

Date: June 5, 2018

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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 added.

**Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Michael H.

**ROLL CALL:**

Executive	Committees	CSR	CSR	Observers
Bill P-chair	Trudy D. - Literature chair	Clare L - CSR Live for Today	Evan M - CSR 4 Seasons	Jerry P - Downtown Dartmouth
Michael H -Co- Chair/ Alt CSR Acceptance	Murdo M - alt CSR Highland Park	Tim D - CSR Hubbards	Ron H - CSR Colby Village Big Book Study	Rod M - alt DCM District 2
Bruce B - Treasurer	Sue C - Hospital Visitation	Sarah S - CSR Only Requirement	David R. -CSR Living in the Solution	Fred D - GSR Hubbards Gr
Emily S - Secretary, CSR Acceptance	Rob A - Newsletter Chair	Fred L - CSR Cole Harbour	Alan M. - CSR Sunrise	Paul B - Colby Village/ Literature co-chair
	Leah C - PI Chair	Chrissie B - CSR Back to Basics	Jeff D - CSR Fresh Start	Samaira G - DCM District 1
	Beth P - CSR Downtown Dartmouth/Help Email		Brian B - CSR Atlantic	
	Pedro G - Webmaster		Marianne S - CSR Serenity Sisters	
	Kelly D - Corrections chair			
	Heather C - alt CSR Fresh Start/Telephone chair			

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$36.40 Collected, taken by Bruce B.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Agenda approval motioned by Pedro G and seconded by Kelly D. Motion Carried.

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

**REPORTS**

**Secretary:**

Hello everyone. This month I purchased another ink cartridge and paper for my printer and have given the receipt to the treasurer. A member pointed out that I used two members' full names in the May Central Service meeting minutes which were posted online. The webmaster has corrected this for me. The member also suggested that the May minutes online were listed under April, and that the April minutes were missing. I will bring this to the attention of the webmaster as well. (We can see that the May minutes have the word "April" next to them in parentheses because the May meeting minutes dealt with business that occurred during the month of April.) It is very helpful to me if committees can send their reports to me on or before Monday, the day before the CSC meeting. This month I received half of the committees reports in advance of the meeting date. Thank you in advance for your help and support next month. Thank you, Emily S.

**Treasurer:** Opening balance: \$5564.57. Closing balance: \$4748.99. Debits: \$1747.49 Credits: \$617.70  
Prudent account: \$4888.28 Literature: \$2727.83

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**Co-chair:**

Nothing to report, except a reminder that some groups have not yet picked up their insurance packages. Insurance is good until October 2018. - Michael H.

**Chair:**

This was an active month. I attended the meetings of District 1 & 2 to present the report from Central Service Committee. One item raised at the District 2 meeting will be up for broader discussion under new Business with respect to our Meeting List. I attended meetings of the PI Committee and the Mid-Winter Round Up Committee. A CPC committee was scheduled on three occasions and were cancelled. I conferred with the Chairs of the Telephone and Treatment Committees on matters which will be addressed in their reports. It was with pleasure I participated with the Corrections Chair at the Service Fair held at the Corrections facility. I am sure the Corrections Chair will report in more detail on this event. This fair will be held at the three other Corrections facilities in the province. This information was passed on to the Secretary of Area 82. The Corrections facility is operated by the Nova Scotia: Dept of Justice for persons who are sentenced to less than two years in prison. An up-to-date copy of the Central Service Guidelines will be posted on our Web site. I'm also excited about the Seminar for intergroup committees coming up in September in Montreal, which will be discussed under new Business. Yours in Service, Bill P.

**CPC:**

Good evening friends.

Unfortunately the efforts to meet this month have been unsuccessful. Twice meetings were arranged and at the last minute had to be cancelled due to our meeting place becoming unavailable.

I have received a new CPC binder through the Literature Chair and am anxious to form a committee.

A meeting has been rescheduled and will happen on Saturday June 16th at 9am at Kitchen Design Plus on Bedford Row for any who would like to attend.

Yours in Service, Natalie C CPC Co-Chair

**Corrections:**

Good evening all. Meetings were well attend in the month of May. One person did not show to chair a meeting due to a misunderstanding. This month Bill P. and I attended a full day community resource fair at the prison. It was informative and a positive experience. Thank you Bill for attending with me. I will be putting on a Corrections Workshop on 24 Jun in Windsor. Two women have left Corrections and one woman has started the process to obtain clearance. This leaves us with 8 men and 10 women. On speaking with the Warden at the prison it has come to light that women may put on meetings in the men's side of the prison, but men are not permitted to chair women's meetings. This will be helpful in the short term as we are short on men. It will be entirely up to the individual woman whether or not they wish to put on meetings on the men's side.

Volunteers are still needed. Please take back to your groups that both men and women are required to chair meetings. A criminal records check is needed to chair meetings in the prison. However, a prior conviction may not exclude one from entering the prison. Each case is individually assessed by the prison with the focus being on whether or not the person is on probation, the nature of the conviction, and that they were not an inmate within the last two years. No particular length of sobriety is required. \*Note: One volunteer's paperwork was lost recently - we are working to amend this. - Kelly D

**Entertainment:**

Good evening friends.

The Entertainment Committee (me) would like to thank members of the fellowship and the CS members for help selling tickets and making the Spring Fling Dance a success. A great evening was had by all who attended. We had 82 people in attendance and I am still determining how many actual tickets were sold. Any GRS's with ticket money or unsold tickets please contact me so I can clear up the books for the event. The next event for Entertainment will be in the next Bluenose Bulletin. Also please circle the dates on your calendars for camping August 3rd 4th and 5th at Dollar Lake Provincial Park. Members of the Fellowship, family and friends welcome. Details to follow.

I am still seeking a Co-Chair.

Please forward and ideas, suggestions or comments to the Entertainment email or I can be reached at 902-219-7287.

I apologize for being unable to attend this evening and wish all a great evening. Yours in Service, Natalie C

**Help Email:**

There were 5 requests responded to in May. They were meeting information requests and help with drinking messages. I responded with meeting lists and encouraged them to try a meeting. An employer reached out on behalf of an employee and the reply was to please have his employee contact AA and we would be happy to help them. Thank you, Beth P

**Hospital Visitation:**

Another quiet month for the hospital visitation committee. I'm happy to report that we are now a committee of three. Doug of the Highland Park group has joined us and is looking forward to giving back through service with visitation. Welcome Doug, and

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thanks for stepping forward. We received an email from a member asking about visiting an elderly member with long time sobriety who is in an assisted living facility in the valley. Yours in service, Sue C.

Comments: Hospital visitation committee can extend visits to nursing homes if desired. There is more information in the hospital visitation committee guide online. There are currently members visiting AA members in nursing home facilities in Dartmouth and Clayton Park on an informal basis. The Annapolis Valley AA region has a help line which can be a resource for those wishing to visit seniors in that area.

Literature:

Good evening, A deposit of \$1830.95 was made May 1, 2018. The cheque that was "in the mail" last month still has yet to find it's way to me. I resent my mailing information and hope this spurs the memory! (again) I have been contacted by the committee in Antigonish about bringing literature to the Provincial round up. They will be paying for me to bring Literature down to the RoundUp. CUA account balance is \$4,558.78; Scotia account balance is \$88.11; Inventory balance is now \$3,928.35

I went to the bank and we set up the new Community Account. He is expecting the executives to come in to sign the client cards over the next few weeks. The monthly fee for this account is \$2.50 with 10 transactions allowed monthly. 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, Literature Chair

**Bluenose Bulletin:**

This month's edition of the Bluenose Bulletin had a lot of birthdays, more than before, and had plenty of meeting notices and AA events, including the upcoming 53<sup>rd</sup> Nova Scotia provincial roundup in Antigonish, and the New Freedom Group – District 6 – Big Book Weekend in Truro. 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. 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, which is happening now. 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 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. For the most part we are receiving them correctly now.

It continues to be a pleasure working on this newsletter with Eric P. Feedback is always welcome too.

Yours in Service, Rob A.

**Comment:** Please note Fred D is celebrating 36 years of sobriety, not 56 years.

**2018 Mid-Winter Round Up:**

No report at this time.

**Public Information:**

Good evening everyone, the Public Information committee has been very busy over the last month and I am pleased to report the following:

1. 2 radio stations (Seaside FM and CIOE 97.5) have agreed to play our Public Service Announcements. We have contacted New York and New York has been in contact with and has send the PSA's to both radio stations, we should be hearing these announcements soon.
2. We are still working on contacting all of the groups in District 1 and 2 to get them to take responsibility for a medical clinic or doctor's office. I am please to say we have added 3 more groups to our list and we are meeting with 2 groups in the next week and hopefully we can add them to our list. I would like to ask any group represented tonight who does not have a clinic to look after see me after the meeting and I will give you information to take back to your group.
3. We have been in contact with the Halifax School Board in regards to placing our Big Book in the school libraries. As well as informing the School Board that members are available to come to schools to share our experience, strength and hope with students. We are still waiting for a response from the school board.
4. We have been in contact with the RCMP detachments to replenish them with more AA business cards.

The next PI meeting will be June 16, 2018, and we ask that you announce at your groups that we need members to help with upcoming projects to carry the message. Yours in Service, Leah C

**Comments:** Public service announcements come from New York - they are different lengths. Colby Village would be interested in being added to the Medical Clinic literature list. Individuals may be interested in taking care of a clinic on their own, but the PI committee prefers to have groups take responsibility so that more than one person can be accountable.

**Telephone:**

Things going well with the committee - currently working with the Newsletter chair and the Webmaster to develop strong communication and accuracy with the list of groups taking the phones. Heather C.

**Treatment:**

**DETOX:**

This past month (May) I received notification that members were not present to conduct their scheduled meeting participation at Detox, in the same week another group had failed to show up. I received a call from the Detox regarding this matter and expressed my sincere apologies, up until now they had been still contacting the previous treatment chair, as my name should have been made the first point of contact as I had made contact with them when I first took over this position. I have since then received messages from the absent group expressing their unfortunate absent, we discussed ways to prevent this from happening in the future as they are aware that having the AA fellowship presence is a valuable and vital contribution to individuals in detox and making a connection to the AA fellowship while inside provides hope and an on-going support for them as they exit from the detox program into the community. I was able to attend a meeting with the west end step group this past Sunday attendance was 5 as they expressed they just had a turn around in clients recently, it was a great meeting with membership as well as participants. It would serve very helpful for me as treatment chair to have individual groups, an up-to-date contact person who they have deemed the contact for detox, as I move forward with my reminder calls, individuals on my list in some cases do not return my calls to confirm, I find out that the member who I have been calling are no longer the contact and/or have left the group; calling 3-5 other people to confirm a meeting. The GSR's on the district 1 and 2 list I have are not necessarily the same person as the groups assigned contact person either. I would request a recent list for each group who they have appointed as the detox contact as well as having a back up in such case, if I am unable to get in touch with the first one, if this is possible, to ensure that we do not have another no show moving forward. It is our responsibility to continue to carry AA's message through our declaration. I do want to express other than the week that had been missed, membership support from other groups have been well received and appreciate the dedication and support. To my current knowledge and correspondence, Detox is not being closed down as a rumour that was circulating recently and they continue to be pleased and grateful for our support. Tina M. Treatment Chair.

**FORENSICS:**

This past month (May) the Forensic meetings have been going as scheduled. I encourage all groups to consider service work in Treatment – Forensics. Average attendance is about 5 - 10. I am still looking new members of the fellowship to help bring the Team's back up to full strength. The incident at the forensic unit was dealt with and no A.A. members were ever at risk. However, the forensic teams now will be taking the panic alarm button into the meetings going forward. (In place 8<sup>th</sup> May). Tom S. Treatment Co - Chair.

**Webmaster/Website:**

Web Admin Report for May 2018: The visits and most viewed pages continue to be stable. During May I executed a major software update in our web hosting platform, WordPress, all plugins and the template we use as base for our web. I'm glad to report that this time everything worked smoothly with no impact on the service. I continue to update our meeting list a couple of times every month. At this rate I doubt any of the printed lists we can find around the groups are up to date. I will encourage CSR from each group to think about this and consider if we can have a different way to handle the meeting updates. I believe most of the changes are known well in advance and we can work a schedule to update the meeting list. 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. \*Note: unless I receive clear information about updating Detox and Telephone schedules for groups, I can not keep the roster updated properly. Yours in service, Pedro G Web Administrator

**Comments:** In some areas around the world, meeting lists online have a direct link through Google maps to help visitors find the exact location of meetings. There is also an smartphone App now which helps people find AA meetings. A suggestion was made that groups individually contact the webmaster to clarify their exact civic address.

**District 1:**

Welcome everyone, I am Samaira, DCM for District. As many of you know, we were busy with the Pre-conference and the Service weekend. One huge takeaway, was a reminder that we in AA have a code and that is "Love and Tolerance" I seems to forget that when we come together to talk about the business of AA. We will be reviewing our Finally 2017 Report from GSO, looking forward it see how and why AA has been working for so long.

If you do not have a GSR for your group, please call or email, would love to know why you don't want your voices heard. If there has been an issue, would love to see if we can solve them.

We have a new Workshop committee that have been working hard to have some great workshops for us, please check the website for upcoming workshops. They go into great detail on what is coming up. \*Note: District 1 will potentially host the Provincial Round up in 2020.

Yours in Service, Samaira

**District 2:**

Last month District 2 welcomed a new GSR from Circle of Sisters to our meeting. We had nine GSR's present and spent our time finalizing bank changes, and reading for discussion chapter 4 of the Service Manual.

Five out of members attended the Nova Scotia Service Weekend in Truro with participation from our GSR's. District 2 submitted three items to the Ask It Basket which precipitated much discussion and input from many delegates and we felt happy with the experiences that were shared. We will be taking these discussions back to our next District meeting.

We are now preparing for our speaker meeting at the Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup in Antigonish on June 10 at 10:30 am. I hope many of you will be able to attend.

I am sorry for missing this meeting tonight but due to illness I am unable to attend. and I have asked Rod M. our Alternate DCM to give this report on my behalf.

Respectfully submitted, yours in Service, Cathy M.

**Area 82:**

Thank you to groups who participated in the recent service weekend. Keep an eye out for the Provincial Round up and Founders weekend coming up. Yours in service, Trudy D, secretary Area 82

All Reports were motioned for approval by Rob A. And Seconded by Chrissie B. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**Elections:**

**Corrections co-chair:** none

**Entertainment co-chair:** none

**CPC Chair:** none

**Meeting List six month rule - group input**

Sunrise Group and Back to Basics CSRs mentioned that they discussed with their groups and everyone is fine with the rule to wait six months before adding a new group to the printed meeting list.

**New Business:**

**Meeting Booklet:**

A proposal arose at a District 2 meeting to discuss the option of a printed meeting booklet, pocket sized.

**Comments:**

- This district did have printed booklets at one time for 50 cents each. Groups funded the books for newcomers.
- Having some blank pages at the back for notes, phone numbers and changes was suggested.
- There is the worry of having to print new booklets on a weekly basis - Pedro has already noted that he makes changes to the meeting list more than twice per month.
- Booklets might be considered less of a "throwaway" and might be more useful and less easily lost than sheets.
- A member often checks out meeting lists presented at groups and often they are months and years out of date.
- Groups could be careful to make changes to their meeting time/space only as it coincides with a new printing of the booklet.
- There is a national directory which comes out with updates online regularly.
- We are living in a digital age where we're trying to get away from paper - this is going in the other direction.
- Booklets would include a disclaimer suggesting that information updates be checked online and with the AA phone line.
- **The idea should be taken to our groups for feedback and discussion.**

**33rd Annual Central Office Seminar Sept 21 - 23 in Montreal PQ**

Would we consider financing a member from the CSR executive committee to attend this?

**Comments:**

- This was suggested at a CSC meeting years ago but we were not in a position to finance the trip at the time.
- Could an individual attend if he/she were able to finance the trip themselves? Answer: Yes.
- There is a regional forum in Quebec in July and a DCM is attending this. It would be a great idea for CSR to attend something like this.
- Do we have the finances? We have just passed a budget which did not include this. Answer: We could finance this - we do have a surplus. The 6 month Financial Statement will come out in July - perhaps we should hold off on a decision until then.
- A motion to send a member from the executive was discussed, but the motion was tabled until the topic was brought back to groups, and until the CSR 6 month Financials were printed (next month).

**Announcements from Groups :**

- Please designate one or two contacts from your groups and have them contact Tina M with Detox Committee with their phone numbers.
- West End Step Group has a new GSR: Tom R.
- The Only Requirement Group has two birthdays coming up in June, Reed (21) and Judy (30).
- June 16 at Highland Park Group Murdo M will celebrate 26 years.
- Evelyn will not be celebrating her birthday this month at Four Seasons group - will be celebrated at a later time.

**Adjournment:**

The next Central Service Meeting will be Tuesday, July 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm (St. Mark's Church).

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Central Service Committee

Monthly Financial Statement for May 2018

**Opening Balance May 2018**        \$5564.57

**DEBITS:**

#676 Rent	\$60.00
#677 Phone	\$252.31
#678 Prudent Account	\$716.67
#679 Literature Expense	\$404.20

**CREDITS:**

Acceptance Group	\$400.00
Live For today	\$140.00
Highland Park	\$40.00
7 <sup>th</sup> Tradition	\$37.60

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<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>May 31 2018, 2018</b>	\$4748.99	
Prudent account:	opening balance	\$4171.26	
	interest	.19	
	Transfer from Checking.	\$716.67	
	closing balance	\$4888.28	\$2000 of prudent is For Insurance

Literature Committee: opening balance \$2488.93 Closing \$2727.83