

**MINUTES OF  
CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
June 6, 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 Kathy S.

ROLL CALL: 23 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	Mary W - District 1 treasurer/ acting DCM District 1
Co-Chair – position vacant	Help Email – Sam B	Emily M - Circle of Sisters	Sara G - Treatment co-chair
Treasurer – Foster L	Newsletter - Mark B	David O - Back to Basics	
Secretary – Emily S	Hospital Visitation – Wayne O	Chris G - Fall River	
	Treatment - Gilles D	Neale F - Fresh Start	
	CPC - Kathy S	Tim D - Hubbards	
	Literature – Gerry L	Mike A - Welcome Group	
	Corrections - Tom P	Toby H - Sunrise Group	
	Webmaster -Heather L		
	Mid-Winter – Heather L		
	Public Information - Bill P		
	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 Emily M.  
All in favour. Motion passed.

**MINUTES APPROVED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Motion to approve the May minutes made by Zeta S seconded by Tom P.  
All in favour. Motion passed.

## **OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

### **SECRETARY:**

This month I compiled the May minutes and sent them out to our email contact list, as well as a reminder for the June meeting. I also sent out the telephone ad hoc committee report immediately following our last meeting. I helped pay the telephone bill online and signed a money order for our literature chair. I have attended a number of birthday celebrations since our last meeting and have been once again amazed by how this program works. I have been enjoying the creative side of programming with the 2024 Mid Winter Round Up Committee. Please let me know how I can be of help. - Emily S

### **TREASURER:**

May was a very quiet month with few financial transactions. We are very sound financially and at this point I would recommend we make contributions to GSO and Area 82, \$2300 and \$1500 respectively, unless someone has a suggestion on how these funds can be used locally to carry the message. These are the amounts in our budget.

I would remind the subcommittee Chairs you have approved budgets and encourage you to use these funds.

I attended the Mid-Winter Roundup meeting on May 7 and attended the Delta with Heather to sign the contract. I also attended the bank to change over signing authorities.

Our elections for the 2024-25 Executive are creeping up quickly and I ask anyone who may have an interest in being Treasurer for those years to contact me, and I will gladly work with you. This, like all others, is a key position that offers a good service opportunity.

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

Yours in Service,, Foster L, Treasurer

**\*see Appendix A**

Q - You were recommending we send contributions at this time to GSO and Area?

A - I do recommend we send these now.

Q - Treatment may require a few more big books and haven't paid for the DVDs yet.

A - You are well within your budget.

### **CO-CHAIR:**

Position not filled at this time.

### **CHAIR:**

Our elections: they are every two years and they stagger with executive and committee chairs. In October we will elect the executive. We hold elections by nomination (it is suggested we have conversations with those we want to nominate in advance and look at the guidelines in advance). The executive normally is voted in from within our CSRs or committee members so that they have had a little time to know who things work.

Area active committees: I thought it was specific to the four committees we were discussing (CPC, PI, Treatment & Corrections) but I've learned it's for all committees and is a great opportunity to find out what other districts are doing. Attendance is low right now but the meeting is still going on. As always feel free to call or text for more information. I rarely send an email so watch out for spam.

Q - When is that online meeting for Area committees? A - I believe it's the last Monday of the month at 6 PM online. It is in the newsletter and on the Area 82 website.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community):**

The CPC meeting on May 13 th was postponed and business will be carried over to the next meeting; chair and co-chair unable to attend.

Monthly activities:

On May 4 th , there was an HRM Employment Fair at the Dalplex auditorium. CPC was permitted to meet employers from many professional organizations and workplaces. Passed out targeted pamphlets and received a well reception of the information provided and received several business cards in return.

As a result of the above job fair, we were invited to a networking event at the Community Wellness Café organized by Team Work Cooperative, on May 18 th , at Bayer's Road Professional Center. Two members attended and provided a display table and were asked to do a short presentation. Organizations attending were Mental Health, Square Roots associated with St. Mary's University, NewComers to NS, Fired Up; How to Recharge the Brain, & Alternative Medicine for Acupuncture. This was an event that turned out to be a combination of P.I. and CPC. representation. We received a card of thanks and will be invited back in the fall of this year which will be an invite to both CPC and PI.

As a result of a previous CPC presentation at the Beacon Warming Center, we received a call from Bryony House and after a couple of conversations discovered that they are looking to have a regular schedule of A.A. meetings at their facility. I redirected them to the treatment chair. This is a shelter for abused women and children seeking refuge from abusive relationships.

There was a contact call out to the Elizabeth Frye Association and they returned a message and since I was in the area, I went in and the managing director took our pamphlets, were very interested and they will have a meeting with the administration office & get back to me about a time for putting on a presentation, if all is accepted well from that office.

We have been making progress with the HRM CFB Halifax Base Addictions Treatment Facility and are awaiting a call back from the facility head, Tony Jenkins.

Next CPC meeting is scheduled for June 10 th , at 45 Connelly Drive, Sackville at 10AM.

Respectfully Submitted in Service,

Kathy S.

### **CORRECTIONS:**

My contact at corrections is away on vacation but a member, Garnet E, has a connection there and reached out to them. They want us in there sooner rather than later. I let them know we have 22 volunteers and I sent them the names for their record checks. I believe the people that have been cleared before will be fine, but new volunteers will go through a longer process. I have not received a confirmation email yet. I am practicing tolerance and patience. If everything

goes according to plan re: our verbal conversation, we may be onsite as soon as early as August.

Yours in service, Tom P

**ENTERTAINMENT:**

no report at this time

**HELP EMAIL:**

The Help Email saw 11 emails in May. I was able to reply to all emails within a 1-3 hour timeframe, unless received overnight.

1 was wondering what kind of help AA can provide

4 wanting to know the requirements or how to join a meeting/the program

5 asking how to start their sobriety journey

1 asking when/where meetings occur

I continue to attach appropriate pamphlets as PDFs and reference links to the AA Halifax Website.

yours in service, Sam B

**HOSPITAL VISITATION:**

This was a quiet month; one person in Dartmouth general, Glen M - he has since been released.

Yours in service, Wayne O

**LITERATURE:**

The month of May has been good. No order of books was made for the month of May. If you look at the entry of 9 May \$362.66, this was for book sale with credit card. If you look at the entry of 16 May \$1237.00, this was a deposit for book sale by cash or cheque. The \$42.84 and the \$15.77 was to pay for a back order from NewYork. If you look at the entry of 31 May \$7.50 this was a service charge for the US draft to pay for the NewYork back order . If you look at the other entry of 2 June \$102.70 this was another deposit of cash for the month of May sale. So right now we have a balance of \$4713.97

My plan is to increase the price of books and pamphlets by 20% starting the first of July 2023. For example a Big Book will go from \$15 to \$18. I have made a copy of the first sheet of the price increase so you can see. I will be making a big order in the next week or so. A reminder to every one, the majority of pamphlets are still out of stocks.

**\*See Appendix B**

**Q** - Do we need a motion for the price increase? This is largely a business decision for the literature committee. This could be within the discretion of the committee chair.

**CS Chair** - I agree - as the prices in NY have increased, this is up to the chair to increase accordingly.

Comment: We have roughly 60 Big Books which I can sell for the old price.

**MID-WINTER ROUND-UP:**

We have filled 2 more positions of co-chair registration and co-chair hospitality. We still need 1 more co-chair for registration and program and a 2<sup>nd</sup> AI-anon rep.

The committee selected the Delta Dartmouth and Foster and I signed the contract on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Foster, Alex and I also met with Scotiabank on May 15<sup>th</sup> and had signing officers updated.

The theme of the 2024 roundup is: The Road to Happy Destiny: An Experience You Must Not Miss

All committees are continuing their work to prepare for this roundup and things are going well.

Yours in service,

Heather

#### **NEWSLETTER:**

Just a reminder that meeting notices and updates should be sent to both the newsletter and the webmaster. Notices should be sent by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month (I often get a flurry of activity on the 26<sup>th</sup>) - after that can be stressful to fit the work in. I have the web address for the Active Area Committees meeting log in but not the password - I will get this info from CS chair for next month.

Yours in service, Mark B

#### **PUBLIC INFORMATION:**

1. The Committee met on May 13, 2023. The Committee welcomed a new member to increase our core members to eight. 2. The theme for the Committee in the last few months is the management and organization of the opportunities created to carry the message. We have ordered a pile of literature, to assemble the packages for the medical clinics, homeless shelters, seniors facilities and various professional organizations and offices with contact with alcoholics. This literature has to be collated into packages and delivered. This also requires mass calling for our current contacts and outlets – to maintain relationships and keep them up to date with our literature. 3. We are reaching out to Halifax Transit for a month of bus posters in the buses. 4. We have had informal contact with an organization for autism which will be followed up. 5. We have learned of a school organization known as School Plus which provides supports to families and their students who are dealing with issues of addictions, alcoholism, abuse and the like. We are reaching out to determine how we might be of assistance. 6. We are following up with the HRM libraries to determine the status of AA books and pamphlets. 7. Our next meeting is on June 11, 2023, at 45 Connolly Road. Yours in Service, Bill P, Chair

**Comment:** Be aware the help email address has changed. **Answer** - We had a lot of new cards made up with the new email.

#### **TELEPHONE:**

Pretty short report for activities the last month:

1. Only picked up a few people this month to help out with the AA Phone.
2. Still require folks to help out with the day phone.
3. Appreciate the Groups on the week-end arranging for the swapping of the week-end phone for the next week-end.

Have a great day and thank you for your service,

Yours in Service, Jonathan

**Q** - Fresh Start wondered if you had a full list of people who have volunteered in the past - there were a few people who gave their name a year or so ago and didn't know if they were still on the list. **A** - I have not heard from your group - have them contact me.

#### **TREATMENT:**

Hi everyone my name is Gilles D I am an alcoholic. In May I had a few phone requests from people who wanted to be added to the Marguerite Center and Bridging the Gap volunteers list. I also forwarded the flyer and AA helpline cards to the Crosby House with our friend Bill M. who sits on the board. They are very grateful for us reaching out to help many alcoholics in our area. Sara and I had a few talks about Treatment. I also have a contact at the Burnside Jail. I figured since we can't do anything via Correction meetings at this time that I would supply my contact with flyer and pamphlets for Bridging the Gap. It will start sooner and will be able to help individuals access to the program. We received an email from the Bryony House they were referred by Kathy at CPC I googled Bryony house and I contacted Shannon Gumbs who's in charge there. I explained to her that I would bring this to Central Service and get back to her after our meeting. I also called Samaira to get some ideas. Sara, our new co-chair, will oversee this new opportunity to help Alcoholics who still suffer. We have an opportunity to help Native women and children through AA and maybe AI-Anon. It works if we work it.  
yours in service, Gilles D

**Question:** We had a request at Forensics - they wondered if we could provide them something with the words to the serenity prayer. Perhaps we could hand out the "Meeting in a Pocket" pamphlets to the folks there.

**Comment:** I'm not sure if we can give anything to folks at forensics, but if not we could have something in the binder so they could read along with us during meetings.

**Comment:** We have 6 groups going in to Forensics regularly, but we need more groups to participate. If your group already is on the roster, but you have a group of friends/members who would like to make a team, that's an option.

**Question:** How many groups do you have participating in detox? **Answer** - 22 groups.

**Comment:** There is such a huge difference, this could be an opportunity for CSRs to go back to their groups and remind them there is a great need for participation in this area.

#### **WEBMASTER:**

This month saw several Meeting List updates and as a result I will now point out that the PDF printable meeting list is "full" for Tues and Thurs. I cannot fit any new meetings for either of these days without further shrinking the font size for the whole list which may render it unreadable. Just FYI, no action to be taken.

I receive an email from Lisa C from St. John's Intergroup asking about what we use for our Meeting List. I sent her information on the web page, the PDF printable (I included a copy for her) and the GSO mobile app Meeting Guide information.

Beyond that, I've done the usual updates to the web; plug-ins, workshop announcements, Newsletter and Central Service/District minutes.

Yours in service,

Heather

**Question** - Our group has quite a few documents and it would be nice to have a depository which other groups or members could have access to. Is it possible to store documents through the website? **A** - Any group could establish themselves a Gmail account and with that log in you get access to google drive. For example I have a webmaster log in to Google and some files are kept there - people can be invited to view the documents. I might suggest a group could create their own Google cloud for this type of thing.

#### **DISTRICT 1:**

Good evening,

I will be acting as interim DCM for the next little while so Michael can focus on personal family challenges. Please email any questions to the DCM to the treasurer email at: treasurer.aa.district1@gmail.com

The Area 82 Spring Assembly was held the weekend of May 27 and was attended by the DCM.

District 1 held a workshop on May 31 and the topic was "Anatomy of Workshop in AA" – Suggestions and Sharing on Conducting Workshops. It was facilitated by Vera F, AAWS, NTD, Panel 68. It was an excellent workshop. The next District 1 will be June 28 at 6:00 on zoom. A flyer will be sent out.

The District is still looking for an Alternate DCM and an Alt Treasurer.

Next District meeting will be held Wed July 26 at 7:00 following the workshop. All are welcome to attend.

Yours in service, Mary W, Treasurer District 1

**DISTRICT 2:** no report at this time

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

#### **APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS**

A motion was made by Bill P to approve the reports, it was seconded by Tom P. All in favour; motion passed.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **- Central Service Elections:**

Central Service Co-Chair:

Co-chair committee positions:

##### **- Telephone Ad Hoc Committee**

**Foster:** There were no additions to the report but it was sent out at the last meeting to all the groups and we are looking for either approval or rejection of those recommendations in the report so that we can move on. We are calling for acceptance of the recommendations. Recommendations

1. That detailed policy and operating procedures be written for the handling of incoming calls, including how to deal with missed calls, messages left on voicemail, development

of shifts within a 24-hour period and call forwarding to cell phones to the day, evening, overnight shifts and how to handle 12 step calls.

2. These policies and procedures be posted on the aahalifax.org website and in all volunteer binders.
3. A workshop should be held to present and explain the policy and procedures to the fellowship.
4. Regular follow-up to determine how well the operating procedures are being followed and adjustments made as necessary.

**Motion to accept recommendations of the Telephone Ad Hoc committee (Emily S).  
Second: Bill P.**

Discussion:

Comment: Education is always a good thing. It's important to have clear instruction in the books. There are pages in the binder for notes.

19 in favour  
none opposed  
no abstentions

**Motion passed.**

#### **- Integrating Group Insurance**

We have an insurance policy for Central Service for all groups who are interested in being involved - roughly \$50 per year. District 17 has a group insurance policy and they have involved other districts as well- - they have asked if they can join our policy to cut the cost for everybody. Foster and Pete did research and discovered it will be quite seamless to integrate the new groups. Our next policy in the fall would have the same coverage but the individual group cost would go down because of the number of groups.

I am suggesting at this meeting that someone make a motion to adopt this idea.

**Question** - The co-chair/treasurer (person in charge of insurance) does quite a lot of work - we would need coordination with the other groups.

**Comment:** The concept was to create a policy for NS which may include all of the districts. DCMs would be contacted to find someone to administer to their district and coordinate with the others.

**Q** - You said each district would take on their own administration - each district would pay their own portion to the insurer - and then collect within their own district? CS of District 1 and 2 wouldn't pay for all of NS? **Answer** - District 17 would continue to collect from all the districts they have involved already. We would only pay our portion of the bill. The Administrative details will need to be worked out.

**Motion to integrate our insurance policy with all districts of NS to save on costs  
(Foster L)**

**Seconded by Neale F.**

All in favour: 15  
opposed:  
abstention: 3



**Motion passed.**

**- Area 82 Active Committee attendance/ CS guidelines alteration**

**CS Chair:** Last month we discussed increasing the duties of the four committee chairs (CPC, PI, Treatment and Corrections) to attend the Area active committees. I have since learned that all committees are invited to attend. I suggest to put it in the newsletter as an option and suggestion, rather than add it to the guidelines.

**Q** - Is it mandatory? **A** - It's a recommendation - if the chair can't attend, perhaps a co-chair or another member of the committee can attend.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM GROUPS**

Janet M to celebrate 30 years at Acceptance Group July 8 at 10 AM.

New speaker meeting Second Chance group Connolly Road.

Four Seasons June 29: Jake 3 years and Phil 38 years .

New grapevine kit rotating among groups - just ask your GSR if you would like it next.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Heather L seconded by Emily M.

Meeting ended with Responsibility pledge at 8:35 PM.

**Next CS meeting will take place July 4, 2023 at 7 PM on zoom.**

**Appendix A**

**May 2023**

**Operating Account**

<b><u>Opening Bank Balance</u></b>	<b>\$10,339.46</b>
<b>Credits</b>	<b>\$1,020</b>
<b>Debits</b>	<b>\$307.07</b>
<b><u>Closing Bank balance</u></b>	<b><u>\$11,052.39</u></b>

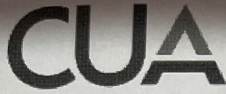
Cheques Outstanding	\$0.00
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<u>Closing Operating balance</u>	<u>\$11,052.39</u>
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**Prudent Reserve Account**

Opening balance	\$4,909.59
Closing balance	<u>\$4,908.63</u>

Appendix B



The better way to bank

- [Logout of Online Banking](#)
- [Return to Online Banking](#)

[Ask Us A Question](#)

[Live Chat](#)

## Account Activity

Member Name CENTRAL SERVICES

Member Number [REDACTED]

Account Name 011 Literature Comittee

Current Balance \$4,713.97.

Current Interest Rate 0.000%

[More Details](#)

Account Number [REDACTED]

Date Range: 01/05/2023 - 02/06/2023

June 02, 2023

### 011 Literature Comittee

Date	Description	Amount	Balance
02-Jun-2023	Cash deposit	\$102.70	\$4,713.97
31-May-2023	Service charge	-\$7.50	\$4,611.27
16-May-2023	Cash withdrawal	-\$15.77	\$4,618.77
16-May-2023	Official Cheque	-\$42.84	\$4,634.54
16-May-2023	Cash and cheque	\$1,237.00	\$4,677.38
09-May-2023	Direct deposit SQUARE CANADA I	\$362.66	\$3,440.38