

**MINUTES OF  
CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING  
May 3, 2022  
Zoom Meeting**

**WELCOME AND OPEN:** Meeting opened by Samaira at 7pm with the Serenity Prayer.

**TWELVE TRADITIONS:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Michael A

**ROLL CALL:** 23 in attendance of which 18 attendees were voting members.

EXECUTIVE (4)	COMMITTEES (6)	CSR (9)	ALT CSR/OBSERVERS (4)
Chair – Samaira G	Telephone – Michael A.	Back to Basics – Paul B	DCM District 1 – Paul B
Co-Chair – Tim M	Help Email –	Four Seasons - Jake B	DCM District 2 – Blair A
Treasurer – Foster L	Newsletter - Mike M	Fresh Start – Jeff D	Barry L - Back to Basics
Secretary – Emily S	Hospital Visitation – Gilles D	Hubbards - Sarah M	Serenity Sisters - Maddie M al CSR
	Treatment - Sharman M	Keep it Simple – Joan M	
	CPC - no chair	Sunrise – Garth M	
	Literature – Josh M	Colby Village – Zeta S	
	Corrections -	Serenity Sisters - Jackie M	
	Webmaster - Heather L	Sunday Night Serenity – Rachael S	
	Mid-Winter – no chair		
	Public Information -		
	Entertainment – no chair		
	Bridging the Gap - Michael A		

**7th Tradition:** \*E-transfer is now set up; please email Central Service meeting 7th tradition contribution and group contributions to:

[treasurer.aahalifax@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.aahalifax@gmail.com)

\*Please put a note along with your transfer as to what the donation is for and which group you represent.

Contributions can also be mailed to:

Central Service, RPO Gladstone, PO Box 31338, Halifax NS B3K 5Z1

## **CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

**Revisit newsletter issue (Paul B Back to Basics)**

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to approve the agenda by Michael A, seconded by Josh M. All in favour. Motion passed.

## **MINUTES APPROVED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Motion to approve the April 2022 minutes made by Josh M, seconded by Heather L. No errors or omissions. All in favour. Motion passed.

## **OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

### **Secretary:**

My duties this month have included answering some questions and also a few requests to send out notifications and letters to the mailing list of central service contacts. I assisted in signing a cheque along with the treasurer for one of our monthly expenses. Thank you to everyone who sent your committee report in a timely manner. And thank you to everyone tonight for helping me update your correct last name initials. Please let me know how I can be of help. Thank you.

### **Treasurer:**

It has been a relatively quiet month. Donations have been lively and expenses to date minimal. I have placed a review of the approved budget on the agenda to have a discussion on how best to redistribute dollars when the need arrives. As it stands now, and assuming no unforeseen expenses that have not been budgeted already, we should be in a position to meet all expenses for 2022 and have a sufficient carry-over to 2023. It is still early but I believe a healthy discussion on opportunities is warranted. Yours in Service,

Foster L, Treasurer

Note: A summary of the monthly finances are posted in the minutes, rather than a full report, due to the public nature of our website.

\*see Appendix A

### **Co-Chair: Tim M**

Just a quick report on the Palooza, it will held on June 18th from 1pm until 4 pm at Connolly road in Sackville. We will try to have a flyer out in time to be included with the newsletter. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. Please spread the word.  
Yours in Service, Tim M

### **Chair: Samaira G**

I have been going over guidelines for MWRU, and answering questions that came up over the month. Thank you,

Samaira G

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CPC:** no chairperson at this time

**Corrections:** No report at this time.

Q -At last mtg we talked briefly about corrections and treatment coming under one umbrella; the PI and CPC committees the same. Has this been discussed?

A - Chair has not discussed this with committees yet.

**Entertainment:** no chairperson at this time

**Help Email:** No report at this time.

### **Hospital Visitation:**

Good evening everyone, it's been quiet in April at HVC. We've decided to send our letter and poster to Northwood . We also sent it to all districts in our area. Will wait to see if we get answers or reply from them .Here they are attach to this report and will distribute them to other nursing home and care facilities in the future .Yours in service HVC and myself, Gilles D

Note: Will follow up with Northwood if we don't hear back. We have another 35 nursing homes we can send it to. We called the QEII about visiting patients. The patient that wants a visitor must put us on a list of visitors, and only one visitor may come in the afternoon.

See Appendix B

### **Literature:**

Hello everyone! Please forgive my absence last month, the Financial Report has been updated with square and an inventory check and we have included the months of March and April to the report. March had seen a roll out of our first inventory order and purchase with our new system that does not involve the use of credit but instead money order mailed to New York! It was a success, and we are excited to offer this to the future chairs of literature as an ease of placing orders for books. April showed a less busy month, but we still had a few groups come in to purchase literature. A deposit for all cash and cheques received in March will be deposited in the coming days and will be kept separate from April deposit on the bank statements to come to avoid confusion, again we are sorry for the delay.

Hope you all have a wonderful month and thank you for letting us be of service,  
Josh M, Literature Committee

Discussion:

Q - Foster: Could you clarify a deposit of \$89?

A - This was book purchase from April - Square didn't process until May 1.

Q -How do you determine the cost of a book? average? or most recent?

A - We had to go back over previous years, measured price against inventory, exchange rates, etc, and took an average. It might be 20 or 30 cents off but a general average.

Comment- Paul B DCM: Wanted to let Josh know this is a job well done.

**Mid-Winter Round Up:** no chairperson at this time

**Newsletter:**

Just a reminder that meeting notices / updates should be sent to both the Webmaster ([Webmaster.aahalifax@gmail.com](mailto:Webmaster.aahalifax@gmail.com)) and the Newsletter ([Newsletter.aahalifax@gmail.com](mailto:Newsletter.aahalifax@gmail.com)) to ensure your message is communicated to the AA community.

Newsletter submissions for June should be submitted to [Newsletter.aahalifax@gmail.com](mailto:Newsletter.aahalifax@gmail.com) by the 25th of May 2022.

Thanks, Mike M

Note: It would have been nice to be able to prepare for the new agenda item regarding the newsletter.

Q - Why was the Area 82 assembly was not in newsletter?

A - it's not up to me to look for new items to put in - if it's not in, no one sent me a notice.

Comment - On behalf our group, the newsletter used to be 2 or 3 pages, it's now longer, maybe 8 or 9 pages - our group has tendency to not use because takes up too much time to pick through. I don't want to detract from your hard work.

CS Chair: One of the newsletter editors in past researched other newsletters and decided we lacked info, so we tried to adjust. Our group takes time before mtg to make little x next to pertinent topics to read aloud at meeting. If you feel an item should be on a more prominent page in the newsletter you could contact Mike directly and request this.

Comm - Heather L - if you wanted to leave meeting notice changes to the website, you could save space by just placing a note which says: Refer to webpage.

A - The newsletter is important because not everybody has access to a computer.

Comm - This nitpicking of the newsletter is getting old -Mike is doing a fabulous job.

Comm - Jeff D: I was newsletter chair for a few years, as a professional print designer I saw that it is very difficult to fit in everything and keep everyone happy. This is a difficult job. It's not practical for 20 of us to try to decide on layout.

CS Chair: I suggest that if your group has a specific change you request for the newsletter that you discuss it at your business meeting and come to our next CS meeting and make a motion.

Q - Can we look at bringing back a meeting list which can be printed?

Comm - Mike is doing a terrific job.

**PI:** no report at this time

**Telephone:**

During April the overnight phone received 1 phone call.

I have had the pleasure of taking the day phone for the month of April to give the daytime rotation team a break.

We are still in need of day phone support. We currently rotate the phone every 8 weeks, and less if the person is unable to take the phone their assigned week.

We are also in need of evening phone support for the rotation. We need people in the Dartmouth Area. Please bring back to your groups. Contact myself at (902) 402-3862.

Yours in service, Michael A

Q - Why is support needed in the Dartmouth area?

A - When the phone is rotated to the next person on the list, sometimes the Dartmouth member holding the phone does not have a car and needs to figure out how to get the phone to the next member scheduled who lives way out in Sackville. We keep the phone in the Dartmouth area for 4 weeks and want to find more people in Dartmouth with a vehicle who could help with this.

**Treatment:**

The Marguerite Center and Detox meetings are going well. Thank you again for helping out. We can now have more than 2 members going in to Detox to put meetings on, which is great news.

I understand some members were wondering if the Detox schedule could be moved closer to the 1st page of the newsletter. I have talked to our newsletter chair about this and we decided we would leave it where it is. It has been 4 months now since it has been there, and I'm finding the groups are getting to Detox when they are scheduled.

Sharman M

Q - Has there been a limit traditionally?

CS Chair: Detox requested no more than 4 members at one time - this is in the guidelines.

**Webmaster:**

First some stats...the usage of the page seems to be pretty steady week to week at around 300-400 per day. Top viewed page is Meeting List page.

Johnny M has offered to help with the Web Admin duties. I am now scheduling a meeting between him, Pedro and myself for more training.

I'm not sure if we need an official Web co-chair position or if it's fine to just consider the 3 of us as the "Web admin committee". This can be discussed later under the related old business point.

I have performed the usual duties all month which include:

- Posting the Bluenose Bulletin to the web site and emailing it to subscribers
- Posting District 1 and Central Service meeting minutes
  - I'd like to invite District 2 to send me a PDF of their monthly meeting minutes to I can post those as well
- Updating the web's Meeting List page as well as the Meeting Guide app with changes that I have been sent.
- Posting the Workshops for Districts 1 and 2
- Posting other AA information sent to me, beyond newsletter, workshops, and meeting minutes

It's going well and will go even more smoothly once I get more training from Pedro and have Johnny's help!

Yours in service, Heather L, Web admin

\* See appendix C

**Ad hoc – Bridging the Gap:**

Michael A Alt - DCM2 hosted a Bridging The Gap Workshop in April. Unfortunately Bill was unable to attend and there was only 3 people in attendance, so it was cancelled.

I spoke with Leah and myself, Leah, Bill and Jeff will be meeting in May to finalize production of the Bridging The Gap Cards.

We should have more information available at the next meeting.

Thanks, Michael A

### **District 1:**

Dear Central Service,

District 1 next workshop is May 25 @6pm Topic: importance of having a Service Sponsor

- The Grapevine kit has been located. Thank you, Garnet from the Fresh start Group, in locating this important piece of AA
- Area 82 Assembly is May 27-29/2022. Please communicate this to your GSR: s
- Eastern Canadian regional forum is May 13 -15 In PEI, Hope to see you all there

District 1 wants to thank you all for being of Service to this great Fellowship

Yours in Service

Paul B

DCM District 1

### **District 2:**

Good evening, I am grateful to be here and grateful to be sober. The month of April was busy with Area 82 and District 2 business.

Updates from GSO:

- The Eastern Canadian Regional Forum is scheduled for May 13-15 in Charlottetown
- The PI Coordinator at GSO communicated the updated service material on Safety and AA as well as a letter on their ongoing efforts
- GSO is looking for recovery stories for the Fifth Edition of the Big Book with a deadline of October 31
- Two new Public Service Announcements have been communicated by GSO

Updates from Area 82:

- A DCM/Area Officers meetings was held on May 1 to discuss the Q1 Financials
- The Spring Assembly is May 27-29 on Zoom
- The Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup will be held on June 10-12 in Stellarton
- The date of the Fall Assembly in Sydney has not yet been decided

District 2 held their April meeting in person with 5 groups represented

- District 2 still has an opening for the position of Secretary
- District 2 will be holding their regular monthly meeting on May 15 at 2pm at Club 24

Yours in Service,, Blair A., DCM District 2

Q - Can you explain what the Eastern Canada regional forum is all about?

A - The forum essentially brings GSO to you - general manager and staff will be there from NY, it's a great time to meet these people you might talk to on phone over the years for different issues. It's an opportunity to meet people working on our behalf in NY. There's usually a good turn out, no registration fee but you are encouraged to register online.

**Area 82:** no report at this time

## **APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS**

A motion was made by Tim M to approve the reports, it was seconded by Michael A . All in favour; motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Central Service Elections:**

- CPC - no nominations
- Entertainment - no nominations
- Mid Winter Round Up - no nominations
- **Mid Winter Round Up guidelines (Samaira)**

Concerns from your groups? additions, suggestions, changes?

Q - Michael A: After we discussed this last month, I found minutes and agendas from the past. I still think MWRU should fall outside of central service, even though CS is required to participate in the budget. Our group voted it should remain a separate entity. CS notes from last year: if there was no chair for the MWRU committee, the chair of Central Service would take on responsibilities for organization, and the CS treasurer would take on responsibilities for flyer until we found someone. If we want a 2023 round up, people need to step in and start looking at booking a hotel and taking steps to put things in motion.

Q - Were these guidelines written by the CS committee?

A - They were written by the MWRU committee.

Q - Why are we reviewing this at CS table?

A - If there is no chair for MWRU committee, it falls on CS, and therefore CS should have a say.

Q - I spoke informally with some of my group members and they have no idea what goes on with MWRU committee, so would not know enough to comment. If there are no members at the CS table who can comment on MWRU with experience, discussion should stay within MWRU committee. The guidelines are regularly reviewed.

CS Chair: That was one of my concerns - that's the question: people don't know about what goes on within the committee, and we should. As AA members, we should know and we should have an opinion on what happens in our district. The idea was to get the guidelines out so people will learn what is going on and participate.

Q - I don't think it's right to assume someone who is already fulfilling one large role (CS chair) to take on another large role (MWRU chair). The responsibilities for the round up are huge and take a lot of time.

CS chair: The MWRU committee created guidelines which put the responsibility on the CS chair - we had no say in that. We should discuss this.

Comm - These guidelines came back to the CS table and a presentation was made, changes were agreed upon. Whatever guidelines we are looking at now were approved by CS. I disagree that we never saw them.

A - This table - this group of members right now has not seen them and they got deleted from the website - this committee needs to see them and we need to get them online.

Q - Michael H, the previous CS chair suggested that the responsibility fall to the CS chair at the July 2021 CS meeting - these were not added to the guidelines separately from that meeting.

A - If this was in the minutes - was it a voted item? If so, they didn't change it in the guidelines. This is another reason why we want to update the guidelines.

Q - We should look for a MWRU chair first before we explore this more moving forward.

#### - **Service Palooza (Tim M)**

Addressed in Tim's report - nothing to add.

#### - **Discussion on Webmaster co-chair position**

Webmaster Heather L had to leave this meeting early.

CS chair: Do we need to vote in a webmaster cochair position or should we just have committee members? The phone committee has a cochair because of the level of work and money responsibilities needed extra support. Unless someone feels strongly that we need to vote this position in, we can pass on that. Having volunteer committee should be good.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### - **Budget review (Foster L)**

Foster L: Right now, as of this financial statement, our budget revenue for the year was around \$14000; we are about \$800 shy of achieving that this month. I assume committee expenses will come in as budgeted, and our budget will balance. There is some flex in the expense columns - generally committees don't spend what has been budgeted for them. We assume there will be additional donations between now and the end of the year. We will probably be in a position to distribute money. Usually people suggest we give to area and GSO. Area is doing very well financially just now. GSO can use it -but I'm a fan of using the money locally before we farm it out anywhere else. There may be local opportunities - these should probably be within the sub committees - for example, we could put a big book in every library of every high school in the HRM (perhaps \$2000). I am not looking for answers tonight - **take it back to your groups** and think about it. We should have this back on agenda no later than July to decide what to do with our money. PI, Newsletter, treatment, you may have ideas to spend differently than you previously thought.



CS chair: Should we contact committees directly with this info?

Foster - I don't disagree with contacting committees, I just don't want them to have an impression to go spend - we are looking for ideas. Please come back with ideas from committees and groups.

Q - What's a rough figure on the surplus?

A - I'm saying on assumption everything goes as budgeted - so any more money that comes in between now and end of year will be the figure. I don't have a figure now, we can work towards a request and see what we have. Keep in mind the insurance payment has already been covered, so these insurance payments will be coming in from groups in the fall and that will be some of the extra.

Q - Are we going back to face to face for CS meetings?

A - This is a pertinent question - if we go back in person we will need money to pay rent.

CS chair: We discussed this at beginning of year - we save \$40 each month by meeting on zoom.

### **Newsletter agenda item: (Back to Basics)**

Paul B - We appreciate Mike M, any feedback is not meant to be negative. Area 82 assembly was not in the newsletter. Is there something that can be done about this or is it too late? it's a big item.

A - I didn't get that info. I only post info which is sent to me directly to post. I only publish once a month, it's very very rare that we go back and make a change once it's posted.

CS chair: Just like the webmaster - she is not going into the world to seek content, we are adding info which is given.

Q- I'm just asking what do we do now?

CS chair: This info has been sent out to all groups by the DCMs - AA members in this district are aware of this item. It just happened that it was not in the newsletter.

Comm - I don't think the CS table is place for this conversation. If there is an issue with a committee like the newsletter, take it to the committee chair first and deal with it at that level.

Paul B - Slogans and Just for Today - Our group recommends that all non-notification content in the newsletter should come from AA approved sources. I wish to make a motion.

CS cochair: If we're going to bring motions to the floor - this is something that should be **brought back to all the groups** to be discussed - and next month we can bring this as agenda item and motion, and have full group conscience at table next month.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

- Joan M will celebrate 3 years at the Circle of Sisters, the last Wednesday of the month.
- Kevin B will celebrate 3 years the last Thursday of the month.

Motion to close the meeting made by Emily S, seconded by Michael A. All in favour; motion passed.

**Next meeting June 7, 2022 at 7 PM on zoom.**

**Meeting adjournment at 9:05 PM with the Responsibility Pledge.**

## Appendix A

April 2022

### Operating Account

<u>Opening Bank Balance</u>	\$9272.37
Credits	\$1383.00
Debits	\$278.45
<u>Closing Bank balance</u>	<u>\$10376.92</u>
Cheques Outstanding	\$100.00
<u>Closing Operating balance</u>	<u>\$10276.92</u>

### Prudent Reserve Account

Opening balance	\$4897.90
Closing balance	<u>\$4998.11</u>

### Literature Account

<u>Opening Balance</u>	\$2311.00
Credits	\$89.90
Debits	\$0.00
<u>Closing balance</u>	<u>\$2400.90</u>

## Appendix B



Good Day,

The Hospital Visitation Committee of AA, Halifax Regional Municipality is reaching out to you to inform you of our outreach services and help you and your residents who express an interest in our fellowship. First, we would be happy to talk with you to arrange a visit with residents, answer questions about alcoholism, and/or help connect with the AA community.

Secondly, during Covid-19 we are able to set up a video call or arrange a simple phone call. Post-Covid-19 we will be happy to resume in-person visits to your facility upon request and following health safety measures and guidelines.

We at AA Hospital Visitation Committee of HRM are looking forward to hearing from you and in the future providing a mutually beneficial connection between AA and the individual in care, or in hospital.

If you interested in learning more, please call or email (see below). We have attached our poster that you may print and give out, or display at your convenience.

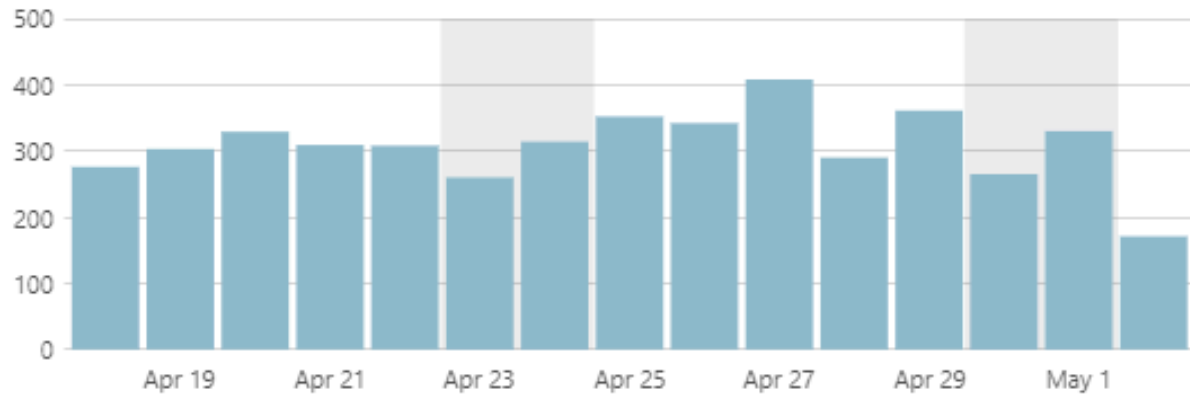
Yours truly,

Gilles D., Hospital Visitation Committee Chair

EMAIL: [HospitalVisitation.AAHalifax@gmail.com](mailto:HospitalVisitation.AAHalifax@gmail.com)

PHONE: 902-403-7305

## Appendix C



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