6444.42. There has been a check made out for Area 82 (\$1000) and GSO (\$800) - they just need to be signed. Balance of contributions for 2018 will be looked at at the 6 month point, first of July. I also have \$3000 of extra expenses this year, and I would like to wait until July to see what

**Date: April 3, 2018**

Page 2 of 8

donations have come in before we distribute more money. I would like to put a motion forward to transfer \$770.16 to the prudent fund for extra expenses for when we need it (because of the extra committees).

**Question:** Samaira - Are you saying the prudent fund is not half of our budget and you want to add to it? **Answer:** Bill - The prudent account represents three months' expenses. With this year's total expenses having gone up in the budget, this amount that Bruce would like to transfer will bring the prudent account up to amount which would cover three months' worth of expenses.

**Question:** What's our annual budget? **Answer:** This was the budget presented in February: \$11,570. We currently have a prudent account balance in accordance with previous budgets, but the transfer of the \$770 will bring it up to reflect the suggested prudent account for the new, higher budget this year. Don't forget to subtract the \$2000 insurance deductible.

**Comment:** Trudy - I don't think you need to make a motion to do this. We already voted that we would have the prudent account at the suggested level - you have authority to do that.

**Co-chair:** Busy AA month living sober and free. I attended the Sydney winter round up held at the local fire hall. Meetings throughout the day with catered dinner and dance. People not from the area stayed near by at Bed & Breakfasts and hotel. Great turn out, quite a few from Halifax and Dartmouth.

**Chair:**

The report for February was presented to the meetings of District 1 and 2. I attended the meeting of District 2 but had a conflict attending District 1 due to the closing meeting of the Mid-Winter Round up Meeting. Discussions were had with the Treasurer concerning the 2018 budget – donations – prudent account. This will be reported by the Treasurer. Research into past minutes of Central Service turned up a conflict with the resolution to pay for all security checks and our Guidelines. This will be presented to the meeting of April 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is with regret to accept the resignation of Chris – Chair of the Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee. He is one of our leaders who chaired and contributed to a vibrant and creative Committee. I attended the meeting of the Public Information Committee this past week-end. A topic arose for discussion; which may point out an area of over-looked need in carrying the message. There are now a growing number of senior citizens facilities. An issue common to these facilities is alcoholism. There are also A.A. members who are residents who are unable to attend meetings and enjoy the fellowship of their fellow sober alcoholics. We also have members who live in their own homes who due to infirmity cannot attend meetings. At this point it is to raise the issue for discussion. I will be exploring the matter with GSO to find out what is written on the topic and where the A.A. experience might lie. The other avenue is the Nova Scotia Association of Health Organizations for sources of information and leadership in this province. Best Regards in Service Bill P.

**Comment:** Alan - When a member in Eastern Passage could not longer come to our meeting, Sunrise, we got together a group of us as we put on a meeting for him in the old folks home in the passage. This may be something to think about for those interested.

**CPC:**

Bill: I regret that I have accepted the resignation of Chris R as chair of the CPC committee. No report at this time. This will be discussed in New Business.

**Corrections:**

Greetings and Happy Easter from Ottawa. I regret that I am unable to make the meeting this evening as I am in Ottawa. We are still looking for men to chair meetings in the prison on Wed evenings. I have been speaking with the prison to obtain clarification on what circumstances would merit someone not passing their security check. My hope is to help prescreen potential volunteers to avoid previous difficulties before they obtain a criminal record's check. It has come to light that the prison will not grant access to anyone who was an inmate within the last two years. Nor will they grant access to anyone with serious offences or drug trafficking convictions in the recent past. AA Halifax's website shows me no longer Chair of Corrections and Tom P now the Chair. This explains why Tom is receiving calls concerning Corrections again. Also, the committees fall under Area and not the Districts so perhaps it should be reflected there as well. Presently there is one new man doing the clearance process. There is also one person seeking a refund for his criminal record check. His receipt should be provided to the Treasurer through the member's CSR for reimbursement. - Kelly D

**Entertainment:** Good evening friends. It's beginning to look a lot like spring out there, which brings me to the next event on the entertainment committee's agenda. The AA Spring Fling is Sat May 26 from 8 - 12 at St Theresa's church. Spot dances and refreshments will be available. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$10 at the door. I will be reaching out to members to give me a hand once again for help selling tickets. Our St Patrick's Day dance was a great time - many members got their green on and danced the night away. 111 in attendance, to be exact. Total expenses were \$884.64 and \$822 was brought in through ticket sales, the canteen and 50/50, plus a \$50 donation, leaving a deficit of \$62.64 to be drawn from the entertainment budget. We likely would have broken even if I had remembered to put out a 7th tradition box. That's first on my list for the next dance. The entertainment committee is still looking for a co-chair (whose responsibility will be to put out the 7th tradition box). Please forward any thoughts, ideas or comments to me, Natalie C. Thank you.

**Help Email:**

I responded to six emails this month. All from folk who were looking for help to quit drinking. I replied with the latest meeting list and encouraged them to attend a meeting. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Beth P.

**Hospital Visitation:**

There has been no activity to report this month from the hospital visitation committee. I am unable to attend this evening's meeting but send greetings to all and best wishes for a great meeting. Sue C.

**Literature:**

Good evening. A deposit of \$290.00 was made April 3, 2018. A total of \$195.00 was deposited back into the Scotia account to go towards literature that had been ordered and paid for with this account. I placed 2 orders in March to replace inventory sold at the round up and to fill some back ordered literature. The first order was for \$776.92. This was from AAWS for AA books and pamphlets. The second order was for \$102.99. This was from GV Inc. for books from the Grapevine which were on back order. There is 1 order I am waiting to deliver this Thursday for \$80.00. All of the back ordered literature has been filled with the exception of pocket big books that are on back order. There is 1 order remaining waiting payment, but I have been assured that the cheque is in the mail!. - CUA account balance is \$2,488.83 -Scotia account balance is \$311.14 - Inventory balance is now \$5902.30. I have cash of \$230.00 which I have kept as a float for making change for cash orders. It is in the Literature cash can under lock and key. 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.Yours in service, Trudy D Note: We opened a visa checking account so I could order literature online without having to use a personal credit card. (We want to be all inclusive, so that anyone who wishes to take the position of literature chair can do this job, even if they don't have a credit card.) The VISA debit card worked but the problem is that it's only in my name - just one person on the account, which goes against what we wanted to do. I talked to someone at the bank today, and they have a Scotia community account plan for non profit. It costs \$2.50 a month for 10 transactions. We can put many names under it, and I would be more comfortable with this, so we can have signing authority on it. I spoke to Bruce about it - they would still issue a Visa Debit card for ordering books online but you could not go over the amount that you put in the bank. Any of the five signing authorities would be able to access and look at the account online. Next year when a new executive and new literature chair are voted in, names can be changed on this account without any problem. Perhaps we can discuss this during new business.

**Question:** Samaira - How has it been paid before? Do we have a checking account? **Answer:** Past chairs have always used personal credit card. We do have a checking account with checks, but it would take longer for the books to get to us because we would have to send a check to the states and wait for that to be processed with the exchange rate. It's much faster with a credit card. Now I have found another possible solution.

**Question:** Pedro - To clarify, this is a Debit card, not a credit card. **Answer:** Yes, this is a Visa/debit account so you can't go over what you have. We went to five different banks to look at the option of a pre-paid credit card, but there is a fee to have it, a fee every time you use it, and other hidden fees, and it would still only be in one person's name. **Question:** Cathy - Are we discussing a new business topic? **Answer:** Bill - Factual questions are ok. There is no debate here.

**Bluenose Bulletin:**

(read by Eric L) This month's edition of the Bluenose Bulletin had the usual collection of birthdays, meeting notices and AA events, including the upcoming Sober For Today AA Day, the AA Spring Fling Dance and Bridgewater Mayday 2018. Announcements are being sent in separately now, which is very helpful so that we do not miss any items, as we have missed a few in the past. (For example, someone may send a notice of an AA birthday and also a separate AA event in the same email. Please send in separate emails, with clarification on the subject line.) As always I would like to again take this opportunity to again remind everybody that the deadline for announcements to be included is the 25<sup>th</sup> 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. It continues to be a pleasure working on this newsletter with the committee. Feedback is always welcome too. Yours in Service, Rob A.

**Question:** Heather - This part which asks 'What is Forensics?' - could you explain that a little? **Answer:** Eric - This is a new section in the newsletter on the front page.We would like to incorporate this in every newsletter coming up. For instance, What is Telephone Service?, What is Corrections Service?, etc. We will ask the chair of each committee to send us two sentences maximum on what it is, so people reading it to the groups know what these service positions are. Next month will be on Telephones. **Question:** Samaira - This is a great idea. I would love to be able to put something in for District. **Answer:** We have twelve months, so it shouldn't be a problem.

**2018 Mid-Winter Round Up:**

**Murdo's report:** Final 2018 wrap up meeting held Mar 25th. Very positive feedback from members with suggestions going forward. Total registration 442. AA 80 percent AIA non 20 percent. Surplus funds of \$1429 divided accordingly. New committee and chair required to continue the plans for next year.Please get involved and pass the word.This is your fellowship event!! Murdo. Committee Chair.

**Trudy's Report:** The round up is done for another year. The next meeting will be on April 22 @ 1 pm @ Club 24 to start the committee for 2019. All positions are open. If you know anybody who is interested or anyone who has been complaining about the round up please bring them to the meeting. At the meeting next month we should see a small surplus coming back to the committee.

**Question:** Samaira - Why do we vote for the committee for the mid-winter round up NOT at this table? Why don't the CSRs vote on the members? **Answer:** I don't know. It has always been a separate sub-committee. Usually the co-chair steps up to chair

**Date: April 3, 2018**

**Page 4 of 8**

and is voted in at the first meeting. This year I am co-chair but will not be stepping up to chair because I hold the literature position.

**Question:** Cathy - Wasn't Murdo voted in at this table? It's up to this committee to find a chairperson for that committee.

**Answer:** He was, because there was no round up the year before. What should we do on the 22nd? I am chairing the meeting as co-chair to vote in all the positions.

**Question:** Leah - We're talking about the chair position, or all the positions? **Comment:** Samaira: I think the whole mid-winter committee needs to be voted in at this table, because they have a report at this table. **CSC Chair:** "Section 7.1.8 of the Guidelines: The chair of the mid winter round up is elected either at the concluding meeting of the prior year's round up sub committee or the first meeting of the new sub committee. In usual circumstances the co-chair will stand for election as chair for the new sub committee."

**Public Information:** Good evening everyone, the Public Information committee had our monthly meeting on Saturday March 31, and we are happy to say that we have two new members join our committee. I am also pleased to report that we have delivered the young peoples pamphlets to the Halifax school board for distribution to the schools. As well, Metro Transit is putting our signs up on the buses again starting this week. Within the next month we will be contacting all groups in District 1 and 2, who do not already provide pamphlets to a medical clinic, to ask them if they would be willing to take responsibility for a clinic. We as a committee will be offering to come to the groups and explain the process if the group desires. At our meeting on Saturday we discussed a lot of different ideas to carry the message of AA and we are very excited going forward. Yours in service, Leah

**Question:** Trudy - The free pamphlets that the groups provide to the clinics have arrived so I now have a whole box of them on hand for groups. **Question:** Chrissie - I was curious about the bus signs. **Answer:** We have purchased AA signs which will be on the sides of buses with info on our website and telephone number. They're going to rotate them on different buses for the next year.

**Telephone:** Happy Easter to all. We had to put one of the flip phones back into service as one of the newer phones went missing. Rather than going out and purchasing a new phone I put the flip phone back into service. Some of those flip phones were only 6 months or a year old. All is well with the phones. I noticed in the newsletter that the Welcome Group is still down for phones and they are no longer doing the phones, so the group after them will do the weekend phone. The Acceptance Group are also no longer doing the weekend phone. I chatted with Rob who said it's just on the website, and I chatted with Pedro and he is going to change that on the website. The Living in the Solution Group has signed up to help with the phones so they are going to do May 5,6 & 7. *(applause)* I will contact the person concerned at the Live for Today Group as well. Thanks, yours in Service, Heather C

**Question:** Cathy - So Early Risers is moving to the end of May? **Answer:** Yes. **Question:** Are the Living in the Solution Group just stepping in to cover for the Welcome Group or are they joining the rotation? **Answer:** They're joining the rotation. *(applause)*

#### **Treatment:**

**DETOX** This past month Detox meetings have been going well and all commitments made by all groups on the list. Thanks for your support in service. We are currently looking for volunteers to drive residents of the Marguerite Centre to weekly meetings, if anyone is interested please reach out to me to further discuss. Tina M. Treatment Chair.

**FORENSICS** This past month (March) the Forensic meetings have been going as scheduled. I encourage all groups to step up and try service work in Treatment – Forensics. Average attendance is about 5. I am still urgently looking for new members of the fellowship to step up and join the forensic teams. At present Forensics is operating at 60%. Tom S. Treatment Co - Chair.

#### **Webmaster/Website:**

During the month of March, I've been away on a business trip. I apologize if my replies to emails and requests hasn't been on time but time difference and travelling with a tablet only made supporting you a bit more difficult. During March I updated the contact names and numbers with the new contact taking over different positions in Central Service. I found out we have this information in several places and this makes it difficult to maintain up to date. I also updated the meeting list. It seems we are having at least one update a month if not more. \*Note: It is a challenge to stay on top of all the updates and I hope we can improve communication on all sides. I do rely on all of you to keep me updated on changes which need to be made. I archived all pages related to the last Mid Winter Roundup. Later in the year when the next one is announced I will reuse these pages. The total number of visitors continues the same amount as the past four months. I keep running the routine maintenance of the site: -Site backup - Posted announcements as received from Groups and/or Districts - Updated meeting list. As usual I appreciate the help and support I receive from everyone. I also plan to take the new section "What is Forensics?" and have it available on the website. Yours in service, Pedro G **Comment:** Michael - By the way, last month Pedro celebrated 4 years of sobriety. *(applause)*

#### **District 1:**

Hello every, I'm Samaira, DCM for District 1.

We have been busy with the pre-conference coming up this Saturday at 10am. As you know, this is our first one and even before it has started, we realize some things we will be doing for next year.

District is working well, with groups looking for ways to improve groups and service work. One way is to attend the Nova Scotia Service Weekend in Truro this June. Great way to learn about service and how other Districts work with their committees.

**Date: April 3, 2018**

**Page 5 of 8**

Hope if you can, you will attend the service weekend this year.

Note: From our treasurer from Area 82, it says here *"The amount on hand for the 2019 budget..."* Area works on a year ahead budget, as opposed to us, we kind of have nothing in the bank account in January and work from that - Area works differently, they have all the money in the beginning of the year and dispense from there. *"The amount on hand for the 2019 budget is \$5586. Projected budget for 2019 is \$28,110 - the amount needed for the 2019 budget is \$22523.73. We are approximately \$1000 ahead of where we were last time. In order for area to meet the budget we need to raise this amount over the next three months. It sounds like a lot but there are 205 groups in Area 82 - if each group gave monthly \$15.70 or weekly \$3.62 we can replenish prudent reserve and cover 2019 budget. Area 82 greatly appreciates effort of the groups in covering the 2018 shortfall. If your group can afford more please help. Yours in service, Dwayne."*

### **District 2:**

District 2 has been busy the last couple of months meeting with the GSD in preparation for the Conference in NY later this month. We have spent a good deal of our GSR meetings going through the various agenda items that will be discussed then. It was extremely informative for all concerned. It was pointed out by your Chairman Bill P, that committee chairs should have been invited as various committees were discussed. My apologies for this. We will try to do better in future with regard to communication between the two service groups. It may be a good idea for committee chairs to try to go next time.

This coming month we will be discussing items that will come up the service weekend in Truro the first week of JUNE. Please go back to your groups and make sure that your group is represented at this important service meeting. We have several items for the agenda from District 2 and have forwarded them to the Chairperson. We hope to have our concerns addressed at the meeting. Items requested are: 1. How does a group make a decision to close its doors. 2. Structure of the service weekend 3. Advance notice of workshop contents, and 4. workshop topic of 6 Warranties. Note: I've heard some groups are concerned they can't afford to attend - I'm suggesting we can share a car, pack a lunch and support each other. There is no reason why you can't go if you want to. If anyone in District 2 needs a drive just give me a call and we will try to work something out. We also wanted advance notice of workshop content. On Friday night there is a workshop and we never know until we get there what it's about. It's often ill prepared and frustrating. We gave them a suggestion for a topic. There are other motions coming up - one of them is on our guidelines, asking who can run for area positions. There is a document which is going to be sent out to the groups. Also there is something about the provincial round up and a proposal that it be rotated among groups with a preset schedule for years to come.

### **Area 82:**

**Trudy** - I am the area 82 Secretary Registrar. The prudent reserve for 2018 is restored - we do have enough money in our bank account to do the business we need to do this year. Next year, if nobody gives any money, thinking we're ok, we will just have \$5000 to work a \$28,000 budget. So we are not ok - we need support from the groups. So please bring that message back to your groups. Also, the item on who can run for area executive positions - that was sent out by a DCM in Newfoundland and there was an error in it which has been corrected, and he is going to send out a new statement. I am Area secretary so if any of your contact information for GSRs have changed please let me know. If a group changes their GSR but I don't have a new name to input, that group becomes marked with 'unknown status'. If your GSR steps down, please send somebody's contact information to replace what I have, because GSO needs somebody to send information to in the group.

**Question:** Do you know what the difference was regarding that error? **Answer:** I do, but I don't want to get into it here, it's a district thing that GSRs will be voting on, so I'd rather it be dealt with at a district level.

All Reports were motioned for approval by Alan M Seconded by \* Motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Elections:**

**Corrections co-chair:** none

**Entertainment co-chair:** none

**Public Information co-chair:** Jodie nominated by Heather C. Jodie qualified.

**Question:** Trudy - if something happens to Leah, Jodie can not take over - she has to have 2 years sobriety as stated in the guidelines. **Comment:** Freddy - That's why she has a service sponsor. **Comment:** Leah - As chair I want to say we have a very strong committee who works together and help each other, so I don't think it's an issue. **Comment:** Cathy - New chair people will be elected come September/Oct so Jodie needs to be ready.

**Question:** Samaira - Normally when someone gets voted in part way through a year, they put their name down for the following two years, and Leah has only been the chair for two months. And just because you are the co-chair doesn't mean you necessarily have to step up to chair. We could come to this table and vote in a new PI chair if something happened to Leah.

All those in favour: \* Opposed: \* Abstentions: \* **Result:** Jodie elected as co-chair.

### **Insurance Policy:**

Bill -The new insurance policy included the new address for the location of the literature inventory. In preparing for this, I realized three of our groups have moved to new locations. I was in contact with Harlan Hayes our insurance agent and he asked us to

send him an email with the groups and new locations so we can have a paper trail of the change. The last page of the new revised policies is a copy of that email which was sent. **Comment:** Michael - For those of you who have not retrieved your policy from this pile for your group, please come up after the meeting.

**Question:** Cathy - Are we allowed to invited groups that are just meetings, not registered groups, to be a part of this insurance policy? There are three of those in our district. **Answer:** From an insurance point of view, if we recognize such meetings as one of our own and they are meeting at a location and they are "part of the family" and want to be insured, then yes we can negotiate to include them. **Comment:** Alan - They may want to check with the church, who may have insurance already.

### **Corrections**

Last month there was a motion passed unanimously that we would pay for all security checks for those applying to put on meetings at the corrections centre, whether they were approved or not. Samaira raised points concerning our guidelines and where the committees fit. I've handed out a four page document on what I found. We have the September resolution, the meeting where we amended our guidelines to include the four new committees. Then the discussion we had regarding the security checks last month, from our minutes. Then the actual proposed amendments to the central service guidelines, and on specific guidelines for the corrections sub-committee. I've highlighted one area which says, "the committee directs as required volunteers to obtain security checks through local law enforcements offices at the expense of the volunteer and submits the successful clearance to the correctional facility for approval." Later it says "the cost of the security check will be reimbursed to the volunteer from the budget of the committee." The wording is very ambiguous -it can be interpreted to be restrictive or to pay for all applications. It's the policy which is passed at this table which decides. The resolution that we passed last month was ok as far as these guidelines are concerned - it was a proper motion. Next, we ask why did this amendment not go into the guidelines? Well, after it was passed, nobody followed up to implement them. So we need to re-do the guidelines that are on the website to include the four committees' documents. Now this material came directly from District 1 & 2 guidelines. And on the back page, I've shown how amendments to the guidelines would normally take place.

**Question:** Samaira - When I look at the guidelines, the word successful means if it's passed. If you take out that word successful it follows the new decision. **Comments:** The word successful in that context doesn't mean that - it doesn't say "only successful."

**Question:** Cathy - I don't think it's as ambiguous as you say. It says it will be reimbursed to the volunteer, and that means their application was accepted by corrections. We have taken out of the newsletter the caution that people will be reimbursed only if they pass the security check, and we have been telling people even if they have a criminal record they should get the check done, because they might get in anyhow. I think it was premature to pass this last month. I hope groups are going to discuss this and bring it back for reconsideration. **Answer:** I see here that the committee directs who gets the security check. The problem I have is with the word success, because it's not the check which is successful, it's whether the corrections facility approves it. In any case, the motion that was passed last month is ok.

**Question:** Eric - The wording is incorrect. You can't go to the RCMP and ask for a security check, they say what is it for? You want a "criminal record check". Security clearance is an actual thing, military, top secret, etc. **Answer:** But we're not going to go through an amendment change tonight. In terms of the implementation, sometime in the next two months we have to find someone within the fellowship who can put the document together well, so that they can be posted as our current guidelines as of September.

**Question:** Samaira - I remember when Raquel was the chair of corrections, she had a form and there was a limited number of volunteers who were allowed to be on the list. I think that's what they mean by successful in the wording, not the prison but the committee itself.

### **New Business:**

#### **Literature credit card:**

**Trudy** - Once again, the reason I am proposing this new account is to avoid spending extra money in fees and to avoid having any literature chair use a personal credit card. I have been speaking to Bruce, and \$1000 was put into the account so I could order literature, which I did, as I show on my statement. But this new account option was just discovered today and I wanted to bring it to the table and have discussion on it.

**I make a motion that we set up a Scotia Community Account plan with a VISA debit card to order literature. Seconded by Alan.**

**Question:** Leah - Is there an issue with it? Will there only be one name on the account? **Answer:** We just didn't know about this option until today, and I wasn't comfortable having a VISA with just my name on it. All five names will be on the new account, and there will only be \$1000 in the account at any time.

**Question:** Samaira - My group wanted to know how it was issued. They were concerned with any executive talking with another executive about money and making a decision before a motion was made at this table. That account for literature is a checking account which needs more than one signature. The problem may be instant gratification - it doesn't take that long to have a letter or a check mailed out. But if one person is going to have that card it changes everything - Maybe it should have come to the table that someone was using a VISA card before now. **Comment:** Pedro - Paying in the US we need a money order, our Canadian checks wouldn't go. There are things we can not do without a credit card, the website is one of them. There is no way to operate a website without a credit card. **Comment:** Bruce - Bell Aliant is not longer taking checks. **Comment:** Trudy - GSO is still taking checks, but for how much longer?

**Date: April 3, 2018**

**Page 7 of 8**

**Question:** Bill - When you order from NY is it online? You just need the number for online orders, not the physical card? And others as signing officers can monitor all actions? And the account is never more than \$1000. **Answer:** Yes to all. **Comment:** Chrissie- It makes sense to have five people on the account so that if someone goes crazy and starts buying shoes the others can see it.

**Question:** Leah - There are five people on the account who can see the activity, but there's still just one person carrying the card. The concern is you don't need two people to sign a check, the one person can do what they like. **Answer:** This is a reminder that we are trusted servants but there are five other people who can monitor the activity. **Comment:** Andrew - There is a statement which is printed which all of us can see. We need to follow the technology trend for what's required. **Comment:** Ron - I can remember two occasions recently at this table when the literature chair has gone AWOL. The gentleman who had the position recently got a resentment and had \$4000 worth of books in his basement which we have never seen again. I think the literature chair is a position which is susceptible to these problems, we need checks and balances and someone in the position who is responsible and trusted, no matter if they have a credit card or books in their inventory, they need to be trusted.

**Comment :** Cathy - I do think it's important that the executive or treasurer needs to actively monitor all activity, to protect Trudy. If we have five people who say they have the opportunity to check on the account but no one does, we still have the problem.

**Question:** Alan - What about if you get your order together and call Bruce and say throw \$X over to the account so I can order it tomorrow morning. **Answer:** Bruce can't do that - he needs two signing authorities on a check.

**All those in favour: 16 Opposed: 3 Abstentions: 1. Minority Vote.**

**Minority Vote comments:** Samaira - Referring to Alan's question Bruce could write a check and deposit it into the literature account. There is a reason why we have two signing authorities on all accounts. **Donnie** -I'm with Samaira.

**Comment:** Trudy - I'm confused because Samaira doesn't want the account to be opened and yet people are suggesting Bruce will be putting checks into the account. When any literature is ordered, any profit goes back into that account. I don't need to order literature until I'm low in books, which means the money will already be in the account from the last profits.

**Question:** Freddy - But the protocol has always been two signatures. So when an order needs to be made, Trudy would get a check for the amount with the two signatures and put it into the account, and make the order from there. **Answer :** Any bank account has a debit card. My group has a credit card. District has a credit card and anyone could use that card.

**Comment:** Samaira: As a minority voice, I'm stating that my group was against a VISA. I'm suggesting that the account stays empty until a check with two signatures is deposited into the account for the money needed for each order.

**Bill P** - The motion was to open the account, and it was duly moved and seconded.

Any members wish to change their vote? One member.

**All those in favour of opening the Community Account Plan? 12. Opposed: 4 Abstention: 3. Motion is carried.**

#### **CPC chair resignation:**

**Bill P** - The resignation of the CPC chair needs to be discussed, but I am not suggesting that we have an election tonight. What were on the books for the CPC committee this coming month? **Natalie, co-chair:** We had scheduled a presentation with restorative justice on March 21 and Chris resigned the evening of the 20th so I contacted them and asked for a reschedule and she was in favour of that. We don't have anything on the docket right now. I have three new potential members who will come to our next meeting. **Bill** - Can we get together to make sure the committee can continue until we have the vote for the new chair next month?

**Question:** Who does Pedro put down until then for the website? **Answer:** He has my name, Bill P for now.

**Question:** Cathy -Why doesn't Natalie step up to chair for the time being? **Answer:** Because she is chairing the Entertainment committee as well. **Comment:** Cathy - I raised that as a concern when she was elected. **Answer:** That's why I'm helping and supporting to keep the committee together. We are trying to do our best to deal with the situation. **Comment:** Trudy - When the committees were under district, it was stated that the alternate DCM would step in when a committee was missing a chairperson. With Bill stepping in, he is following those guidelines.

#### **Announcements from Groups :**

Michael announced that Barry is celebrating 25 years tomorrow night.

Kim and Heather are celebrating birthdays as well.

Donnie announced that his group put on the meeting at Detox on Sunday and it was a rewarding meeting, the attendees were very grateful and it looks like West End Step will get some new membership.

Cathy announced the workshop coming up on the Traditions Sunday at 1:00 pm.

Samaira announced the pre-conference Saturday at 10 am with lunch and sweets. Also Sunday night at 45 Connelly Rd a Study on the Traditions will start at 6:30 and run weekly for about six weeks.

**Adjournment:**

The next Central Service Meeting will be Tuesday May 1 2018 (St. Mark's Church).

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Monthly Financial Statement for April 2018**

**Opening Balance March 2018** \$5986.33

**DEBITS:**

Rent \$60.00

Phone \$242.80

#664 Literature corrections \$136.94 not cashed

#665 Bluenose Bulletin \$11.50

#666 Corrections \$30.00

#668 Emily Smith Secretary \$47.16

**CREDITS:**

Sunday Morning Armview \$148.50

Colby Village BB \$600.00

Early Risers \$60.00

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition \$40.85

**Closing Balance Apr 2, 2018** \$6444.42

prudent account: opening balance \$4171.26

interest .18

closing balance \$4171.44

literature Committee: opening balance \$2198.83 Closing \$2198.83