

Date: July 2, 2019

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

July 2, 2019

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:

- New Business: Back to Basics to make a motion regarding updates to the meeting list
- Transition day for committee and executive chairperson changeover

Twelve Traditions: The Twelve Traditions were read by Curtis F.

ROLL CALL:

Executive	Committees	CSR	CSR	Observers
Bill P - Chair	Michael A - Help Email chair;CSR Keep it Simple	Tim D - CSR Hubbards	Eric L - CSR Four Seasons	Samaira G - Area 82 Secretary/Registrar
Michael H - co-chair	Kelly D - Newsletter chair	Al - CSR Fresh Start	Murdo M -alt CSR Highland Park	Shayne - DCM Dist 2
Bruce B - Treasurer	Shawn M - Entertainment chair	Betty L - alt CSR Colby Village	Gilles D - CSR Second Chance	
Emily S - Secretary	Leah C - chair Public Information	Mark - alt CSR Downtown Dartmouth	Steve A - DCM Dist 1, alt CSR Back to Basics	
	Troy S - Corrections chair	Mark - CSR Cole Harbour		
	Cathy M - Literature chair	Jeremy J - CSR Acceptance		
	Heather C - chair CPC	Curtis F - CSR Sunrise		
	Sharman M - chair telephones			
	Matt W - Webmaster			
	Allison M - chair Hospital Visitation			

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

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Curtis F and seconded by Heather C. All in favour. Motion passed.

Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:

Motion to approve the minutes. Motion made by Murdo M and seconded by Kelly D. Adopted unanimously, no errors or omissions.

REPORTS

Secretary:

I was away for part of the month in June but I was able to type up the minutes for the June meeting from the recording taken by the co-chair. The amendments to the May minutes are noted clearly in the June minutes. I have signed a few checks for the

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Literature committee as I live close by. I had an email request by Back to Basics group to add a topic to New Business. I had one request from a member to change July's Old Business topic to New Business - I discussed this with the chair. I look forward to seeing folks at the upcoming AA camping weekend; I'm sure it will be as fun as last year. Thank you, Emily

Treasurer:

Opening balance: \$ 6901.75

Closing balance: \$ 7453.67

Debits: \$ 551.42

Credits:\$ 1103.34

Prudent account: \$ 4891.35

Literature: \$849.27

VISA/Debit:\$ 697.76

There was a mix-up this month regarding access to the bank account but I have now gained access and it's sorted out.

Co-chair:

Reviewing last year's insurance payments, I would like to state that our goal this year is to have all insurance premiums collected by September this year. Yours in service, Michael H

Chair:

I attended District 1 and 2 meetings this month, as well as Public Information and Mid-Winter Round up committee meetings. I attended to various odds and ends and helped clear up bank account problems.

Yours in service, Bill P

CPC:

CPC report for June. The committee met in June it was discussed to find a meeting place in Dartmouth, the committee will now be meeting the third Saturday of each month at the Woodside community centre on pleasant street in Dartmouth @ 10:00. We have some dates confirmed in November for presentations, still waiting to hear back from the Military, we have reached out to IWK, along with the psychologist associations. We are looking for new members to help. Yours in Service, Heather

Q: Are you in contact with the military? A: Our co-chair Foster is taking care of contacts with the military; we were recently told that our inquiry needed to go up the chain of command for now, and we are waiting to hear back.

Corrections:

While there is a stable base of approved members to attend meetings, there is a requirement for additional (men and women) members to become involved in the CNSCF weekly meetings. A few members have taken summer hiatus and others some have decided to focus their commitments to other areas of AA service. Last minute cancellations continue to be a challenge. We did have to cancel one meeting in the month due to no back up availability.

Additionally, it is my experience some new potential applicants may have a change of heart when they realize the Criminal Record Check process and the time commitment to have it completed. Once again if you, individual group members (or your/ their sponsee) has an interest in a once a month (or occasional) commitment to carry the message at the Nova Scotia Correctional Facility, please encourage them to reach out to community for further information. Literature is being replenished on average of once per month. Additional literature has been placed in the library area for access to those unable or not permitted to attend weekly meetings. A brief piece called "Carrying the Message Inside and Out" was submitted to July Newsletter to highlight the importance of contribution to service within the Correctional Facility. Finally, the committee will have representation at the Nova Scotia Service weekend taking place in Truro this weekend. The District 2 DCM will be sharing the update from the Corrections Committee during the weekend.

Yours in service, Troy

Entertainment:

The Entertainment Committee report is as follows:

The next event is the Annual AA Campout at Dollar Lake - Aug. 2,3, 4th, 2019 - Cost is \$ 10.00 for the weekend (Kids, youth & pets are free).

Flyers with a pre-registration information are at the back of the room.

Please take some flyers back to your groups.

On Sunday, myself and some of the committee members went out to Dollar Lake to do a site check for the campout.

it's a very nice group campsite that was easy to get to.

I have tickets with me, if anyone wishes to take them tonight to sell.

In Service,

Shawn M.

Q: In the financials it shows a difference between the AA Day and the dance, why is that? A: The entertainment committee is not supposed to organize an AA Day so we show these as separate events with separate financials. Q: Does the entertainment committee acknowledge the receipt of emails? Mine have not been answered. A: There was an issue with our email which has just been sorted out with the help of the webmaster. Q: Do you need tickets in advance of camping or can you show up and pay? Are trailers allowed? A: You can just show up. Trailers are allowed. We have one extra group site this year which will allow for more room. We are working on a pamphlet with info for new campers.

Help Email:

1. How do I go about getting a sponsor? (female)

Explained the best way was go to meetings and listen. You will soon find someone you would like to work with. Some groups offer temporary sponsorship. As well as there are women groups available.

2. Talked with a man that was a friend of someone in serious trouble with alcohol. I explained unless he is willing to ask for help, there was little for AA to do. I asked him if it was possible to get him to a meeting. He said that he is willing to go to one. After a few tries this gentleman finally come into a Sunday morning meeting. He did pick up a desire chip. It was an honor to have been able to meet these two men. Although the first meeting might not be easy, we can only hope that during the meeting he picked up that he is not alone. I got to talk to him after the meeting for 15 min. His friend keeps me up-to-date on getting him to a second meeting.

3. Young man asked How does a new comer start? Dates? Times?

Explained the meeting types. And he could attend any meeting if he has a desire to stop drinking or thinks he may have a problems with alcohol. Gave a copy of the meeting list.

4. Coming to NS. Never been to a meeting. Wanted to know the meeting types.

Explained the meeting types. We were going to get together to get to a meeting, but due to our schedules we couldn't get together. I spoke with him today and he said he had a fantastic time in NS. Stayed DRY the whole time and was offered it quite often. Coming back in Feb-Mar.

Thanks, Michael A, Help E-Mail Coordinator

Hospital Visitation:

Hello Everyone,

There is not much to report in terms of hospital visitation this month. I have had more volunteers reach out which is great and much appreciated. My only ongoing ask is to make your group members aware of this service.

Hope everyone has a great month! - Allison

Q: Perhaps at the service weekend one of the DCMs could mention in their report that there is a hospital visitation service with contact number. Q: What if someone is just out of hospital or convalescing at home? A: If you have someone in your group in this situation please let us know, we have volunteers who would be able to visit, this would not be an issue.

Literature:

Inventory on hand	8544.60
Credit Union Acct	614.69
Scotia Bank Acct	676.97
Cash on hand	666.80
Books Ordered/Paid for	0.00
Accounts Receivable	129.00
Total Assets	10,632.06

Sales were \$1834.60 for the month and Purchases were \$ 1,522.06. Rent was \$35.00, and Provincial roundup expenses were \$234.58

The new price list and order form is now on the AAHalifax Website for use by groups and individuals.

Trudy and I attended the NS Provincial Roundup in June (sales were \$1364.60). It was a successful weekend and lots of fun. In July I will be setting up our literature table for sales at the NS Service Weekend and also the District 6 Roundup. Expenses for these will be \$180.00.

Nancy D will be looking after literature at "the store" on July 6 for us. Hours are 11-1 that Saturday. We will also be open on August 10.

There is a current price reduction from \$15.99US to \$9.99US (\$14.00CDN) for the MP3 Audio Download of the book Language of the Heart (Bill W's Grapevine Writing's). Go online to the Grapevine website.

Note: You will notice a difference between my report and the treasurer's - this is due to an outstanding check which has now been deposited. The biggest change this month was the purchase of a lot of pamphlets - we were very low. Every item has now been inventoried and labeled. We reorganized the purchasing list by code which I find much easier to work with.

Thank you for your attention. Respectfully submitted, Cathy M

Q: Why is the central service committee paying for the literature committee to attend area functions and roundups? A: It states in the guidelines that the literature committee will attend functions where invited or requested. This was not done previously, until last year. These venues can't afford our travel expenses (similar to the archives when requested to attend events). Central Service does not absorb this cost; the literature committee absorbs this cost. Q: But you don't make a profit. A: The effect is that the inventory is slightly reduced.

Comment: Other districts don't have a literature committee and this is a need we can fill and a service we can offer to be of help. Many other districts like Yarmouth or Cape Breton have purchased their literature from District 1&2.

Q: Is there a change that needs to be made to the budget to address this issue? A: In the past, travel for the literature chair has been covered as a personal expense. Yes, we need to look at adjusting the budget to cover this cost in the future.

CS Chair: Early this year I examined the literature committee and determined that it has always been running as an independent operation, offering a service. Any revenue received from mark ups on the books should go to expenses of operating the service and to allow for purchasing in advance of sales. Cathy has been working to determine if the current amount is sufficient to cover these costs.

Q: Was the earlier suggestion for the "fire sale" of old materials moved on? A: No, I have been focusing on other issues - the idea is under consideration.

Bluenose Bulletin:

This month the Bulletin's theme is Diversity and Inclusiveness in AA. As we were taught from day one, keep an open mind and care for all suffering alcoholics.

When submitting notices to the bulletin please provide as much information as possible. For birthdays please ensure you provide the first and last initial of the celebrant, years celebrating, meeting date, time and name of group.

A reminder that the cut off for announcements is the 25th of the month.

Yours in service, Kelly and Eric

Q: Will there be changes to the Forensics schedule? A: We've been in contact with the chair of treatment and there has been so much turmoil within the forensics operations - I have heard that Team 1 and 5 don't exist anymore - that we are still waiting to hear back on her decision. We don't want to post any information which is not meaningful and relevant.

Mid-Winter Round Up:

Our next meeting will take place July 14. A contract has been signed with the hotel. It looks like we may have secured a program chair, we are working on getting speakers now.

Bruce B.

Public Information: Good evening everyone, lots of things to report with our committee. As previously reported Northwood Nursing Home had asked us to put on a meeting the 3rd Wednesday of June, July and August from 2-3. I received an email last week asking us to continue for the month of September, October and November. Northwood also advised us that going forward when new residents are going through their intake, if they have any issues with alcohol they will be providing them with information about AA. We are continuing to work at getting our pamphlets into more nursing homes. We have been asked by Adsum House (shelter for women and children) to put on a presentation for the residents on July 15, 2019. This invitation came through asking them to take our pamphlets. Going forward we will be contacting other shelters and homes who we provide pamphlets to and see if they would be interested in a presentation. We had a list of several medical clinics and doctor's offices for the metro area and one of our members made calls to all the clinics that were not already assigned to a group. We now have over 30 more offices who would like to have our pamphlets. Please announce at your groups that we need help delivering pamphlets. I am very excited about attending the NS Service Weekend this week. I will have a booth set up all weekend and am looking forward to the Information Session for the 4 committees on Saturday evening. Yours in Service, Leah

Q: If there are 30 more offices in need of groups to deliver pamphlets, is this a one-time thing? Don't the groups restock? A: In order to keep the offices in supply of pamphlets, we are offering them contact info for the Public Information committee so they can let us know when they run out. We need volunteers for the first delivery of materials and eventually we will be able to assign groups to each of these offices. Comment: Perhaps the committee can bring these pamphlets to the central service meetings and there may be volunteers here who could take care of the delivery to the new offices.

Telephone:

I'm pleased with how things are being taken care of with the phones. I am in the process of adding groups to the weekend phones list. The Serenity Sisters in Sackville has just been added to the list.
Yours in service, Sharman

Q: Are you in charge of updating the 12 step call list? A: Yes, the Co-chair of the phones is in charge of that.

Q: Has the contact information for the chair of the phone committee been changed in the binders? A: Yes, although it is difficult to get information changed in the binder for the weekend phones because it is constantly moving between groups. Comment: Downtown Dartmouth has this binder next and we will make sure the information is changed.

Treatment:

Detox meetings are carrying on as scheduled. One group has requested they be removed from the list and were unable to attend the meeting scheduled in June. However, another group graciously stepped in for that evening and the meeting carried on as normal. I did have a telephone conversation with the representative from Detox who advised there is an employee of Detox that also sits in on the meetings. It was reported that although AA meetings at Detox are greatly appreciated some volunteers are making negative comments towards the success of AA as a whole, the viability of drugs used in order to help patients with their efforts to abstain from using and "God Bashing", which Detox asked members to refrain from doing. Given the importance of this life-saving experience, it would be appreciated if the CSR's would take back to their groups that we are there to spread the message of AA in a positive manner focusing on the importance of willingness and open mindedness in attending AA meetings once they have completed the Detox program.

Forensics - no report.

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Marguerite Centre: The monthly meetings are being attended in rotation and well received by both the AA members and participants at the Marguerite Center. I just wanted to say how Grateful I am that female members have stepped up and volunteered to attend these meetings and report back to me that they also enjoy the meetings they chair.

Yours Gratefully in Service, Stephanie J.

Webmaster/Website:

June was a quiet month for aahalifax.org, seeing only the usual updates to the website. Some of these updates include uploads of the:

- June Bluenose Bulletin and Meeting list
- Campout and Workshop flyers
- Literature Order form
- General and Central Service meeting minutes

Tasks also included various electronic meeting list update and miscellaneous requests for consistency.

Goals for the coming two months include an overhaul for consistency and grammar, as well as a potential facelift.

Recommendations and suggestions for consistency and appearance of the website are welcome via text or email.

Q: Are we closer to having a Google map link to meeting locations? A: You can click now on meeting locations to get a map link from the print version of the meeting list, I can work on making this available as well for the electronic online version of the list.

Q: Are you the contact person for new groups who are being added to the telephone roster? A: When I have requests like this, I check with the committee who is in charge and then I go ahead and see if I am able to make that update.

District 1:

Hello everyone, my name is Steve and I am an alcoholic. I have the privilege of working in A.A. general service with the groups in District 1, and to represent these groups on the Area Committee as their DCM. My home group is the Back to Basics Group in Halifax.

2019 Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup

The 54th Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup took place the weekend of June 7th to 9th in Port Hawkesbury. Held in a large Primary to Grade 8 school, the roundup was well attended, and it was an incredible experience for me. A big thank you to the organizers and volunteers who put on this very enjoyable event!

On behalf of District 1, I had the great privilege of co-hosting, with Cathy M. from District 2, the banquet meeting during the roundup. The banquet speaker was Kathy G., the GSR of the St. Margarets Bay Group in District 1. What an inspiring message Kathy had! I have a CD recording of Kathy's talk, please let me know if you would like to borrow this CD.

June District 1 General Service Committee Meeting

A total of nine GSRs and Alternate GSRs, two District 1 Committee Officers, one Area 82 Officer, and the Central Service Chairperson participated in the June District 1 General Service Committee meeting held on Sunday, June 30th; for an overall turnout of thirteen (13) A.A. members.

Agenda items included an interesting interpretation of Tradition 5 by Velma C., GSR of the Four Seasons Group, and a presentation on the rewards of being a GSR by Lisa M., GSR of the Back to Basics Group. I gave my DCM and Acting Treasurer's reports, and Bill P., the Central Service Committee Chairperson, provided an informative Central Service Committee report. Samaira G., the Area 82 Secretary/Registrar, gave an update on some of her activities.

The new business topic of "Growing a Group's Service Commitment" was discussed. It was clear to me from this discussion that many groups grow their service commitment by conducting business, inventory, or group conscience meetings. Sponsorship was also discussed as an important way to grow a group's service commitment

Samaira G. spoke of her creation of an AA Book Library which will be available at future District 1 Committee meetings. Anyone wishing to borrow selected books published by A.A. World Services, Inc. (i.e., General Service Conference approved literature), or the AA Grapevine Inc., is welcome to do so at any of the monthly District 1 Committee meetings.

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Finally, a wrap-up discussion took place on the six agenda items for the Nova Scotia Service Weekend being held this weekend in Bible Hill.

DCM Visits to Groups in District 1

I am gearing up to visit each of the 27 groups and 7 meetings in District 1 over the next few months. If your group would like me to speak about general service in Alcoholics Anonymous at your group's regular meeting, business meeting, or inventory or group conscience meeting, please give me a call at (902) 405-5488. I will be very happy to do this!

Conclusion

In conclusion, I will be pleased to address any questions or concerns you might have for me.

Respectfully submitted, peace and love in service,

Steve A.

District 2:

Good evening friends, my name is Shayne and I am an alcoholic. I am grateful to be here and grateful to be sober today. It is a privilege to be the DCM for District 2.

It has been a fairly quiet month in our District with regards to General Service. Our regularly scheduled GSR meeting was held at its usual time and place on June 16th. A good attendance helped produce a productive meeting. Our main discussion focused around District 2 workshops and a new grapevine kit that is slowly, but surely being constructed.

District 2 rotates workshops month to month with District 1. District 1 hosts a workshop before their GSR meetings on the last Sunday of the month and District 2 hosts their workshops on the second Sunday of their respective months. Our next workshop is Aug. 11th at 2 pm, our ADCM Blair A. with guest will host a workshop titled "Central Service: vital, but different than General Service", please announce in the upcoming weeks at your home groups. If anyone has any topic ideas or desires to host a workshop in District 2 please contact Blair for further discussion.

District 2 is in the process of revamping our old Grapevine kits, phone calls and emails have been made to both Grapevine and a local printing company to begin the process of constructing a new kit. This decision was made and voted on closer to two years ago, with the project changing hands several times I'm pleased to say Blair A. and Foster L. have taken the job on themselves and have begun to make progress. Our old kit will continue to circulate until the new one is complete.

We are pleased to welcome the We Agonistics' group to District 2. Though the meeting has been around for a little while they have recently registered with New York and are now a group. I look forward to visiting their group and sharing on my experience in General Service.

The next District 1 and 2 Provincial Round up meeting will be held this coming Sunday July 6st, 2 pm at Club 24, if you are interested in joining the Round Up committee please attend the meeting as positions are still available.

This coming weekend is the NS service weekend in Truro, I encourage all to attend, registration is cheap and the learning experience and fellowship are well worth the fee.

Thank you, Yours is Service, Shayne S.

Area 82:

I am looking forward to the upcoming service weekend. For the first time we had a workshop on Central Service/Intergroup at Area 82 NS/Nfld service weekend - there was a long discussion, about 90 minutes, with good ideas. There is a committee workshop planned for the service weekend in Truro 6:30 PM Saturday night. The agenda is flexible for the weekend except for lunch and roll call. If groups want to vote, they need to be there at roll call.

Samaira G, Area 82 secretary, registrar.

All Reports were motioned for approval by Kelly D and Seconded by Shawn M. All in favour. Motion carried.

ELECTIONS

Webmaster co-chair: no nominations.

OLD BUSINESS:

Forensics:

Chair CS: It is difficult to discuss this without a representative from the Treatment committee present. This discussion will be tabled until next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

Six Month Treasurer's Report

- we have collected less than half the contributions for the year
- You will note transfers to Literature committee - there was a mix up with a check made out to Central Service which should have gone to the literature committee - you will see how it's cancelled out in the expenses
- There is a miscellaneous expense which was covering a literature expense Trudy paid out of pocket
- We're on schedule with the projected budget - there are no surprises.

Q: How many committee chairs are being sent to the service weekend? Is there enough funds to cover the cost of the literature committee chair (\$180)? A: Yes. Q: Considering what was voted on about sending the incoming chair to Arizona for the intergroup conference, I think we should look carefully at the budget. Only 38% of group contributions have come in. I don't think we have enough funds. A: We have carried a financial surplus for approximately five years, this trip will create no financial hardship for the committee. Q: If it is in the guidelines that the literature committee is approved to attend other area events when requested, how is that in this year's budget? That has never been approved. A: Historically the literature committee has had an account independent of Central Service. This budget excludes anything to do with the literature committee. In the 2020 budget there will potentially be a line representing literature expenses, but currently these funds are not coming out of CS.

Motion put forward by Steve A of Back to Basics:

The Districts 1 & 2 Meeting List is now "updated every month by the Newsletter Committee" (minutes of May 7th, 2019, Central Service meeting, page 5); as a result, and on behalf of the Back to Basics Group, **I move** that the Meeting List include *the date of last revision* so that the Back to Basics Group can ascertain if, other than the name of the month, the actual content of the Meeting List has been changed.

Comments:

-this is so that we can know whether or not we need to print the meeting list every month; potentially if there are no changes the meeting list from the previous month will still be valid

- (Newsletter committee) This is an easy fix, a good idea. We have had changes every single month recently. Do you want us to include a list of the changes that have been made? A: No.

Vote: All in favour.

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion passed.

Transition Day:

Leah C: I've noticed that Area 81 has a day in which they come together to switch chairs of committees. There are books to pass on and duties to discuss. It's a chance to connect with the executive as well. I propose that we do something similar, even if it's a half-day, where we can bring sponsees and volunteers and introduce them to the committees and work together on the changeover.

Comments:

- I agree if has often been like re-inventing the wheel when there are new chairpersons.
- But isn't it the idea of AA that we learn new, and we can go to GSO to solve problems as a whole?

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- Could we incorporate something like this into workshops?
- What information which needs to be exchanged are the basics of operations for the committees, the nitty gritty of the work and experience.

CS Chair:

Let the minutes show that Central Service will implement a transition program for outgoing committee chairpersons to incoming chairs.

Motion to approve by Heather C, seconded by Shawn M. Motion carried.

Announcements from Groups :

- July 16 Doug will be celebrating 36 years at Highland Park group.
- Sunrise Group is celebrating 55 years on July 16th. There will be a potluck. One of our members has passed away, Greg.
- The entertainment committee will be meeting at Alderney Gate from now on - this will be noted in the newsletter.
- There is a new time for the Tuesday meeting at 45 Connolly Road, beginning July 7, Tuesdays at 12 noon. This is a MEETING, not a group.

Adjournment:

The next Central Service Meeting will be Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm (St. Mark's Church).

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM with the Responsibility Pledge.

Monthly Financial Statement for June 2019

Opening Balance June 1 2019 **\$6901.75**

DEBITS:

#741 Rent	\$60.00
#743 Bell Mobility	\$251.45
#745 Literature	\$190
#739 Public Info	\$49.97

CREDITS:

7 th Tradition	\$35.80
Serenity Sisters	\$250.00.
MWRU Surplus	\$475.89
AA Mayday Profit	\$36.25
Entertainment Profit(May Day)	\$85.40
Living In the Solution	\$100.
Lions Den	\$80.00
Lions Den 2019/20 Ins	\$40.00

Closing Balance June 30 2019,

\$7453.67

