

MINUTES OF
CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING
May 2, 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 Toby H.

ROLL CALL: 28 in attendance, of which 23 attendees were voting members.

EXECUTIVE	COMMITTEES	CSR	ALT CSR/OBSERVERS
Chair – Samaira G	Telephones - Jonathan G	Zeta S -Colby Village	Bill P (PI representative)
Co-Chair – position vacant	Help Email – Sam B	Emily M - Circle of Sisters	Michael H - DCM district 1
Treasurer – Foster L	Newsletter - Mark B	Laura L - Sunday Night Serenity	Melanie M - co-chair CPC
Secretary – Emily S	Hospital Visitation – Wayne O	Mike C- Downtown Halifax	Colleen S - Fall River
	Treatment - Gilles D	Neale F - Fresh Start	Sara G - Downtown Dartmouth
	CPC - Kathy S	Kim G - Serenity Sisters	
	Literature – Gerry L	Mike A - Welcome Group	
	Corrections - Tom P	Lara B - Only Requirement	
	Webmaster -Heather L	Toby H - Sunrise Group	
	Mid-Winter – Heather L	David O - Back to Basics	
	Public Information - Bill P	Jake B - Four Seasons	
	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

Founders Day (old business)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by Heather L seconded by Kathy S.
All in favour. Motion passed.

MINUTES APPROVED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

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

OFFICER'S REPORTS:**SECRETARY:**

It was a quiet month for secretary duties - and I am uncharacteristically quiet tonight due to laryngitis! Along with our treasurer, I digitally co-signed for a transfer to the literature committee and to pay the phone bill. I was given a new temporary contact for district two as the DCM has stepped down. Thank you,
Emily S

TREASURER:

I attended the Mid-Winter Roundup meeting April 8th and was elected as treasurer for that committee.

Finances at Central Service are stable and committee expenses are still low. I suggest if we are still in this financial position in another month, we consider contributions to Area and GSO at our July meeting.

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

Yours in Service, Foster L, Treasurer

***see Appendix A**

CO-CHAIR:

Position not filled at this time.

CHAIR:

There are a few things that have come up in the past month. First I have added to the agenda. area 82 active committees and will be discussing it and may be adding responsibility to some of the committees.

Second I believe it's time for us to start looking into our guidelines over the past month I've had to refer to them a few times people questioning who does what and should we have more items in our guidelines like I've said in the past we tried to do our best with the roles we have if we want to do more. You can call me and see if that is being done or if we can add it to our role. We try not to step on our fellows

Third, it's time to start thinking about our service palooza so over the next month the chairs of the committees can get a hold of me and we'll set up an appointment for you to get your displays and can update them for our palooza that will be held in September. So we need to figure out a place that we're going to hold it and who can have space for us

yours in service, Samara G, central service chair

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cooperation with Professional Community:

4 committee members met at the Warming Center/Shelter on April 21st. 2023. We handed out A.A. Pamphlet packages we had prepared for the staff. The presentation was well received. They were interested in the information we presented. They asked lots of interesting questions about the program, how it all works, and some general questions about our personal experiences throughout our journeys in the program, as well as general questions about alcoholic behavior/tendencies and group meetings. They requested a Big Book and we gave one to the SW; Rachael for the center. We gave additional pamphlets to the Social Worker for the centre to have as references, ie, The God Word, Is AA For You, AA For the Women, If You are a Professional, How AA Works with Professionals. The SW also took my contact information for more pamphlets and information for the future. We added that if their partners or directors would like any further presentations we would make ourselves available. CPC had a meeting at 45 Connelly Drive, Sackville, NS. April 15, 2023. Attendees: Mike M, Mike B, Bill P, Leah, Alan, & Kathy S. Regrets; Melanie M & Clayton. The main topic of discussion was the details of the meeting for the Women Warming Center on April 21 st , 2023. Committee members presenting will be Leah, Melanie M, Kathy S, and Mike B. Other topics of discussion: Follow up on the contact with CFB Base Halifax, Tony Jenkins regarding an information presentation in the future. Make another contact with the Elizabeth Fry Association requesting an informational session, targeting the professionals overseeing this Non-profit charitable organization for marginalized individuals involved in the criminal justice system. Develop a strategy to approach the professionals of the two newly established Collaborative Interdisciplinary Teams / Primary Health initiative. Teams include doctors, nurse practitioners, family practice nurses, paramedics, midwives, and/or mental health workers working together in emergency centers, collaborative care clinics, and community health centers. There are currently 96 collaborative family practice teams established in Nova Scotia, supported by The Nova Scotia Health and the Department of Health and Wellness.

Respectfully Submitted in Service Kathy S. CPC Chairperson

CORRECTIONS:

The situation is status quo at the Burnside facility, as they have not yet opened up for meetings and will keep us informed. I gave Andrea my new list of names last month and haven't heard back yet. I had another call from a lady from corrections facility who was looking for copies of big books for offenders. She will be in touch with me by email.

Tom P

Question; How many books did she want? Answer: She said there were a couple of offenders who were looking for big books.

Comment: Corrections has an approved budget which is to be used at their discretion.

Treatment committee plans to get their Bridging the Gap flyer to Corrections committee.

ENTERTAINMENT: no report

HELP EMAIL:

There were 6 emails that came through in April. 4 of them were how to join AA, an in person or zoom meeting; 1 was looking for a referral to a treatment facility and 1 was looking for a meeting specific to Addictions and Mental Health. I continue to attach pamphlets from WSO that pertain to their inquiry. I was able to attach a total of 9 pamphlets which include, A Newcomer May Ask, The God Word, Problems Other than Alcohol, AA for Alcoholics with Mental Health issues and Is AA for me?

Yours in Service,
Sam B

HOSPITAL VISITATION:

We have one new person in Dartmouth General - Glen M from the Bedford Group.

Comment by CS Chair: We might want to send out an email to the DCMs in different districts to let them know if any of their members are in hospital in Hfx they could have a visit.

LITERATURE:

The month of April has been good. No order of books was made for the month of April. If you look at the entry of 13 April for \$1752.16 and \$634.11, this was to pay for the book order I made back in March. If you look at the entry of 25 April \$15.58, this was for book sale with a credit card. If you look at the entry of 28 April \$966.75 this was for books and pamphlets sold by Cash and cheque. If you look at the other entry of 28 April \$7.50 this was a service charge for the US draft. So right now we have a balance of \$3077.72

As you know NewYork Literature has gone up as of 3th April 2023.

As of today, I still have enough books to last me at least for another month at the regular price. When I am ready for the increase, I will make a motion at this meeting and we can go from there.

Best regards, Gerry L., Literature Chair

***See Appendix B**

Question: I looked up the videos AA.org the price went down by \$2 for video - that's the new price. **Answer:** The announcement from GSO was about the price going up on books and pamphlets only.

MID-WINTER ROUND-UP:

The MWRU committee thus far is made up of:

Chair – Heather

Co-Chair – Alex C

Treasurer – Foster L

Secretary – vacant

Program Chair – Emily S

Registration – Ashley E

Hospitality – Becca H

Entertainment – vacant

AI-Anon rep – Linda C

We also have some volunteers: Gilles D and Joan M

The next committee meeting is Sunday May 7th at 1pm at Club 24 where we hope to fill the last chair positions, and the co-chair positions.

So far, the committee is focused on a 3-day roundup located in a hotel; in other words, we are trying to go back to the format that the roundup has always been. We feel if we are ever going to be able to get back to this format, we need to try in 2024.

Our priority has been to find a hotel to host the event. During March and April, Emily, Foster, and I have been getting proposals from, and visiting the event space at many hotels in Halifax and Dartmouth. We have narrowed it down to 2 hotels in Dartmouth that have the required event space and are most affordable. The Delta Dartmouth on Commodore Ave and the Best Western on Spectacle Drive. The hotels we sought proposals from in Halifax were much more expensive and parking was a big concern. The hotel we have enjoyed for many years in Dartmouth, the Doubletree, is no longer available to anyone as it has been taken over by community services to house the homeless.

We have the beginning of a draft budget and when we get the proposal details from both hotels, we'll present to the MWRU committee and select the venue.

Yours in service, Heather

NEWSLETTER:

Reminder to send your announcements to both newsletter and webmaster. Please make sure your items are-submitted by 25th of the month please.

yours in service, Mark B

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

The Committee met on April 11, 2023. Theme of the meeting was the consolidation and updating of the various outlets we have developed to move AA and its services into the public eyes and ears.

To this end we discussed the following:

- a) Update of Medical Clinics (currently 62 offices)
 - i) Discussion of need to renew our contacts with various offices.
 - ii) Discussion of recruitment of volunteers to deliver packages to clinics.
 - iii) Need to place a Literature order
 - iv) Need to meet to assemble info packages.
 - v) Need for current list of Clinics for PI members
 - b) We are current with all the Homeless shelters we have identified. We need to keep a alert with the medical when new shelters open up.
 - c) Update of current Media List:
 - i) Renew contact with ATV
 - ii) Check in with contact at Eastlink
 - iii) Check in with Dal radio
 - iv) Check in with Community radio
 - v) Check in with Northwood manor
1. It was raised that local MLA's have newsletters which are sent to voters. This is another vehicle for the AA Help Line. Will obtain list for MLA's in HRM for contacts and numbers.

2. General discussion to update our information letters to medical clinics.
3. Bill P. will follow up with Area 82 on provincial AA media blitz.

All in Service. Bill P, Chair PI

Comment: Pamphlets - majority of popular pamphlets are out of stock in NY, it may be a few months before you get what you need.

TELEPHONE:

Our Phone Committee report for the last month:

-continued to work on the Phone Adhoc committee.

-experiencing a shortage of volunteers for the AA Day phone as there have been some folks who have other commitments, so starting to cast a wider net for folks to work the day phone, please ask your groups.

-commencing work on a new/ updated policy/ procedures for the AA phone to be placed into the AA binders and AA website.

Jonathan

TREATMENT:

Good evening , for April things have been a bit more relaxed at treatment.I chatted with Lori from Forensics about our meetings I told her that I wished more of her clients would participate.All meeting so far have been successful. People are inquiring about time and how many people can attend the inpatient withdrawal management unit.I call a few days early to remind groups of there meetings time and date and requirements.Lara from Only Requirement Group is looking at my flyer box form Bridging the Gap at Detox to see if its effective or not its location and impact on patients so I can determine its effectiveness. I had 2 responds about my add for a co chair one is from Colleen S.the other one is from Sara G .they will both attend the CSM Tuesday night We need more groups for Forensics We have an add in the News Letters I approached Highland Park waiting for an answer. Im waiting for my Video Hope from The Book store so I can distribute them to Margerite Center and the Inpatient Withdrawl Management Unit.. Your in service Gilles

Treatment Chair
AA Halifax/Dartmouth
Area 82

Q: Our group was at forensics and the topic came up of literature. There was some confusion if anything is available to residents. I suggest you get in touch with your contact there and you might want to get starter kits together.

Answer: We delivered 4 big books there a few weeks ago. There were pamphlets there in the drawer with the binder. I gave the flyers to the social worker so all the people on the ward could access them.

Question: Can we donate old grapevines? **Answer:** I appreciate any donations of literature to any treatment facility.

Comment: There was some discussion about not being able to find the meeting binder onsite at forensics. Treatment chair will look into this.

WEBMASTER:

It's been pretty quiet for the web this month. I have been adding posts and keeping the web site updated in terms of plug-ins.

I have an email out to Pedro as there is one plug-in that I feel is important, but I'm not sure how to handle. I'm waiting for some time to cover this and a few other topics with him.

Yours in service, Heather

DISTRICT 1:

Good day Districts 1 and 2 Central Service Exec's, Committees, CSR's and guests,

I have attended the monthly Area 82 Active Area Committee Meeting on Last Monday of each month. This is a meeting that the 4 committee chair's or delegates would attend to receive and/ give an update from/to General Service to keep informed of what's new in the Committees. In talking with the Central Service Chair, that communication gap could be closed with attendance.

Wrote a letter to GSR's to take to their group's to ask CSR's (if group conscience agrees) to ask for the 4 committee's to migrate to Districts 1 and 2, as per how it was pre-April, 2017. I am waiting for their decision. I have no further information to provide other than the letter I wrote to give.

Our next workshop on zoom:

ANATOMY OF A WORKSHOP IN A.A.
SUGGESTIONS AND SHARING ON CONDUCTING WORKSHOPS.

Facilitated by

Vera F

AAWS NTD

Panel 68 Delegate

Wednesday May 31,2023 6-7

On a final note, it's another month closer to the NS/NL Assembly and Round-Up in Corner Brook NL, to which it is advised that all GSR's should attend as written in AA Service Manual page 8, Duties and Responsibilities #1, ref." https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/en_bm-31_3.pdf. It's October 6-8 CSR's please support your groups elected GSR's and ask your group's for financial support for the GSR's to attend, or a delegate to attend instead. The Flyer @ <https://area82aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2023-Assembly-Flyer-Google-Docs.pdf>

Yours in love and Service, Michael H.
DCM 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 Mike C to approve the reports, it was seconded by Emily M.
All in favour; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Central Service Elections:**

- **Central Service Co-Chair** : none

Co-chair committee positions:

Sara G nominated for Treatment co-chair - qualified
Colleen S nominated for Treatment co-chair - qualified

Sara G elected co-chair treatment committee

- Private Phone Service - Ad Hoc Committee report

The committee finished our report after several weeks of research. We sent that to CS chair on April 18 for dissemination to the table/groups prior to the meeting so that we could discuss. *(CS chair apologized for not sending this email out prior to the meeting)*

Highlights:

- our purpose was to see if there was better way to handle phones due to some missed calls.
- we looked at internet based software - In essence it would double the costs.
- we also looked at answering services (Answer 365) used in Truro. Concerns were that they work from a script, there is no guarantee of confidentiality and the cost would be prohibitive.

The main problem seemed to be that people didn't know if they should return calls. The success or failure on any phone system is to have adequately prepared and trained volunteers to answer the phones - no service can replace that. We have recommendations: 1) Procedures and guidelines should be written, should be posted in the binder 2) these should be posted on the AA website 3) workshop should be held to explain 4) Follow up should take place to make sure these procedures are in place.

*Report will go out to all groups to peruse and discuss.

Comment: There are instructions in the current binders about not calling people back if they don't leave a message.

Comment: The Ad Hoc committee felt it would be an irresponsible decision to not return calls.

Comment: I had the day phone last week and that info was not there. We need clarity on this info and these guidelines.

Comment: I was one of the ones who didn't get a call back. There is a switch process for the phones to go from day to night phones and human error can occur.

FOUNDERS DAY

At the last Back to Basics business meeting we realized the provincial round up is also going to celebrate Founders Day on June 10 so we decided not to host a celebration through Central Service.

NEW BUSINESS

Area 82 Active Committees (Samaira G)

There is a disconnect between Area and Central Service. As chair I started attending Area 82 Active Committees meetings - the meeting is on zoom at area and they do it once a month (Mondays). I would make a recommendation that our four committees in question (CPC, Public Information, Treatment and Corrections) attend those meetings, and in this way we will be connected and will not need to make a jump from the Central Service to District table. Those committees will now start getting emails from Area. I think we should add these requirements of attendance to our guidelines.

Q: Would we be required to do up a report as we do for CS? **A:** If you did give a report it would be the same report you gave to Central Service.

Comment: The PI committee has periodically attended. It is largely an exchange of information and brainstorming and exchanging how to's of different districts across province. It was there I floated media blitz idea for area 82. PI will attend this month.

Comm: At Four Seasons we voted on that question of moving the committees to District. We should have got answers from other groups.

Answer: It never came to the table. It was a district item and didn't come from central service.

Heather L:

May it be moved that the Central Service guidelines be amended to add to the four committees (PI, CPC, Treatment and Corrections) a monthly reporting to Area 82 Active Committees meeting.

This is an amendment to the guidelines - so we have to obey rules: ***This amendment would have to go back to groups and then come back to the table for final vote.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM GROUPS

- Treatment is looking for more groups to sign up for the roster to visit Forensics.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Heather L seconded by Sam B.

Meeting ended with Responsibility pledge at 8:55 PM.

Next CS meeting will take place June 6, 2023 at 7 PM on zoom.

Appendix A

Operating Account

Opening Bank Balance \$10,082.08

Credits \$450.00

Debits \$192.62

Closing Bank balance **\$10,339.46**

Cheques Outstanding \$0.00

Closing Operating balance **\$10,339.46**

Prudent Reserve Account

Opening balance \$4906.58

Closing balance **\$4907.59**

Appendix B

Member Name CENTRAL SERVICES

Member Number [REDACTED]

Account Name 011 Literature Comittee

Current Balance \$3,077.72

Current Interest Rate 0.000%

More Details

Account Number [REDACTED]

Date Range: 01/04/2023 - 30/04/2023

April 30, 2023

011 Literature Comittee

Date	Description	Amount	Balance
28-Apr-2023	Service charge	-\$7.50	\$3,077.72
28-Apr-2023	Cash and cheque	\$966.75	\$3,085.22
25-Apr-2023	Direct deposit SQUARE CANADA I	\$15.58	\$2,118.47
13-Apr-2023	Debit memo	-\$634.11	\$2,102.89
13-Apr-2023	Official Cheque	-\$1,752.16	\$2,737.00