

**MINUTES OF
CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 2, 2025
Zoom Meeting

WELCOME AND OPEN: Meeting opened by Paul B. at 7 pm with the Serenity Prayer
TWELVE TRADITIONS: The Twelve Traditions were read by Sharon N
ROLL CALL: 29 in attendance. 21 voting members, 8 observers (V= voting, NV non-voting).

EXECUTIVE	COMMITTEES	CSR	OTHERS
Chair - Paul B	Telephones - Paul	Keep It Simple – Jonathan	DCM District 1 - not present
Co-Chair – Not present	Help Email - Sharon N	Acceptance – Nathaniel B	DCM District 2 – Bernie S
Treasurer - Trudy D	Newsletter - Emily S	Circle of Sisters – Mary M	Area 82 Chair - not present
Secretary – Not present	Hospital Visitation -not present	Serenity Sisters – Chris A	Bill P - observer
	CPC - Ryan standing in	Cole Harbour – Shawn S	Jarrad S - Observer
	Literature - Trudy D	West End Step Group – Julia D	Steve H - Observer
	Corrections – Not present	Four Seasons – Velma	Chris - Observer
	Webmaster – Alec M	Sunday Night Serenity – Rachel	Andie - Observer
	Mid Winter Round-Up -Bernie S	Sunrise – Garth	Mark Z - Observer
	Public Information - vacant	Highland Park – Johnny	Joey - Observer
	Entertainment - vacant	Lions Den – Reign M	Val W - Observer
	Insurance - Patsy	Any Lengths – Melissa	
	Newsletter Co-chair – Emily S	Downtown Dartmouth – Ryan H	

	Treatment – Not present	Rainbow of Recovery – Isaac W	
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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

- Paul B:
 - Executive positions (secretary, co-chair of insurance, literature chair, entertainment chair, public information chair);
 - Notice in newsletter of someone’s passing;
 - Central Service Inventory.
- Emily S:
 - Talent show and notices of passing in the newsletter.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by made by Shawn, seconded by Ryan. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion to approve the March 2025 minutes. No errors or omissions brought forward. Motion to approve made by Alec, seconded by Reign. Motion passed.

OFFICER’S REPORTS

TREASURER (TRUDY)

See Appendix – Treasurer Report for March financials.

CHAIR REPORT (PAUL B)

Attended the District 1 meeting and sent out a copy of the conference items to the CSRs. Please pass these along to the GSRs. Worked with Paul on the telephones. Conversations with Nathaniel about the group inventory questions.

SECRETARY (HEATHER)

No report.

CO-CHAIR (HEATHER)

No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DISTRICT 1 (SAMAIRA, BY EMAIL)

As the District Committee Member for District 1 of Alcoholics Anonymous, I am pleased to provide this report to the Central Service Committee of HRM. Our district continues to focus on supporting individuals seeking recovery from alcoholism through various initiatives and collaborations.

Over the past month, District 1 has seen a steady attendance at our meetings, both in-person and online. We have ensured that our meeting schedules are up-to-date and accessible to all members and newcomers. For detailed information on meeting times and formats, please refer to our official website.

Our collaboration with the Central Service Committee has been instrumental in maintaining a 24-hour helpline, providing immediate support and information to those in need. The helpline can be reached at (902) 461-1119, and we encourage members to volunteer for this vital service.

In addition to regular meetings, District 1 has organized workshops and events to enhance member engagement and education. Notably, we hosted a service workshop titled "The Role of Central Service in District 1 & 2," presented by Paul B., Chair of C.S. This workshop provided valuable insights into the structure and function of our Central Service.

Emails have been sent to as many emails we were able to receive, for the Service Weekend in Truro at the end of May. All information is available at area82aa.org.

Looking ahead, District 1 is committed to ensure that anyone seeking help for alcoholism knows that support is available through Alcoholics Anonymous. As you are aware, we have been dealing with the loss of our dear friend Jonathan, the Alt. DCM & acting secretary. We have voted in a new Secretary, Rob. And we will be able to send out information with a few days. Thank you for your patience.

Yours in Service,
Samaira G., DCM

DISTRICT 2 (BERNIE)

No active committee meeting held yesterday. District 2 holding a Tradition 2 workshop in April by Amy A, Alternate DCM for District 2. Grapevine kit is going to be circulated soon. District 2 currently without a Treasurer. Anyone interested in the position requires five years of sobriety

MIDWINTER ROUNDUP (MICHAEL H, VIA BERNIE)

March 23 held the final wrap-up meeting of the Midwinter Roundup. General feeling was it was a successful event. Issues with acoustics in meeting rooms and noise from coffee area during meetings will be discussed by incoming committee. Attendance was 450, up ~50 from 2024 event held in the same space. A good working relationship has been developed with the Delta and future roundups may be held at that location.

Financially the profit was roughly \$4,000. Central Service was reimbursed and funds were sent to Al-Anon. First meeting of the 2026 committee is this coming Sunday, April 6 at Club 24 at 1 pm.

Workshop on Tradition 2 is the second Sunday in April at Club 24 at 2 pm.

CORRECTIONS (MELANIE VIA TRUDY)

Dear Central Service,

I purchased \$200 worth of literature burnside corrections. Unfortunately, I have not been able to connect with someone who will respond to my emails or phone calls about when to bring to the literature to the facility to ensure it reaches the offenders.

Due to the lack of response from burnside. I reached out to other jails in NS to connect with their program officers and now I received a new contact at burnside and I did connect with. There has been a turnover of staff there and the messages I left were not being passed along.

I am hopeful with my new contact of the current program officer I will have more positive news to report next month. As for the willing people on my list who want to go into burnside to put on AA meetings soon hopefully. You NEED to get a current criminal record check done. All participants need one. I only received 3 so far.

I am also Looking for a co chair or someone with more experience in going into corrections to offer some support/guidance to me to help facilitate this. It's been over 5 years since meetings were put on in burnside. All suggestions welcome.

Yours in service,
Melanie McC

NEWSLETTER (EMILY S)

Hello everyone,

Things are going well with the newsletter - Lindsay and I are sharing duties and proofreading each other's work and we haven't had any complaints yet. We have had good feedback about adding flyers to the back of the newsletter. I had a couple ideas for the newsletter I would like to discuss during new business tonight to get Central Service feedback. Please send us your announcements by the 25th of the month and we will get your deets in for the upcoming month!

Thanks again,
Emily (and Lindsay)
Newsletter Team

PHONES (PAUL M)

Everything is going well. As I will be away I have the schedule done until May 23rd. The volunteers have been extremely helpful and amazingly eager to help.

We have a new co-chair, who will be nominated. It is Chris G from the Fall River Group.

Thanks, Paul M

Question: confirm that the roster for the weekend phones posted in the newsletter will remain the same.

A: Confirmed. One issue with an individual who usually gets their phone from a group that folded. Issue was resolved.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) (Ryan standing-in)

1. Organization of contacts underway with Henry on it with the binder and Google sheet! Happy 1 year sobriety Henry thank you for you data entry service here!
2. The CPC signed up for the job fair but I received an email that we were placed on the waitlist.
3. We are still working on getting the prizes for our game from the roundup and inviting everyone who said they were interested in the CPC by email, I will be doing that later this week.
4. None of the budget was spent in the month of March.
5. The next meeting for the CPC will be on April 7th at 6:00 pm.

WEBMASTER (ALEC M)

There is no major Webmaster news for March 2025.

- Added flyers and other details for upcoming workshops
- Added minutes from service meetings
- Supported transfer of service email addresses

Yours in Service,
Alec

INSURANCE (PATSY W)

The Archives office at 2 Beechville has been insured for \$206.00 plus one months interest of 2%. This amount has been paid.

The St. Margaret's Bay location has been deleted.

The meeting space for the Brooklyn group has been amended.

I forwarded a certificate of insurance to the Town of Kentville for the Kentville AA group.

District 1 mistakenly received an insurance payment from what I believe is the Hubbards group for their insurance payment. They are sending it to us. So all groups have paid for their insurance premium.

Yours in service, Patsy W.

Question: Does the policy cover all groups in the province?

Answer: Not all groups in the province. The policy covers all groups in the district.

Point of clarification: The insurance covers all groups in the province that wish to be covered by the policy, "Nova Scotia AA Group Policy".

LITERATURE (READ BY PAUL B)

We had a great month in terms of sales as we attended 2 roundups. We had a total of \$4,792.90 in sales including the bookstore nights. We ordered some more books to assure that we had enough to sell at the events and not leave us short handed at the office. The order totaled \$2,694.13, thus leaving us with a total in the account of \$4,331.42

HELP EMAIL (SHARON N)

Hello one and all:

My report follows: (16) emails received: (11) were regular meeting inquiries of where and when; (1) email of a sensitive nature was deferred to our CS Chair and (4) received from CS Secretary.

I am grateful for the opportunity to do service.

In love and service,
Sharon N
HELP Email Coordinator

Yours in service,
Sharon N

PUBLIC INFORMATION (VACANT)

No report.

AREA 82

No report sent

ENTERTAINMENT (VACANT)

No report.

TREATMENT (NOELLE)

No report.

HOSPITAL AND VISITATIONS

No report.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Motion to approve by Emily. Seconded by Alec. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Vacant Positions

- Alec M going to update guidelines for position requirements
- Nominations for Secretary: Trudy nominated Jarrad S. Jarrad accepted. Alec read position description from the guidelines. Vote passed (19 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

- Nominations for Insurance Co-chair: none put forward. **Item put forward to next meeting.**
- Nominations for Literature Chair: Emily nominated Melissa E. Melissa accepted. Alec read position description from the guidelines. Vote passed (19 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).
- Nominations for Literature Co-chair: Emily nominated Val W. Val accepted. Alec read position description from the guidelines. Vote passed (19 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).
- Nominations for Entertainment Chair: none put forward. **Item put forward to next meeting.**
- Nominations for Public Information Chair: On behalf of Heather, Trudy nominated Andie. Andie accepted. Alec read position description from the guidelines.
 - Question: Are you comfortable reaching out to folks in the fellowship for support related to this position?
 - Answer: Yes, and I have a co-chair in mind who can support me in the position.
 - Question: Is the group comfortable with Andie having less than two years [sobriety]?
 - Answer: I am comfortable.
 Vote passed (18 in favour, 0 opposed, 1 abstention).
- Nominations for Public Information Co-chair: Trudy nominated Julia D. Julia accepted. Vote passed (18 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).
- Nominations for Phones Co-chair: [committee member] nominated Chris G. Alec read position description from the guidelines. Chris accepted. Vote passed (19 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

*PLEASE GO BACK TO YOUR GROUPS TO LET MEMBERS KNOW WE ARE
SEEKING INDIVIDUALS TO FILL POSITIONS*

Central Service Group Inventory Process - Nathaniel B

- Nathaniel suggested the process be held over for another month due to the amount of new members and that the questions be distributed to allow members to review the questions.
- Question: Are we taking the 25 questions back all at once, or can they be broached with the group in smaller pieces.
- Answer: Review all 25 and put a check mark by 15 you would like included
- Question: What is the purpose of this inventory?
- Answer: The goal is to review how people think Central Service is functioning and to see how Central Service and its committees can better work to achieve its mission.
- Question: Where did the questions come from?
- Answer: The questions were taken from group inventory questions online. Some were made up to suit our particular committees.
- This item will be brought over to the next Central Service meeting in May.

Bookstore Hours

- Bookstore hours at Club 24 will be Sunday from 5 – 7 pm moving forward.
- Communicated to Newsletter already.
- Webmaster to update website.

NEW BUSINESS

Notice of Passing in Newsletter

- Proposal one: include a memorial section in the newsletter to acknowledge members who pass away in the year or month by first name and last initial. No photograph. Birth and death date, home group, and maybe a sentence or two from a close friend.
- Comment: monthly would give people the opportunity to know who had passed, but yearly would not achieve that.
- Thoughts on the monthly announcement are that it may not be timely given delays in posting the newsletter.
- Question: do we need to add something to the newsletter guidelines to permit these announcements?
- Answer: there may be items currently included in the newsletter that aren't in the guidelines. The newsletter chair will revisit the guidelines to see whether they need to be amended.
- Question: can we have clarity on who would be listed?
- Answer: Guidelines were reviewed and did not explicitly mention or prohibit this item.
- Motion by Alec to have some form of obituaries included in the newsletter, subject to the Newsletter Chair's discretion. Seconded by Julia.
- Recommendation to update the guidelines to include obituaries.
- Motion passed (19 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

Newsletter

- Webmaster asked to post the newsletter to the website two days prior to the end of the month.
- Question: old newsletter would still be available?
- Answer: yes, it could be looked up in the archives.
- Noted that groups should be informed of this change so anyone looking for the newsletter the last two days of the month is aware of where to find it.

Talent Show

- Given there is no Entertainment Committee and given the Happy Destiny group is no longer sponsoring the talent show, request is to take the \$250 raised in the 7th Tradition at the last talent show and ask Central Service to make up the remainder of the \$550 budget for the event so it can remain a free event.
- Comment: The Chair's understanding is that talent show events should not be sponsored by Central Service, rather by the District.
- Previous conversations with the Happy Destiny group indicated some issues there.
- District wondered why Central Service sponsored this event in the past.
- Comment: attendance at this event has been phenomenal. If there's a way we can sponsor this event, I am for it.
- Comment: can we find out which body within AA is responsible for this event?
- Comment: are we splitting hairs by trying to determine whose responsibility this is? Is this not the Entertainment committee's responsibility?
- Point of information: if it is sponsored by a group, it becomes a district event. If it's not sponsored by a group or meeting in a district, then funds can come from wherever the request is made and then the request is voted on.
- Question: if this is done through Central Service through the Entertainment committee, could a fee of a couple dollars be charged?
- Answer: if the body decides that it prefers to charge rather than offer a free event, that would be an alternative.
- Comment: this may set a precedent for future events if Central Service takes this event on. If CS sponsors this event, the item needs to be brought into the Entertainment budget. If the event brought in money through a charge at the door, at least we can say we're getting some money back and putting it back into the Entertainment budget.
- Paul motioned to take this item back to the groups for discussion. Seconded by Johnny.
- Motion passed (18 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

Contributing Money to Area

- Surplus in the account of approximately \$4,000 thanks to Midwinter Roundup. Treasurer would like to make a donation to Area.
- Motion by Trudy to contribute to Area in the amount of \$1,000. Seconded by Alec.
- Comment: late to bring an item like this up during the meeting.
- Comment: not comfortable withdrawing the motion from the floor. Central Service is not supposed to sit on money and is supposed to funnel it upwards.
- Motion passed (15 in favour, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- No announcements.

Next Central Service meeting will take place May 6, 2025 at 7 pm on Zoom

Meeting ended with Serenity Prayer

Appendix - Treasurer's Report

March 1 2025		
Opening Bank Balance		\$10,476.97
Credits		
	7th Tradition	\$ 23.30
	moved from Insurance Reserve	\$ 344.50
	moved from Prudent Reserve	\$ 303.70
	Group Contributions	\$ 300.00
	1 @ \$25.00	
	Group Insurance payments	\$ 25.00
	Contribution from D2 for Corrections use	\$ 200.00
	Insurance payment from A82 for Archives	\$ 210.12
	Contribution from Mid Winter RU	\$ 3,464.70
	Total Credits	\$4,871.32
	Total	\$15,348.29
Debits		
	Virgin Plus Phones	\$ 157.70
	Payment to MacLeod Lorway re: A 82 Archives	\$ 210.12
	Total Debits	\$367.82
	Bank Total	\$14,980.47
Outstanding		
	Web host renewal	\$272.84
	Literature for Corrections	212.9
	Total Outstanding	
	Operating Balance March 31, 2025	\$14,494.73
Prudent Reserve	Interest of \$0.60	\$3,093.44
Insurance Reserve	Interest of \$0.77	\$4,000.77
	Total	\$7,094.21
		\$21,588.94
Total available funds		