

District 1, Area 82  
General Service Committee  
ZOOM VIDEO Conference Meeting  
29 November 2020

- 1 **Welcome and Call to Order:** Meeting opened by Paul B. at 2 pm. It was agreed by all that the video conferencing meeting would be recorded using the Zoom platform software.
2. **A Moment of Silence was observed, followed by the Serenity Prayer**
3. **Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Heather
4. **Twelve Concepts:** The Twelve Concepts were read by Rick
5. **Roll Call/GSR Reports**

Heather	Fresh Start Group	GSR
Christine	Serenity Sisters	GSR
Sharon	Highland Park	GSR
Michael H	St Margaret's Bay	CS Chair
Blaine	the Way Out Step Group	Observer
Melanie	District 28	Observer
Mario	the Way Out Group	Observer
Velma	Four Seasons	GSR

- Sharon, GSR for the Highland Park Group, advised the Group meets every Tuesday at 12:15 for Big Book Study and Friday at 7:30 is a Discussion Meeting.
- Blaine's attends the Way Out Group which meet Mondays nights in Thunder Bay. Here today to listen.
- Heather is GSR for Fresh Start Group. They meet on Wednesday nights at 8:30. The group had been doing in-person and zoom meetings but for now on zoom only. Business Meetings are still being held and things are good.

- Melanie is from District 28 and currently the secretary. I will be moving into the GSR role in January. Here today to learn.
- Mario is GSR for the Way Out Group which meets on Monday nights and we are going into week 15 of a 25-week study session which will be Step 5.
- Christine, GSR for the Serenity Sisters Group, which still meets on zoom as based on comfort level of the group. Serenity Sisters meets on Sunday at noon, Tuesday at 7:00 and Friday at 7:00 p.m. Sundays and Tuesdays are discussion meetings and Fridays have become literature-based meetings using the Living Sober book to support the Newcomers who have joined.
- Velma, is outgoing GSR for Four Seasons Group. Natalie will take over starting in January, 2021. Four Seasons enjoyed a hybrid model of online and in person meetings (in the gym) until Wednesday nights became unavailable due to a prior commitment so now we are back online.
- Jessica is currently GSR for the Second Chance Group which used to meet at 45 Connelly Road but is now closed and we are back on zoom Monday and Saturday nights at 7:30 with closed, topic meetings. Regular business meetings have been held. Next business meeting is on Nov 30<sup>th</sup> to vote in a couple of positions and clear up a few things before the New Year.
- Rick, a member of Highland Park Group, welcomed the observers to the meeting. If anyone didn't receive the financial reports I sent out please let me know.
- Paul, DCM, welcomed all newcomers to the meeting. Prior to this meeting we held a workshop on "The Roll of the GSR" and you are welcome to stay at this meeting.
- Michael, CS Chair. CS meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. also I am a member of the St. Margaret's Bay Group. Our home group meetings are held on Wednesday and Sunday nights at 8:00 on zoom (for now) and zoom data for all is in the Newsletter and on the website.

## **6 Call for New Business Agenda Items:**

Heather asked if there would be discussion on the date for the December meeting under new business.

### **Paul made a motion to approve the Agenda items seconded by Sharon.**

Unanimously passed.

## **7. Approval of September Minutes:** No errors or omissions.

**Paul made a motion to** approve September/2020 Minutes seconded by Heather. Motion passed.

**8. Approval of October Minutes:** No errors or omissions.

**Paul motioned that** the October Minutes be approved. Christine seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

## **9. Officer's Reports:**

### **Treasurer:**

- Rick stated only one account activity took place in Nov.
- A representative asked how they could donate money to District 1? I advised they could do so by e Transfer to my email. I'd like everyone else to know that as well.
- Rick asked for the visitors to put their email address in the Chat so they can receive our monthly reports.

**Secretary:** No report

**Alternate DCM:** No Report

**DCM:** See Attachment B

## **10. Other Reports**

**Chair, Central Service:** See Attachment C

### **Comments for Michael**

Heather stated that PI has a Chair; it is CPC that has no Chair for January. Michael stood corrected on record.

## **11. Unfinished Business**

We are still looking for a call for Secretary. Paul called three times for nominations for District Secretary. No nominations made.

Paul encouraged those who might be interested that the new way with the recording and the minute's format is all set up making the job is much easier than in the past. Tabled until the next District Meeting.

## **12. New Business**

a. **Date and time was discussed for the December meeting.**

Unanimously all agreed on December 13 at 1:00 for our final meeting of 2020.

b. **A reminder** that our Meetings will be the last Wednesday night of the month at 7 p.m. beginning in Jan 2021

c. Paul surprised us all by having us play Trivia to test our knowledge of Alcoholics Anonymous. It was great fun, a walk down history lane and enjoyed by all. Thank you Paul for adding fun to a regular and serious meeting.

d. **Does anyone have anything to share regarding their home groups and how they are dealing with zoom? How can we as a district help your AA meeting?**

**GSR's Remarks:**

- Most GSRs said their groups were doing well with attendance on zoom meetings and generally folks are happy with online zoom meetings;
- Some groups have had enough newcomers to add a meeting with lit-based, "Living Sober" book to support them;
- Some groups have not lost members from their Study Meetings as in the past when it comes to doing the inventory;
- Some groups have a small divide between those who like/don't like zoom meetings.
- Some folks have strong feelings against the zoom meetings/won't try. It is not healthy for them but their intense fear of the internet keeps them from trying;

**BUT**

- Many disclosed worry and sincere concern for those long timers of an older generation who now again are locked down and unable to get to in-person meetings. Members check in with them to see if they need a hand;
- One group's GSR calls the long-time members on the Group List weekly to engage the older generation members to let them know they are loved and cared about. We cannot lose sight of those who don't like zoom or can't accept change; we have to keep them in our prayers and minds.

**13. Next District 1 Workshop**

The next Workshop date/time will require discussion in our December meeting because as Heather pointed out our meetings will now be held on the last Wednesday night of each month. Date/time TBA.

**14. Last Minute Announcement:**

Sharon has agreed to do the minutes for the next two months. In January a District Secretary is required for a two year term and Sharon will test it out, see how she does and go from there.

**14. Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.**

**15. Meeting closed with the Responsibility Pledge.**

DCM Report:

Hi Friends my name is Paul and I am an alcoholic. I serve as DCM for District 1, This month included activities of going to the Central Service Meeting. CS is looking for various committees' chairs and co-chairs. If you know of anyone who would like to be heavily involved in service please have them go to the CS Meeting which is held the first Tuesday of every month or contact Mike H who is the Chair and who is with us here today.

Also this month I attended a couple of DCM Meetings in the Yukon which is Area 79 and I also attended a couple of DCM meetings in Buffalo. I did that to get a wider scoop of what other DCMs are doing in their Districts and how they are handling their rooms with COVID. It was a very good learning experience for myself.

Currently if you know of any groups that are struggling or having issues with closing their meetings because of zoom please don't hesitate to give me a call if you have any questions regarding that; my ear is listening and I'm only a phone call away. With that,

Your DCM,

Paul

## **APPENDIX C**

## **Chair, Central Service Area 82 Nov 29<sup>th</sup>**

Central Service has been challenged this month of November with the website being hacked, the current rebuild, the resetting of passwords now with the re-vert from face to face meetings going back to zoom due to the increase of COVID mitigation from the NS government. It has been a busy, busy month.

Executive Secretary still requires a service rotation; it has been available now for the past couple of months. That position is only going to be available for a year because that person who was secretary stepped down a year ago so we will have elections for Executive next October, November, December so it would only be for a year for those who would like to do that.

CPC has a new Chair for rotation in January, Phones has a new Chair for rotation in January, and all other sub-committees require volunteers for rotation. What we have found out this past month is that the Webmaster is due for rotation in January. Last month has proven that this position is important for communication for responding to It not only requires critical recovery information to our area but also for zoom and global members to find our meetings.

Please take back to your groups a request for someone to take over these duties who is comfortable in the IT world it would be appreciated. The current webmaster has been in that position for four years-two years too much-and is stepping down. I'd love to train someone incoming so we wouldn't just hand it over and walk away.

Mid-Winter Round-Up continues to meet. We are tightening up the itinerary for the Conference in February. It will be free; it will be for a day and a half. More to follow. The flier is in the Newsletter and we are still looking for volunteers to sign up for the position of Entertainment.

CS Minutes were originally archived back as far as 2017. We found the old suppositories and now on the CS Minutes under 'Archived" they go back to 2009. The pamphlet "The AA Group" gives good guidance on rotation and the needs for it. This carries through to other levels of service Central Chair region and the GSB. Traditionally rotation assures that the tasks like everything else in AA are passed around for all to share. I encourage everyone to read this AA Group pamphlet; the service work is required. Rotation helps to bring us spiritual rewards far more enduring than any other kind of fame. Elections for rotational positions are ongoing. Our next CS Meeting is on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2020 which is a Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. as found in the Newsletter and on the Website.

Yours in Service, Michael H.