

District 1, Area 82
General Service Meeting
 January 26, 2020

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** by DCM Steve A. at 2:10 PM.
2. **Moment of Silence was observed, followed by the Serenity Prayer**
3. **The Twelve Traditions** were read by Rachel.
4. **The Twelve Concepts** were read by Keith D.
5. **Roll Call / GSR Reports**

Emily S.	Acceptance Group	GSR
Keith D.	Back to Basics Group	Alt. GSR
Lisa N.	Back to Basics Group	Alt. DCM
Steve A.	Back to Basics Group	DCM
Velma C.	Four Seasons Group	GSR
Al. P.	Fresh Start Group	Secretary
Heather C.	Fresh Start Group	GSR
Rick H.	Highland Park Group	GSR
Brian C.	Hubbards Group	GSR
Tim D.	Hubbards Group	Alt. GSR
Jessica M.	Second Chance Group	GSR
Jodie T.	Serenity Sisters Group	GSR
Jerry	Sunday Night Serenity Group	Observer
Matt B.	Sunday Night Serenity Group	Observer
Rachel S.	Sunday Night Serenity Group	Observer

Paul B., GSR of the Welcome Group, sent his regrets for the meeting.

6. **Call for New Business Agenda Items.**

Keith D., on behalf of the Back to Basics Group, introduced the following new business item:

3. Back to Basics Group motion regarding the minutes of the July 2019 Nova Scotia Service Weekend, and the minutes of the Area 82 October 2019 Assembly.

On behalf of the Fresh Start Group, Heather C. introduced the following new business item:

4. Status of the District 1 DCM, Steve A., contacting groups in District 1 to find out why GSR participation in District 1 meetings is consistently below 50% of the 26 GSO-listed District 1 groups.

Steve A., as DCM of District 1, introduced the following two new business items:

5. Hosting CERAASA 2023 in Nova Scotia from February 24th to 26th, 2023. [CERAASA means Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly.]
6. District 1 Treasurer position opening.

7. **Motion to Approve the Agenda.** A **motion** was made by Brian C., **seconded** by Heather C. to approve the agenda. **Motion passed.**

8. **Minutes of the December 15, 2019, District 1 Meeting**

- a. **Omissions and Corrections:** Jessica M. noted that in the Roll Call / GSR Reports section, Al D. should be Al P.
- b. **Motion to Approve the Minutes** was made by Brian C., **seconded** by Rick H. **Motion passed.**

9. **Officer's Reports**

- a. **Treasurer's Report** (to view and download the Acting Treasurer's Report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/D1-Financials-Jan2020>).

The District 1 Treasurer, Andrew S., had to resign due to unforeseen circumstances.

- Steve A., Acting Treasurer, reported on the month ending December 31, 2020: Opening bank balance: \$2,966.00. Deposits totaling: \$2,775.14. Cashed cheques: \$150.00. Closing bank balance: \$5,591.14. There are no pending deposits and no outstanding cheques. Working balance in operating account: \$5,591.14. Opening prudent reserve balance: \$2,128.23. Interest deposit: \$0.09. Prudent reserve account closing balance: \$2,128.32. Equity share balance: \$5.00. Total assets: \$7,724.46.
 - Steve A. noted that the bank statement verifies that the bank balances are as reported.
 - Budgeted to Actual Report - January 1 to December 31, 2019: Total revenue of \$11,436.25, of that amount, group contributions were \$8,206.89, a very significant amount compared to previous fiscal years. Steve thanked of each and every group for their contributions to District 1 this past fiscal year. The variance for revenue is \$4,936.25 above budget, so District 1 has a significant surplus to deal with in 2020. The expense variance is \$420.79 underspending. Therefore, we are looking at a total surplus for 2019 of \$5,357.04.
- b. **Alternate DCM'S Report** from Lisa N. (to view and download the Alternate DCM's Report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/D1-Alt-DCM-Report-Jan2020>). Emily S. noted that the Acceptance Group came up with a couple of ideas for workshops: (1) *How to Spend Money in A.A.*; and (2) *Sober in the Workplace – Being Sober in a Non-Sober Working Environment.*

- c. **DCM's Report** by Steve A. (to view and download the DCM's Report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/D1-DCM-Report-Jan2020>). The sense of the meeting was that an "Area 82 Delegate's 70th General Service Conference Report Back to Districts 1 & 2" meeting, which was tentatively being scheduled for Saturday, June 27th, 2020, will not be required. Steve A. will send an email to Kirk S., the Area 82 Delegate, encouraging him to give a more extensive and in-depth report on the 70th General Service Conference during the Nova Scotia Service Weekend being held during the first weekend in June 2020.

10. Other Reports

- a. **Central Service Committee Chairperson** – Not present, no report received.
- b. **2020 Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup Committee Chairperson (55th Annual)** - Shawn M. (Chairperson) not present. Steve A. mentioned that he was present for a period of time during the monthly 2020 Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup Committee meeting held on January 25, 2020.
- c. **Area 82 Representative** – None present, no report received.

11. **Seventh Tradition:** Amount collected was \$18.30.

12. Unfinished Business

- a. **District 1 Workshops** – Completed, see the Alternate DCM's January 2020 Report.
- b. **District 1 GSRs to report back on their group's considerations for uses of the former Live for Today Group's contribution of \$2,159.89 to District 1.** The "wish of our Group" from the former Live for Today Group is "that these monies be used in support of all District 1 committees and activities."
- c. **District 1 GSRs to report back on their group's considerations for uses of District 1's budget surplus of \$3,197.15 for fiscal year ending December 31st, 2019.** [Note: Including the former Live for Today Group's contribution of \$2159.89 to District 1, the total District 1 budget surplus for fiscal year 2019 is \$5,357.04.]

Combined discussion on Unfinished Business Items b and c (above):

District 1 previously voted that groups are to discuss the surpluses (itemized here in Unfinished Business Items b & c, above) at their business meetings in January and February 2020. Ideas that came from group discussions so far are as follows (in order of the discussion as it took place during the January 2020 District 1 Committee meeting):

Second Chance Group – Jessica M., GSR, reported:

- The Second Chance Group passed a motion which stated, in essence, "When contributions are made to District [1], it is District [1] who decides how the contributions are to be used."

Acceptance Group – Emily S., GSR, reported:

- A total of six members of the Acceptance Group, discussed, together, during a business meeting, both the District 1 surplus of \$3,197.15 and the \$2,159.89 contribution from the former Live for Today Group (total of \$5,357.04 surplus).

- One idea is to “invest our money in people” and to send more representatives from the District 1 General Service Committee to the Area 82 Assembly in St. John’s, NL, in October 2020, and to the Eastern Canada Regional Forum in Ottawa in November 2020. That way, the extra folks who go will also get a chance to bring back new information, and to share their new knowledge and experience with their groups, and with the District 1 General Service Committee. They also might get ideas on how to spend the District 1 surplus money.
- The idea of money going towards “communication,” (i.e., communication between Area 82 and groups), and they also felt in the Central Service Committee area that there is a lot of communication between A.A. and the community, and between A.A. and those in need.
- Using some of the District 1 surplus to support the work of the Area 82 Remote Communities Committee, [or even within District 1 whereby members of our local armed forces might be considered part of a ‘remote community’ when they are deployed throughout the world].
- Members of the Acceptance Group have noticed that well-produced A.A. TV commercials [or Public Service Announcements, or PSAs] have just come out of GSO in New York. They suggest that some of the District 1 total 2019 surplus of \$5,357.04 to be used to purchase TV airtime here in HRM for airing of these commercials [or PSAs]. This work might best be done in collaboration with the Central Service Public Information Committee.

Fresh Start Group – Heather C., GSR, reported:

- Members of the Fresh Start Group are wondering why the Live for Today Group had so much money left over in their bank account; why had it not been dispersed?
- Group longtimers requested to see a copy of the letter that accompanied the \$2,159.89 contribution to District 1 from the former Live for Today Group.
- Fresh Start Group members suggested that the \$2,159.89 contribution to District 1 from the Live for Today Group should be dispersed to GSO, Area 82, District 1, and Central Service, just like would ‘normally’ be done by a group which is dispersing their surplus funds (“because, technically, that what the [Live for Today] group should have done”).
- Also, members of the Fresh Start Group felt that the District 1 budget should be discussed, voted on, and passed before District 1 disperses, or decides on any uses for any of the \$3,197.15 surplus.
- Heather C. wondered if the [District 1 Guidelines](#) stipulate what is done with any budget surplus. [Answer: The District 1 Guidelines do not stipulate what is done with any District 1 budget surplus.]

Sunday Night Serenity Group – Jerry, a member of the Sunday Night Serenity Group, speaking for himself:

- The District 1 General Service Committee can make the decision after having listened to all the District 1 groups’ ideas and input. Pick one, or two, or three ideas and then vote on them, otherwise you will be “in the same boat next month” with lots of ideas, but no focus.

Back to Basics Group – Keith D., Alternate GSR, reported:

- The Back to Basics Group passed a motion wherein some of the \$2,159.89 contribution from the former Live for Today Group be used for purchasing Grapevine gift subscriptions for folks in:
 - Detox;
 - the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility;
 - the East Coast Forensic Hospital;
 - Alcare Place;
 - the Marguerite Centre
 - and local psychiatric hospital units (i.e., the Short Stay Unit at the Abbie Lane, 6 Lane, 7 Lane, and the Mayflower Unit at the Nova Scotia Hospital).
- Additionally, the motion that was passed by the Back to Basics Group stipulated that some of the \$2,159.89 contribution from the Live for Today Group be used to distribute Grapevine gift subscriptions to all 14 public library branches in HRM.
- The Back to Basics Group estimated the total cost for all these Grapevine one-year gift subscriptions would be approximately \$850.

Alternate DCM, District 1 – Lisa N. noted:

- That she had received a request from Central Service Literature Committee Chairperson they could use another bookcase (perhaps at a cost of around \$800), similar to the bookcase that the District 2 General Service Committee had purchased for the Central Service Literature Committee out of the District 2 outreach funds in 2019.
- Also, that she received an email from Paul B., GSR of the Welcome Group, stating that the Welcome Group proposes that the \$2,159.89 contribution from the former Live for Today Group should be dispersed to Area 82, and GSO.

Serenity Sisters Group – Jodie T., GSR, reported:

- The Serenity Sisters Group felt that the District 1 General Service Committee should decide, on its own, what should be done with the \$2,159.89 contribution from the former Live for Today Group.

Four Seasons Group – Velma, GSR, reported:

- That she will have the District 1 General Service Committee's list of possible uses for the \$2,159.89 contribution from the Live for Today Group, and she will now take this list to the Four Seasons Group's business meeting in February 2020.

d. Planning for:

- 1) Districts 1 and 2 Pre-Conference Meeting for Saturday, March 28th, 2020, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Completed.

- 2) Area 82 Delegate's 70th General Service Conference Report Back to Districts 1 & 2 for Saturday, June 27th, 2020, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Completed. See Item 9.c., above.

- e. **e-Transfer of funds from the District 1 bank account to cut down on the number of cheques used.** Deferred as Lisa M. was unable to attend.

13. **New Business**

- a. **Review and discussion of the proposed District 1 budget for fiscal year 2020.**

Steve A., the Acting District 1 Treasurer, presented an initial proposed District 1 budget, itemized on the next page. The following changes to the proposed budget were suggested:

1. In the revenue section, the line entitled "District 2 Committee Cost Share" is to be removed.
2. In the expenses section, the following lines are to be removed: "Public Information," "Treatment Facilities," "Corrections," "CPC," and "Miscellaneous."
3. The proposed expenses for the line "DCM CERAASA or Regional Forums" to be increased from \$1,200 to \$1,500.
4. The proposed expenses of the line "DCM Assembly" to be increased to from \$1,000 to \$1,200.
5. The proposed expenses of the line "ADCM Assembly" to be increased from \$1,000 to \$1,200.

The updated REVISED District 1 budget proposal, available by visiting [here](#), is to be taken back to the groups for discussion before being brought back to be finalized during the February 23rd, 2020, District 1 General Service Committee meeting.

- b. **Review and discussion of possible agenda items for the 70th General Service Conference.**

Possible 70th General Service Conference agenda items were emailed, by the District 1 DCM, Steve A., to District 1 General Service Committee members on January 18th, 2020.

Due to lack of time, this agenda item was not discussed further.

- c. **Back to Basics Group motion regarding the minutes of the July 2019 Nova Scotia Service Weekend, and the minutes of the Area 82 October 2019 Assembly.**

Keith D. made the following motion on behalf of the Back to Basics Group:

Whereas the Area 82 Guidelines state that the Area 82 Secretary/Registrar is to take the minutes at both the Nova Scotia Service Weekend, and at the annual Area 82 autumn Assembly, "and report in a timely fashion to the Area Committee";

And;

Whereas the minutes for the Nova Scotia Service Weekend held during July 2019, and the minutes of the Area 82 Assembly held during October 2019 are not yet circulated to the Area 82 Committee by the Area 82 Secretary/Registrar;

And;

District 1									
2020 Proposed Budget									
January 20, 2020									
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
	2016	2016	2017	2017	2018	2018	2,019	2,019	2,020
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	[Proposed]
Revenue:									
Contribution Carryover (From Prior Year)							3,000	3,000	5,591
Group Contributions	4,785	5,005	5,815	6,490	3,500	3,773	3,200	8,207	3,500
7th Tradition	240	238	250	301	300	277	300	230	250
District 2 Committee Cost Share ¹	1,310	586	1,475	870	0	0	0	0	0
2020 Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup							0	0	538
Miscellaneous	200	28	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue	6,535	5,857	7,640	7,661	3,800	4,050	6,500	11,437	9,879
Expenses:									
Transfer to Prudent Reserve							0	0	2,810
Public Information ¹	1,200	700	1,200	395	0	0	0	0	0
Treatment Facilities ¹	300	0	300	300	0	0	0	0	0
Corrections ¹	700	622	1,000	918	0	0	0	0	0
CPC ¹	420	60	450	247	0	0	0	0	0
Rent	525	480	600	552	600	588	600	600	965
District 1 Outreach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000
Workshops	150	239	250	85	100	0	100	47	100
DCM CERAASA or Regional Forum					1,000	1,000	800	656	1,100
DCM Service Weekend	200	200	700	358	200	180	200	200	200
DCM Assembly	300	304	1,200	626	800	719	500	481	1,000
DCM Expenses	400	231	200	180	200	0	200	135	200
ADCM Service Weekend	200	172	200	0	200	180	200	212	200
ADCM Assembly					800	686	500	309	1,000
ADCM Expenses	200	0	100	0	100	0	100	15	100
Secretary Expenses	100	63	100	339	125	160	160	0	150
Treasurer Expenses	100	0	100	15	100	0	100	145	100
Insurance	40	40	40	80	40	40	40	42	45
GSO Contribution	500	4,500	500	0	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	203
Area 82 Contribution	1,000	1,000	500	1,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	406
2020 Nova Scotia Provincial Roundup							0	238	300
Miscellaneous	200	0	200	60	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	6,535	8,611	7,640	5,155	10,265	9,552	6,500	6,079	9,879
Surplus (Deficit)	0	-2,754	0	2,506	-6,465	-5,502	0	5,358	0
Operating Account:									
									5,591
									-5,591
									0
									0
									0
Prudent Reserve:									
									2,128
									1
									2,810
									4,940

Note 1. The four committees are now part of Central Service.

Whereas the Area 82 Secretary/Registrar remains a trusted servant to the members of the Back to Basics Group in District 1;

And;

Pursuant to the group conscience of the Back to Basics Group;

I, Keith D., **move** that the Area 82 Secretary/Registrar circulates the minutes of the

2019 Nova Scotia Service Weekend and the 2019 Area 82 Assembly to the Area 82 Committee no later than Saturday, February 29th, 2020.

Seconded by Velma C. The **motion passed** with substantial unanimity. The vote being 8 for, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

- d. **Status of the District 1 DCM, Steve A., contacting groups in District 1 to find out why GSR participation in District 1 meetings is consistently below 50% of the 26 GSO-listed District 1 groups.**

Heather C. asked, on behalf of the Fresh Start Group “what contact has been made with non-active groups in District 1?” It had previously been discussed, in October 2019, that Steve A., the District 1 DCM, would visit each of the non-active groups to confer with them about participating the District 1 meetings.

As mentioned in his January 2020 DCM’s Report, Steve A. noted that a letter, and a copy of the 69th General Service Conference [Final Report](#), had been sent out to each of the 11 non-active groups in District 1

Further discussion drew the conclusion that for Steve A. to visit all the inactive groups would not logistically be possible before the February 23rd, 2020, District 1 meeting. Steve A. noted his intent to visit each of these groups over the course of the coming year, in hopes that over time, District 1 will see some growth in attendance at each monthly meeting.

- e. **Hosting CERAASA 2023 in Nova Scotia from February 24th to 26th, 2023.**

Due to lack of time, a discussion was not held about hosting CERAASA in 2023.

- f. **District 1 Treasurer position opening.**

Due to lack of time, a discussion was not held about the District 1 Treasurer position opening.

14. **Next District 1 General Service Committee Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, February 23rd, 2020, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.**
15. **Next District 1 Workshop** will be held on **Sunday, March 29th, 2020, from 1:00 to 2:00 pm.**
16. **Adjournment** – Rick H. **moved** to adjourn the meeting. **Seconded** by Brian C. Steve A. **declared** the meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.
17. **Meeting closed with the Responsibility Pledge**

Peace and love, yours in service, Al P.

The next meeting will be held on
Sunday, February 23rd, 2020,
from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm,
at the George Dixon Centre.