

MINUTES OF
CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 7, 2023
Zoom Meeting

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

TWELVE TRADITIONS: The Twelve Traditions were read by Wayne O.

ROLL CALL: 24 in attendance of which 20 attendees were voting members.

EXECUTIVE	COMMITTEES	CSR	ALT CSR/OBSERVERS
Chair – Samaira G	Telephones - Jonathan G	Zeta S -Colby Village	Paul B (Welcome Group)
Co-Chair – position vacant	Help Email – Sam B	Neale F - Fresh Start	Michael A- DCM District 2
Treasurer – Foster L	Newsletter - Mark B	Jake B - Four Seasons	Michael H - DCM District 1
Secretary – Emily S	Hospital Visitation – Wayne O	Peter J - Downtown Halifax	
	Treatment - Gilles D	Kimberley B - Serenity Sisters	
	CPC - position vacant	David O - Back to Basics	
	Literature –Gerry L	Mike A - Welcome Group	
	Corrections - not present	Lara B - Only Requirement	
	Webmaster - Heather L	Laura L - Sunday Night Serenity	
	Mid-Winter – Emily S	Johnny M - Highland Park	
	Public Information - Bill P (representative)		
	Entertainment – not present		

7th Tradition: *Please email Central Service meeting 7th tradition contribution and group contributions to: **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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by Heather L seconded by Foster L.

All in favour. Motion passed.

MINUTES APPROVED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motion to approve the January minutes made by Zeta S, seconded by Gerry L. No errors or omissions. All in favour. Motion passed.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

SECRETARY:

Hello all. The secretarial duties this month were light. I assisted a few committee chairs and members with contact information and I typed up the minutes and sent them to my list of CSRs and our webmaster. Thank you and please let me know how I can be of help.
Thank you, Emily.

TREASURER:

The month of January has flown by and was relatively quiet. I am pleased to say that of the 40 insured groups this year, all but one has paid the premium, and that group has committed to sending it soon. Sincere thanks to all who tolerated my reminder notices and follow-up phone calls.

Group donations are coming in as expected and sub-committees are encouraged to seek ways to use our funds to spread the message of hope and recovery to all those willing to listen.

I am available anytime to answer any questions you may have throughout the month.

Note: I did purchase software needed to do my job as treasurer and neglected to mention it previously.

Yours in Service, Foster L, Treasurer

*see Appendix A

CO-CHAIR:

Position not filled at this time.

CHAIR:

Welcome everyone; I'm so glad to see new faces at the table. I'd like to point out the importance of the service guidelines. A lot of thought was put into them and I recommend that you all get a copy of these. If you have trouble accessing these please just ask me for help. We all have roles and responsibilities and it's hard to know what they are without guidelines. Many people come up with great ideas for service and we ask ourselves, Whose job is it? Check the guidelines and contact the committee chairs to find out whose it is so we don't step on each others' toes. I did attend the District 1 meeting and will attend District 2 soon. It's wonderful that District 1 has a new DCM.

We had our midwinter round up which was delayed until a committee stood up and made it happen. We are getting great positive feedback - the speakers were amazing and the event was terrific.

Yours in service, Samaira G

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CPC: no chairperson at this time

CORRECTIONS:

no report at this time

ENTERTAINMENT:

no report at this time

HELP EMAIL:

I learned after a couple attempts to keep the emails short and to the point. Much like my report. In January there were a total of 7 emails: 1 looking for help for a family member, 3 looking for information on how to join AA, 1 looking for information on the Mid-Winter Round up and 2 wondering if AA would help with their cannabis use.

Yours in Service, Sam B

HOSPITAL VISITATION:

A brief report:

Doug R is currently in hospital and appreciating phone calls from the committee. Dan S is convalescing at home and happy to have the visitation committee staying in touch. Rob A had an operation and is recovering well. There was a distress call from the hospital from one of our members who wishes to remain anonymous and I will follow up with him tonight.

Yours in service, Wayne O

LITERATURE:

The month of January has been good. The order made in December 2022 was paid, \$1928.96 was in U/S funds, \$697.13 was the cost for the exchange to Canadian fund. We had two direct deposit with Square - one for \$225.31 and one for \$54.20 (these were from book sales). The \$300.00 cheque was for the rent for 6 months to Club 24 until the end of June. The cash and cheque deposit of \$1083.00 were for sale of books. We now have a total of \$2290.85 balance as of 31 January 2023.

I will be making a new order sometime this week. We need some 12 & 12, Daily Reflections and more (all the most common requests).

Just a note about the Round Up: We had \$855 of books sold on the day of the Round Up. These figures will be reflected in the February reports. I would also like to give a special thank you to Noëlle D. for selling the raffle tickets for the basket of books (one Big Book, one 12 & 12, one Pass it on, one Daily Reflection and one As Bill see it plus some chocolate). She did that on top of being a member of the Round Up committee. So thank you Noëlle D.

Yours in service
Gerry L.

Comment: Maybe we can send out an email to CSRs maybe to DCMs as well - groups can let you know what they need to help you make your larger orders.

Question: How do you know what to order?

A - Noelle and I did full accounting of what we had on hand, and we are replenishing stock. The \$2290 figure is cash - With bank account plus the books we have on hand the total is roughly \$6000.

Q - Do we have a mark up on the costs? A - It depends on the exchange. The larger our order, the better deal we get.

MID-WINTER ROUND-UP:

Hello everyone. I want to start by sending out a giant thank you to everyone on the round up committee who gave their time, attention, care and smarts to help bring this event together. I want to give a special shout out to Noelle whom we called our Round Up Girl Friday who actively assisted every single department, organized dinner service and also ran the book draw. I also want to thank the huge crew of volunteers who assisted our hospitality committee in greeting and serving coffee and dinner, and to those who tirelessly helped set up and tear down all those tables and chairs. Two members quite new to the program volunteered to wash dishes for nearly two hours. Thank you to our speakers, presenters and panelists who shared their experience, strength and hope with us. Thank you to our volunteer designer Jeff who created such a beautiful program and got a great deal on printing. Thank you to AI-Anon for participating and bringing so much to the event - some of the AI-Anon meetings were standing room only. Thank you to the groups who donated tickets and coffee and cups, and to those who donated food and sweets for our lunch. And I want to thank everyone who attended the round up, for their participation, enthusiasm and support and for the positive feedback I've been hearing ever since. We, the committee, are very pleased with how the event turned out. We have a final count of 306 registrants. A few members were unable to attend - possibly due to the sub arctic temperatures - but we were truly at capacity for the venue. Roughly 150 meals were served and we were very happy with the caterers - Grand Finales in Burnside - happy with their service and the quality of their food. We have one final committee meeting coming up where we will be able to examine the financials in more detail, but it looks like we have a small surplus of funds. We are pleased that we were able to keep the registration fee low but still offer a choice of meetings, free coffee, a dinner and dance at the church venue with a rental fee of \$1100. Some of the feedback I have been getting has been in favour of a one-day round up event moving forward, based on the seeming success of this past weekend. It is something the next committee will have to consider carefully. I must point out that one marked difference in hosting the event at a non-hotel venue was the amount of time and effort it took to clean the facility to the specifications of the contract, including removing all garbage from the building. I might suggest implementing a very well thought-out clean up plan and crew if we consider a similar venue in the future. On that note, we received a thumbs up from the church today for leaving it in such good order. I'm sure I have neglected to mention more than one important aspect of this very full and wonderful day, but I just want to finish by saying I feel very blessed to have been a member of this team and a part of this extraordinary experience where we all came together again.

Thank you, Emily

Comment - I've heard many positive comments about the event and I have heard from people who couldn't come because of the cold. Considering fire regulations, this venue might be too small for next year.

NEWSLETTER:

My first newsletter went to press for February - my apologies for a few mistakes which membership was quick to pick up on - thank you. This is a We Newsletter - not the work of simply a single editor. Thank you.

Mark B

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

Bill P

PI committee meets this Saturday. We have distributed pamphlets and posters to several medical clinics. We did a blitz on homeless shelters and think we have them all covered. CPC committee does service fairs and we want to get portable signage for this work to streamline the bulky materials to carry. We are currently doing presentations for organizations who ask us - we are currently not doing outreach to ask if new organizations would like to have us in (as the CPC committee did when it was operational). We are working to get in the doors with school authority and trying to renew contacts with guidance counsellors. We are looking to redesign our business cards and posters to make them more inspiring and practical. We are working on getting in with radio and tv stations. We have proposed with area 82 to have a media blitz with AA for all of NS and Nfld - that is on our agenda for further follow up.

Comment: Even though we don't have a current PI chair this committee is running well and there are many jobs and ways you can help - if you join this committee you will have a great deal of support and guidance.

Comment: It may be time to discuss again whether the CPC and PI committees wish to amalgamate.

TELEPHONE:

This month we have added five people to help out with the day and evening phones and we could always use more.

Still looking for co-chair for both day and evening AA phone.

Yours in Service,
Jonathan

CS chair - A suggestion: We might make a list of members who speak French who would be willing to speak to French newcomers who call in. Also: It was determined that the CSR for each group would be the contact person for the telephone committee (not that the CSR would HAVE the phone, but would be a contact for Jonathan). If you are a CSR and your group is on the rotation for phones on the weekend, please contact Jonathan so he can create that contact list and it can go into the binder. This will save him a great deal of time.

Question: Could we see a list of the rotation order so we can estimate when our turn is coming up?

Answer: I have a complete list for all groups - there are roughly 18 - 20 groups. Just contact me and I can let you know in advance when you will be having the phone.

Comment: Perhaps webmaster can be in touch with Jonathan to get the full list and have it online to help people see when they are up next

TREATMENT:

Good evening everyone. January was a busy month for Treatment. As in my first report I am trying to get comfortable with the task at hand. I reached out to the past committee chairperson. I scheduled a workshop that will be hosted by Michael A at District 2. It will be posted in the Newsletter. The goal of this workshop is to promote and understand what we do at treatment .I would like more groups to get involved.The workshop is on Sunday, Feb.12 at 2 pm, at Club 24. As I contact groups for their schedule of the Detox meeting I will ask them to bring older Grapevines for patients.The PI committee is purchasing a 2 year subscription of 2 Grapevines for Detox.

Our rotation for Forensics Friday night 7 pm meeting will start March 3 with our first group Back to Basics, followed by 4 Seasons Group on March 17. The Bedford group on March 31 and Downtown Dartmouth April 14. We desire more groups to get on this rotation. Sunday's workshop is ready to go - looking forward to everyone being there. If you have not discussed it yet, please do. The Treatment chair is always available to go along with groups for extra support.

Question: - Are you looking for more donations for grapevine subscriptions? Answer: I would suggest bringing a few with you when you go in as a group to put on a detox, forensics, or Marguerite Centre meeting.

WEBMASTER:

I have updated the Contact page on the web site to reflect new positions in Districts 1 and 2. In trying to transition the District 1 DCM gmail account over to the new DCM, we tripped over difficulties. This gmail login was tied to the previous DCMs personal phone so photos, etc. were available from the gmail login. We did not succeed in resolving this situation, so a new gmail was created for District 1 DCM:

DCMD1.aahalifax@gmail.com

The newsletter and the web contact page have been updated. I ask that the CS secretary make note of this new email for future use.

I emailed Secretary, Treasurer and DCM for District 2 to confirm that those gmail accounts have been transitioned. I did not hear back. Michael A, can you confirm that the DCM, treasurer and secretary gmails are all working for the newly elected people? Also please remind the secretary to send me the monthly minutes in PDF format so I can post to the web. The last minutes on the web are from Oct/2022. Thank you.

A request came to me from the ad hoc committee which was reviewing if Districts 1 and 2 should be combined. The member was asking for archive District meeting minutes. The online archived minutes for both districts only go back to 2020. I checked with Pedro and he reminded me that the aahalifax.org web site was hacked back in 2020 and he could not restore before that time.

As usual, I did the regular maintenance of the web site; posting workshop announcements and meeting minutes, keeping plug-ins updated and keeping meeting list/meeting guide and printed meeting PDF file updated with meeting changes.

Finally, I ask that our discussion about a better way to manage Central Service and District email accounts be removed from new business. I'll email the secretary once Pedro and I have had a chance to discuss and I have a plan to propose to the table.

Yours in service,

Heather

CS chair - Maybe we can hyperlink to the flyers in the newsletter. I also have heard from past secretaries that some minutes may be on disk with one of the secretaries previous to 2020.

BRIDGING THE GAP:

Bill P: A year ago in February we were looking at Bridging the Gap to provide liaison between a facility and the first AA meeting for the person leaving the institution. We had made amendments to the format of the meeting - to add a couple sentences, to make sure new comers had a phone number to ease into their first AA meeting. Forensics does not discharge on a regular basis, we left that to the groups doing the meetings. Several things were left up in the air due to the Covid situation.

CS Chair: I said last month that Bridging the Gap was a separate committee but it is an ad hoc committee - so Gilles, this could be on your plate, as this is part of treatment.

Treasurer- There is a separate budget line of \$300 if there's anything extra you need.

DISTRICT 1:

Central Service Executives, Members and Guests,

I'd like to officially chime in as the new District 1 DCM.

I attended the Area 82 Officers and DCM's meeting 29 Jan 2023, which encompassed Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia Executive Staff and DCM's.

From that there were discussions on the following:

A. First week of October will be the Area 82 Fall Assembly. This assembly is where all the GSR and DCM's of Area 82 come together in unity to learn how everyone is carrying out their duty to be there for the still suffering alcoholic through service work. Costs to attend would be Flights, meals lodging. At District we encourage all groups to set aside a 7th Tradition budget that would accommodate your GSR to attend and become "part of" the AA Area Fall Assembly.

1. For those who are small and cannot financially send a GSR, Area 82 Executive staff is looking at solutions and one is a possible hybrid set-up. There are pros and cons, and a decision is yet to be determined.

B Seed money , or " start-up" money was allocated to the next District that is hosting the next provincial round-up. Details will unfold in the coming months.

C. The result of the recent Treasurer Ad-Hoc committee's findings shall be implemented, and the guidelines shall be updated. The outstanding work of the ad-hoc committee will result in making the taskings of the Treasurer of Area 82 user friendly.

D. Observers are now allowed to attend the Area 82 Officers and DCM's meeting as non-voting members. . It's a wonderful way to learn, witness how AA Trusted Servants work towards a common goal in service.

E. Area 82 Executives are looking for a webmaster to keep the Area 82 website current. If you have some IT experience, want to give back through service work, where you would have a

great impact in ensuring the message of AA is carried, then perhaps this position would be for you. If interested please contact me Michael H. DCM1 @ dcmd1.aahalifax@gmail.com or Trudy Area 82 webmaster @ webmaster@area82aa.org.

F. Lastly, District 1 is looking for an Alternate DCM. If you have been a GSR before, and want to continue helping through service, please contact me @ Michael H. DCM1 @ dcmd1.aahalifax@gmail.com. We need you.

Thank you all,

Yours in Love and Service, Michael H., District 1 DCM

DISTRICT 2:

Not much happened in District 2 this Month.

I have been starting to visit groups within District 2 to see how they are doing. Group attendance is starting to go up, but membership has been going down post Covid.

District 2 will host a Treatment Workshop with Gilles D being the facilitator.

Ceraasa will be hosted in Ontario in February.

Budget was finalized. GSR will need approximately \$1200.00 for the fall assembly. We hope to see our new GSR's attend, but certainly understand the cost involved.

Let us know if we can help in any way to support this important event.

Yours in Service, Michael Amiro DCM2

AREA 82: no report at this time

APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS

A motion was made by Heather L to approve the reports, it was seconded by Jonathan G. All in favour; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Central Service Elections:

- Central Service Co-Chair : no nominations
- CPC : no nominations
- Public Information : no nominations

- Co-chairs 1 & 2 Telephones - no nominations

Co-chair committee positions: no nominations

***Please bring it back to your groups that we are looking to elect co-chairs for all committees at central service table.**

NEW BUSINESS

-CSRs as weekend telephone contacts

All CSRs: Please contact Jonathan if your group is on the telephone rotation so that he can put you on his contact list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM GROUPS

- John H, Stacey G, Gary and Ken all celebrating at Highland Park next week
- this coming Sunday Maria R celebrates 35 years at Sunday Night serenity
- Weds Paul D and Mark will celebrate as well
- Feb 27 Colby village celebrating their 33 year anniversary with a speaker and treats
- Second Chance last Saturday of the month has 2 birthdays
- March 5 Craig will be celebrating his first year of sobriety at Any Lengths

Meeting adjournment at 8:25 PM with the Responsibility Pledge.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Peter J seconded by Heather L.

Next CS meeting will take place March 7, 2023 at 7 PM on zoom.

Appendix A

January 2023

Operating Account

<u>Opening Bank Balance</u>	\$7083.30
Credits	\$1200.00
Debits	\$311.85
<u>Closing Bank balance</u>	<u>\$7971.45</u>
Cheques Outstanding	\$210.83
<u>Closing Operating balance</u>	<u>\$788.06.</u>

Prudent Reserve Account

Opening balance	\$4903.56
Closing balance	<u>\$4904.60</u>