

Central Service Committee – Meeting Agenda

Aug 4, 2026 at 7 pm

In-Person address

Keshen Goodman Library, 330 Lacewood Dr, Halifax

Zoom address

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5120368953?pwd=a1RIRnRNVEdFZlVqSW85My84S2JiZz09>

Meeting ID: 512 036 8953 Passcode: wecandoit

Welcome – Serenity Prayer and Declaration of Unity (see below)

This we owe to A.A.'s future:

To place our common welfare first;

To keep our fellowship united.

***For on A.A. unity depend our lives,
and the lives of those to come.***

Twelve Traditions (Big Book page 562)

Roll Call:

Heather L, Chair, non-voting

Sara G, Treasurer, voting

Jarrad S, Secretary, voting

Michael H, Co-chair, voting

Alec W, Webmaster, voting

Dave T, Corrections, voting

Sharon H, Help Email, voting

Natalie C, CPC/PI, voting

Garnet, Fresh Start, voting

Barney W, DCM District 1, non-voting

Jeff, Highland Park, voting

Mary, Circle of Sisters, voting

Chris, Serenity Sisters, voting

Wil, Rainbow of Recovery, voting

Lorraine, Hospital Visitation, voting

Albert, Treatment, voting

Emily S, Newsletter, voting

Maria R, Downtown Halifax, non-voting

Louis M, Back to Basics, voting

Foster L, Insurance Chair and Traditions Liaison, voting

Garth, Sunrise, Voting

Lyndsay, Co-chair Newsletter, non-voting

Shawn S, Cole Harbour, voting

Paul B, Alt. GSD Area 82, non-voting

Albert K, Treatment, voting

Maria, Downtown Dartmouth, voting

26, five non-voting, 21 votes

7th Tradition

Call for Agenda Items: None added (**Motion to approve by Michael; Seconded by Alec). Motion carried.**

Last month's Minutes errors or omissions: the Secretary noted an error brought forward by the chair, which will be rectified and reposted on the website. **(Motion to approve by the room; Seconded by the room). Motion carried.**

Old Business:

1. Christmas Eve Social - group to host?
 - a. The Chair asked the Committee to bring this matter back to their groups as we need a group to take on the event. Budget is \$700 for the event.
 - b. Jeff asked about the start time. The Chair clarified the event runs 1-4 pm.

New Business:

1. Service Fair at the Midwinter Roundup event
 - Michael noted that turnout at the service fair has been extremely low the last couple of years. The suggestion is to incorporate it into the MWRU.
 - Natalie noted that the space last year was large and the layout may need to be reconsidered for this year.
 - There was a question around waiving fees and the MWRU chair responded that fees are not waived, that service has a cost, and that is an associated cost.
 - The goal is to do a more thorough job at the roundup in spreading information about committee work.
 - **Motion: move Service Fair into MWRU itinerary for 2027.**
 - **Vote: 18 for, 0 against, 1 abstention. Motion carries.**
2. Draft 2027 Budget
 - The Treasurer presented the draft budget and described the notes associated with each line item.
 - Question: is the Talent Show included? The Treasurer responded that it would come off the Entertainment budget this year.
 - Garnet asked what Miscellaneous would be used for. The Treasurer responded that any unanticipated expenses would be covered under miscellaneous.
 - Foster asked about increases to Corrections, PI, and CPC. Can the table assume that those three committees will use 100 percent of their budget this year? The Treasurer noted they are very close to using their budget currently. Foster noted that Central Service is paying \$440 for the Literature coverage and is concerned that the item is lost in the budget. He asked which revenue goes to satisfy that expense, and it was noted that the \$441 comes from general revenue.
 - Barney asked whether the Literature insurance covered the inventory. The Chair responded that it is to cover the location at Club 24. Barney asked why it is so expensive comparatively. The Chair said that it is to cover the value of the inventory as well as the structure.
 - Dave T noted that most of the Corrections budget is going towards literature.
 - Foster noted the importance of Literature keeping an accurate, daily value of inventory in the case of an incident or fire.
 - The Chair asked the group to review the budget following the meeting and bring it back to their groups if they wish.
 - Alec asked whether the budget is privileged information, and the Chair said that it can be shared.

Committee and Executive Reports

CPC:

Good afternoon friends

CPC has been included in a Disability Showcase : Pathway to Connections

This event is on September 12th in Clayton Park. I hope to connect with many and share information about Alcoholics Anonymous.

On the PI side there are 60 plus Dr's offices, Walk in Clinics, Shelters, Recovery Houses and a few RCMP Detachments.

There is one group who has started the ball rolling. Four other groups have agreed to help, I just have to get the pamphlets to them. There also is two groups that will bring it up at their next business meeting and get back to me.

If any group on the meeting tonight is interested please let me know.

Yours in Service

Natalie C

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)

AA Halifax/Dartmouth

Area 82

Question: Have the medical clinics and facilities been identified?

Natalie noted that she is working on assigning offices and facilities to groups once groups have indicated their interest. Emily noted the groups pay for the pamphlets once the initial batches have gone out. Cost is roughly 25 cents for a pamphlet.

Emily asked how often the groups are meant to revisit the clinics. The Chair responded that groups would have to revisit those offices to see how often those pamphlets are being used. Natalie suggested making a connection with administrative staff and having them inform groups of when the pamphlets need to be restocked.

Natalie noted that some doctors offices are unable to display pamphlets in their waiting areas, so they will display them in the offices themselves instead.

CORRECTIONS:

I'm happy to report that the month of July passed with relative ease. With only having 5 males, (2 more awaiting security briefing) and 6 females, (1 more in the process) we were able to produce a schedule that covered each week of the month. We will continue in this pattern until we reach our goal of have 10 volunteers for each side.

All the volunteers have been very accommodating and flexible to last minute changes which have kept this program on track ensuring that we are able to carry the message to the still suffering incarcerated alcoholic.

I would like to see a 50% increase in the 2027 Corrections budget to bring it up to \$1500 due to the increase cost of AA literature and the amount that we are purchasing. As it stands now I have very little left in this year's budget and will be asking the executive for help in covering my next literature order.

The Corrections Committee is looking for donations of AA literature and grapevines to bring into the Burnside jail. If your group has extra literature or old grapevines, please contact: Corrections.AAHalifax@gmail.com

Please continue to mention at your home group meetings that the committee is always looking for both male and female volunteers.

I continue to attend the AREA 82 ACTIVE AREAS COMMITTEE MEETING on the last Monday of the month as it is a very informative experience with attendees from all over Canada dealing mainly with the 4 committees, CPC, PI, Treatment and Corrections. I highly encourage our sub-committee chairs to attend if possible.

Yours in service,
David Triff
Corrections Chairperson
Alcoholics Anonymous Districts 1 & 2, Area 82
EMAIL : corrections.aahalifax@gmail.com
PHONE : (902)802-0095

Question: Are there rooms in the jails to display pamphlets? Dave said there is not. Albert said he can give a bunch of Grapevine literature to Isaac as the co-chair for Corrections to use.

ENTERTAINMENT: No report

HELP EMAIL:

Hello Friends:

July was a busier month at the HELP desk with twenty-two emails arriving and eighteen of those were from folks looking for meeting venues, without throwing a jinx into the mix all seems to be going well. I hope you are all having a memorable summer and thank you, each of you, for all you do in service in HRM.

Yours in service,
Sharon N
HELP Email Coordinator

HOSPITAL VISITATION:

Hello, no requests for visits in the month of July.2026. We have received a new volunteer added to the list of visitors, This makes up 5 males, (he/him) & 8 females (she/ her).

Thank you
Yours in Service
Lorraine M

Michael noted that people have phoned asking for folks to have a meeting at their place, or pick them up. The Chair asked whether Hospital and Visitation and Treatment could consider visiting folks in their home, and noted that two AA members should attend.

Albert noted that Bridging the Gap would be fine to offer that assistance as they don't get as many calls and have available resources.

INSURANCE:

I have spoken with the agent handling the claim that was filed against our policy; she advised their investigation showed no liability. There is a voluntary medical clause in the policy that will reimburse the claimant for out of pocket medical costs. As the \$1000 deductible applies only to property damage, we are not responsible for any costs. This claim is now considered closed.

I met with Will and he is now set up on the insurance Gmail account. He will accept a nomination at the September meeting for the Insurance Chair position.

Yours in Service

Foster L

Addendum: Wil and Foster will be working on setting up a spreadsheet to track the upcoming renewal of the policy. It will be prudent to have the groups listed on the sheet with contact information by October, so when it comes time to send something out for renewal in December, they can do that in one shot.

LITERATURE: No report

NEWSLETTER:

Hello,

Things are going well with the newsletter. This month it was pointed out to us from a member from Area 81 that we should not print the "blue people" in the newsletter as it is not legally allowed without permission from GSO. Lindsay did a little online research and interestingly enough found the image in many documents whether by permission or not but we are happy to remove it. I missed putting this month's central service mtg in the service calendar but the particulars were still printed on the following page so hopefully not many people were affected. Please get all our notices and birthdays to us by Aug 25 and we will make sure they are in September's Bluenose Bulletin. Thanks again,

Emily

PUBLIC INFORMATION: See PI report

TELEPHONE: No report

TREATMENT:

Not much to report. Reached out to the heads of the different facilities to see how things were going and if they needed anything. Things seemed to be fine. Albert is going to Detox two Sundays from now and will bring more Bridging the Gap flyers in case they are out.

He got a request from someone in the Early Risers group from someone who is putting on a meeting at the Abbey Lane Hospital. Abbey Lane has reached out before, but they never got back to Albert. He is going to follow up on the request.

WEBMASTER:

We've had the usual webmaster activity:

- Added posts and fliers for upcoming events
- Added minutes from service meetings

We also had a couple of event notifications from outside of Area 82, not sure if I should do anything with those.

July traffic was up a fair bit:



As always, thanks to all for their valuable time and contributions to the website this month!

Yours in Service,
Alec

Alec noted he received notices of events outside of Area 82, and wondered if the group had feedback on posting about events outside of Area 82. Foster noted that if it is pertinent to the fellowship as a whole or to groups within our District, then he doesn't see an issue with posting it.

MWRU:

No report. Next meeting is the last Sunday of the month.

DISTRICT 1:

Hello All,

I will be attending the upcoming Eastern Canada Regional Forum in Boucherville, Quebec. Regional forums are a place for AA members to connect and share ideas with other members from across the region, members of the AAWS, AA Grapevine, Trustees and Board members. The Eastern Canada Regional Forum is August 21-23.

Our District One Ad Hoc met twice last month and we have decided to pause our efforts due to lack of participation. We have struggled with participation since the inception of this Ad Hoc Committee and we believe the current numbers aren't sufficient to do the required work.

The National AA Technology Workshop is September 11-13. This workshop welcomes all AA members and showcases ways to support carrying the message through technology. The details of the workshop can be found on AA.org.

The Fifth edition of the big book will likely be available in January as it will begin printing in September.

Our Delegate plans to post his full conference report to the Area 82 website in the coming weeks.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve,

Barney W
DCM D1
902 448 0910

Sharon asked when the Fifth Edition will be ready. Barney noted that he believes sometime in January.

DISTRICT 2:

As usual, not much to report. District 2 is looking for an interim treasurer. Ours chose to step down for personal reasons. Our secretary has also resigned. We have those positions pretty much taken care of for next term (2027-2028) but we could use persons to serve in interim positions until then.

Our workshop on August 2nd was poorly attended. We attribute that to the Natal day festivities.

As DCM and leader of the district committee which is one of the groups that meets at Club 24, I was asked to speak at the Club's 75th anniversary to let those in attendance know how grateful district two is to the Club. After some deliberation, I declined.

The long form of Tradition Six states very clearly that while an AA group may cooperate with anyone, that cooperation ought never go as far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. District Two AA neither endorses nor opposes Club 24. I know that some of the groups that meet at the Club have also been approached. At our next district meeting I will be making our groups aware that although each group is autonomous (tradition four), that autonomy ought never adversely affect other groups or AA as a whole.

That's it for District 2 for now.

In Service
Bernie S
DCM District 2, Area 82

AREA 82:

All Area and Districts are always in need of money for their budgets for the following year. Paul noted that finances are fine right now, but next year could be a different story.

Paul is working on having someone from CPC or PI attend the next Area meeting.

Secretary:

Jarrad asked those who have not submitted their reports yet to do so to the secretary email and thanked those who had already done so.

Treasurer:

Co-chair: No report

Chair:

Our elections for subcommittee chairs and co-chairs will start at the Sept meeting. Barney W, DCM for District 1 will run these initial elections as per section 11 of the guidelines. Thank you Barney for agreeing to do this for us. Any subcommittee positions not filled in Sept will be on subsequent agendas until all positions are filled.

I have spoken to a number of subcommittee chairs and co-chairs to encourage efforts towards continuous operation of the subcommittee. Thank you to all who have entertained my calls and questions.

Regarding last month's vote to drop the PO Box, here is an update. The web site has been updated, and our treasurer's postal address is now on the Contributions page. Further, I have contacted GSO and requested that physical mail to the PO Box be changed to email to our Treasurer gmail account. GSO has confirmed that this has been done. The only piece of physical mail we have gotten from GSO was a receipt for contributions, so that should now come as an email. The final step will be when we receive notice of PO Box renewal, we will then shut it down.

We have a new copy of the Central Service Guidelines with a number of edits. The group inventory task has been added under co-chair position and a point to update the web page when a new treasurer is elected has also been added. There are a number of other changes. Our goal is to bring this new guidelines doc to this table so your group can review the changes. That will likely happen in October.

Yours in service,
Heather
CS Chair

Approval of Reports (Motion to approve by Chris; Seconded by Alec). Motion carries.

Announcements from the floor:

- Alec asked when the Committee is moving to its new location. The last meeting at the current location will be September. The October meeting will be at the new location at Northwood.
- Michael asked about September elections. He noted if someone joined their position late, they can continue as they did not serve a full term previously.
- WESG is celebrating Donnie M (3) and Julia (13) on August 27.
- Highland Park will celebrate the last Friday of the month – Dave (57), and one other birthday.
- Louis asked how many men and women are on the 12 Step list, and if the numbers are too low, are we looking for more volunteers? The Chair asked Louis to email the Telephones chair for a response.

Next Meeting: Sept 1, 2026

Responsibility Pledge

Meeting Adjournment: **Motion to adjourn by Michael. Seconded by the room).**

Motion carried.