

**MINUTES OF
CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING 7 APR 20
St. Mark's Church, 5522 Russell Street, Halifax**

WELCOME AND OPEN: Meeting opened by Michael H. at 7:00 pm with a few moments of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Twelve Traditions: The Twelve Traditions were read by Michael A.

ROLL CALL: N/A

EXECUTIVE	COMMITTEES	CSR	OBSERVERS
Chair – Michael H.	Ad Hock Technology – Marie	Acceptance	District 1 – Steve A.
Co-Chair – Jamie Q.	CPC – Heather C.	Atlantic - Joshua M.	District 2 – Blair A.
Treasurer – Bill P.	Corrections – Troy S.	Back to Basics – Dennis K.	Area 82 – Trudy A.
Secretary – Kelly D.	Entertainment – Shawn M. <i>absent</i>	Cole Harbour - Foster L	Lisa M. –
	Help Email – Michael A.	CVBBS	Andie
	Hospital Visitation – Allison M.	Eye Opener	Carol-Anne – Back to Basics
	Literature – Cathy M.	Four Seasons - Eric L.	
	Newsletter – Kelly D.	Fresh Start – Garnet E.	
	Mid-Winter – <i>absent</i>	Highland Park - Murdo M.	
	PI - Leah C.	Hubbard's - Tim D.	
	Telephone – Sharman M.	Keep it Simple – Kathleen S.	
	Treatment – Stephanie J. <i>absent</i>	New Hope	
	Webmaster – Pedro G.	Second Chance - Gilles D.	
		Sunrise	
		WESG	
		We Agnostics – Doug P.	

Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:

Motioned to approve the minutes by Allison M. Seconded by Jamie Q. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Coping with Covid-19 Challenges in Central Service:

7th tradition topic of groups, payment of groups facilities

A discussion took place regarding how the groups were fairing financially and if Central Service should or would assist if necessary. It was decided that it would be taken back to the groups and report back next meeting.

The Central Service Budget for the month

This is the financial snapshot of our finances. This is not intended as a usual financial report but in relation to the present emergency. We have the funds to continue to June, given the decrease in expenditures, from the general account. In June this will need to be reviewed.

We are obligated for the telephone bill. The rent may be more of a moral obligation until we can meet again in person. We might regard it as a donation. The phone bill varies between \$185. And 200. Per month. The rent is \$60. A month.

Central Service Committee March financial Report April 6, 20

Financial Snapshot

Prudent Account

31/3/2020	Opening Balance	Int.		Closing Bal.
	\$4,892.77	.21		\$4,892.98
		Debs	Crs.	
31/3/2020	\$1,441.85	\$ 901.95	\$3,218.04	\$3,757.94
				General Acct.
31/3/2020	\$7,837.95	\$ 905.00	\$ 793.80	\$7,727.75
	Total Financial Resources:			\$16,378.67

It was decided that the two cheques recently given to Central Service would be returned to their group and it was advised that groups should hold onto any money they have at this time.

Literature challenges

Challenges remain the same as before COVID-19. The store is closed but will to make deliveries if requested. To date no requests have been made. Still waiting to hear back from the credit card company as to what is needed to obtain a credit card.

ZOOM

Practices are evolving as we gain more experience with using Zoom. Good practices are to use Waiting Rooms and passwords. Zoom's website has a lot of good information. We request that if groups have an online meeting they send the information to the Webmaster for the AA Halifax website. The website has most of the meeting passwords but not all. A request has gone out for them.

REPORTS

Ad-Hock Tech

- Attended the Sydney NS Round Up to support the Literature Committee as they took Square on the road. Also attended for the fellowship. The Literature Committee had a very successful weekend and we were happy to help in any way.

Sales Mar 11-13	
Gross Sales	\$2,883.10
Returns	(\$390.00)
Discounts & Comps	(\$52.04)
Net Sales	\$2,441.06
Cash Rounding	(\$0.01)
Total	\$2,441.05
Fees	(\$8.26)
Net Total	\$2,432.79

- During the round up the committee was asked to research and recommend technology for online meetings as a couple of meetings had been cancelled due to Covid-19. Marie, Josh and Michael held some test meetings with Zoom and Paltalk. The committee made recommendations that were posted on the AA Halifax website. Click [here](#) to view the post from March 16th.
- **March 16-18**
- Resources were in isolation and priorities were shifted to their day jobs, ensuring theirs and their families were safe.
- Created the PI Screen Requirements doc for review within the committee before handing over to the PI group for review. (They are attached to the email update)
- **March 18-25**
- Face to face meetings were cancelled en masse. Zoom was the preferred method for meeting. Josh became one of the early adopters and a SME for Zoom meetings. Marie and Matt created documentation and ensured the website was updated with the documents.
- **March 19**
- AA.org posted their view on "[options for meeting online](#)". Their views were in line with the TC reco's
- **March 25 – March 31**
- Zoom bombing occurs in meetings across North America and in NS. Technology committee researched how to stay safe in Zoom meetings and responded with a "Best Practices" document which was published on the AA Halifax website. Click [here](#) for the document.
- The Meeting guide app was being updated with Zoom meetings as well.
- **April 01- Apr 05**
- Due to Zoom bombing and other security breaches, Zoom changed their password protocol resulting in every meeting requiring a password. The committee researched and posted a document on how to ensure people could still access the meetings. This was posted to the Facebook group and did not make it to the AA website. This was an oversight of the Committee chair.
- **April 06**
- Zoom relaxed their password protocols and the passwords can now be "toggled off". Resulting in the document the committee researched and published on April 05th to become obsolete. Since it was not published on Halifax AA's website it does not have to be removed.

Next Steps:

- April 16th is the Zoom kick off meeting for the Technology Committee

- Agenda is to review the scope of the committee, the current initiatives (Square reporting and inventory upload) printer assessment for CPC and PI and monitor for CPC/PI's road shows.

CPC:

It has been a quiet month and our monthly meeting was cancelled. We have offered our services to assist PI as needed.

Corrections:

There has been no meetings and won't be any time in the near future. The prison is not able to accommodate Zoom meetings.

Entertainment:

Revenue Received (Extra New Year's Ticket Money handed in) - \$ 155.00

Previous New Year's reported loss - \$ 35.00

\$ 155.00 - \$ 35.00 = \$ 120.00

Start-up = \$ 120.00 (Excess Ticket money)

Committee Day Expenses,

Food - \$ 30.87, Transportation - \$ 20.00, Printing - \$ 22.99, Misc. - 0.00

Total Expenses = \$ 73.86

Totals = \$ 120.00 - \$ 73.86 = \$ 46.14

St. Patrick's Day Dance Report

Groceries - \$ 130.14, Decoration - \$ 58.83, DJ - 0.00, Rent - \$ 100.00

Equipment Rental - 150.00, 50/50 Draw Giveaway - \$ 20.00, Door Prize - \$ 20.00

Spot Dance Prizes - \$ 29.10, Transportation - \$ 12.00, Printing Tickets & Event Flyers - \$ 24.71

Totals - \$ 544.78

Attendance at the door - 17 tickets + 6 Committee Members = 23

Tickets sold = 30 * \$ 7.00 = \$ 210.00, Canteen sales - \$ 36.00,

50/50 Ticket sales - \$ 40.00, 7th Tradition = \$ 0.00

Revenue Totals = \$ 286.00

Total = \$ 286.00 - \$ 544.78 = (\$ 258.78) (A loss)

Start Up - \$ 46.14 + Amt. From Central Service \$ 300.00 = \$ 346.14

Cash on hand (Float change) for next event \$ 346.14 - \$ 258.78 = \$ 107.50

Yearly Budget remainder \$ 1000 - \$ 300.00 = \$ 700.00 (For the remainder of the year)

Ticket sales mean everything for events. Low attendance at the dance due to COVID -19. No events are scheduled until public gatherings ban is lifted.

Help Email:

2 emails looking for information before everything shut down and approximately 40 emails on how to get into Zoom. I have been assisting people to access online meetings.

Hospital Visitation:

a- We are unable to visit in person anyone who is in the hospital currently. If there is anyone who is in the hospital we are definitely able to find ways to pass the message.

b- We can use the telephone and also Zoom meetings. We have committee members who have no problem placing a phone call to someone who wants to chat. The plus side to all this is there are so many Zoom meetings available, so really someone who is at the hospital has just as much access as we all do to meetings. What we really need to ensure as a committee is we can come up with others solutions for those who do not have the technology to attend zoom meetings.

Literature:

•	Inventory on hand (resale value)	7,785.80
•	Bank account	3,757.94
•	Cash	81.55
•	Total Asset (not including equip)	\$11,625.29
•	Net sales for this quarter is	\$6,866.30
•	Purchases from AAWS is	\$3,890.85.
•	Books can be ordered and picked up or delivered locally	

• **AAWS offices are closed and waiting to hear if literature can be obtained**

Due to COVID-19 the audit hasn't been done yet.

Question: Do you have net sales for any length of time? – No not at this time. Will be working with Ad Hoc Committee to use Square technology's reporting capabilities and will be able to provide this information in future. It was noted that any order coming from the US may be delayed due to COVID-19. It was noted that the Guidelines for the duties of the Literature Committee does not reflect how this committee has evolved and will need updating.

Bluenose Bulletin:

We are adapting as necessary to meet the current situation. Cut off date still remains the 25th of the month.

Mid-Winter Round Up: Everything is on hold.

Public Information:

- Have been busy.
- Met with CTV, Virgin Radio and C100 and they have agreed to put on our PSA starting 1 Apr for a month.
- Contacted smaller radio stations, and Eastlink Community Board to have them announce we are still here and where they can find resources.
- Called some of the Dr's offices to let them now we are still here and how to access resources.
- CPC and our new volunteers will assist us to call all of our contacts.
- Will liaise with Hospital Visitation to have any member in a nursing home to receive a call if wanted.
- Researching to find other places to get the word out.

Telephone:

No problems. Michael A will keep the weekend telephone for the foreseeable future. Binders need updating to include Zoom meetings.

Treatment: no report.

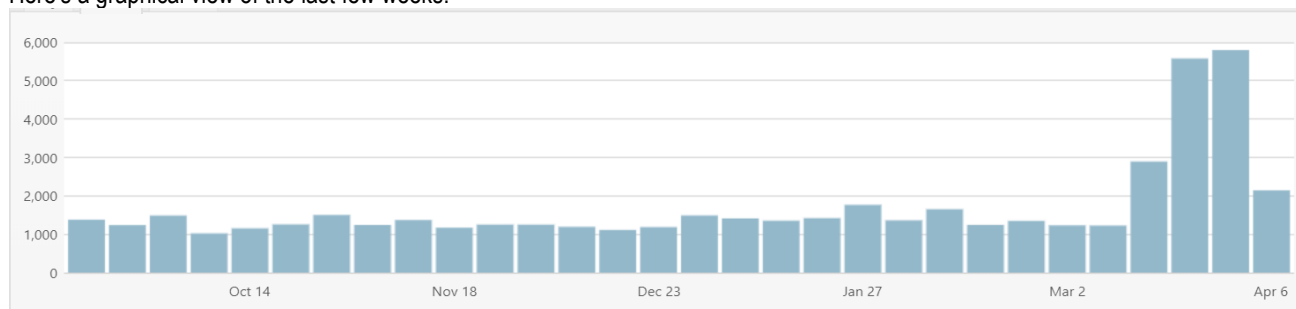
Webmaster/Website:

Pedro has taken over as of Sun and has been updating the website daily. In order to update the website request passwords from the groups that haven't provided their Zoom meeting passwords.

Before covid-19 we were having an average of ~6k visits per month.

In March we had ~13k In the first week of April we had ~6k. At this rate the total for April will be 18 to 20k

Here's a graphical view of the last few weeks:



District 1:

“Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other.”

Twelve Concepts for World Service, by Bill W., pg. 14.

Cancellations due to COVID-19 Protocols are:

- A workshop entitled “What is Service: An Introduction to the Service Structure and How A.A.s Work Together to Help the Alcoholic Who Still Suffers,” scheduled for 29 Mar 20.
- The in-person District 1 GSR meeting scheduled for 29 Mar.
- The 2020 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous.

District 1 General Service Committee Work to Mitigate the Effects of COVID-19 Protocols

- I completed extensive work to produce an initial meeting list of online A.A. groups, covering all Atlantic Canada, which was posted on two private and hidden Facebook groups.
- The District 1 General Service Committee met online using Zoom on 29 Mar, with 12 people participating.

A decision was made to restrict District 1 spending until the impact of reduced contributions from groups on the District 1 Committee's budget can be ascertained.

• I have been working diligently, as a member of the Ad Hoc Technology Committee, and in collaboration with Josh M., Charles K., Marie M., Matt W., Mike L., and Michael A., on testing and implementing solutions to enhance Zoom online A.A. meeting room security.

District 2:

District 2 was able to hold an in-person DCM Meeting on Sunday March 15 before we were forced to cancel in person meetings. Due to the current uncertainty of how long the COVID-19 pandemic will last. The following changes and cancellations were necessary.

- The onsite 70th General Service Conference scheduled for April 19-15 is cancelled and details of conducting it via remote technology are in the works
- The District 1 & 2 Pre-Conference Meeting scheduled for March 28 was cancelled
- The NS Service Weekend scheduled on June 5-7 will be conducted through Zoom Meetings instead of in person in Truro. Meeting scheduled for April 8 to discuss format.
- The NS Provincial Roundup scheduled for June 13 is cancelled
- The District 2 Workshop on Sponsorship scheduled for April 5 was cancelled
- The Alt. Delegate for Area 82 held a Zoom meeting on March 29 and April 6 to discuss any challenges Committees (PI, CPC, Corrections, Treatment, etc.) are facing
- District 2 will be having a Zoom Meeting April 19 at 2pm to replace the in-person April DCM meeting

The GSRs and Executive of District 2 have received all of the communications sent from Central Service and Area 82 to ensure the groups in District 2 are up to date with the day to day changes. I would like to thank the Committees and Executive of Central Service for ensuring the AA message is still being carried during this difficult time.

Area 82:

The Area 82 committee has met over Zoom a few times over the past 2 months. We have held many training sessions for the DCMs and GSRs of both Nova Scotia and Newfoundland/Labrador.

As an executive we have had a lot to try and assist groups, Districts and GSO in keeping the Primary purpose of our Program available to anyone who might need it.

As many of you have heard Area 82 will not be conducting its Service Weekends in the same manner as before this pandemic. We will be having a virtual service weekend for both provinces separately. The date for these meetings will be announced as soon as we have a consensus from each of the provincial members.

NL DCMs and a few GSRs met last night over Zoom and have decided to split their Service weekend up. The DCM and Area officers will meet a week before the GSRs portion of the weekend. They are also asking us to divide the weekend up into manageable time slots so that people are not in front of their computers for hours on end. We will be discussing this with NS DCMs and GSRs tomorrow on a Zoom platform as well.

If you have not spoken to your GSR about attending tomorrow evenings Zoom meeting, please do. If they can't attend maybe another person from your group can. The zoom meeting id- 559 167 021

We will make sure to keep everyone in the loop as much as we can.

As the Alternate General Service Delegate, I have started meeting with the active Area Committees and let me tell you that the committees have been certainly keeping busy through this trying time. Last night we even had Martine, the remote community chairperson, at our meeting!

As an Area executive we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who are being so wonderful and patient with us as we learn and grow with each new Zoom experience we have together.

Adjournment:

The next Central Service Meeting will be Tue, 5 May 20 at 7:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM with the Responsibility Pledge.

