

District 1, Area 82
 General Service Committee
 Zoom Video Conference Meeting
 April 26, 2020

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** by DCM Steve A. at 1:01 PM.
2. **Moment of Silence was observed, followed by the Serenity Prayer.**
3. **The Twelve Traditions** were read by Velma C.
4. **The Twelve Concepts** were read by Emily S.
5. **Roll Call / GSR Reports**

Emily S.	Acceptance Group	GSR
Steve A.	Acceptance Group	DCM
Lisa M.	Back to Basics Group	GSR
Lisa N.	Back to Basics Group	Alt. DCM, Acting Treasurer
Velma C.	Four Seasons Group	GSR
Heather C.	Fresh Start Group	GSR
Rick H.	Highland Park Group	GSR
Kirk S.	Port Hawkesbury Group, District 7	Area 82 Delegate
Jessica M.	Second Chance Group	GSR
Christine M.	Serenity Sisters Group	GSR
Paul B.	Welcome Group	GSR

- Christine M. - Serenity Sisters are meeting 3 times per week on Zoom: 7 PM on Tuesdays, 7 PM on Fridays, and noon on Sundays with 25 – 30 participants. They are women’s meetings.
- Paul B. – The Welcome Group is meeting online on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 7 PM. Attendance of 29 last night. Usually between 39 and 43. For first time in 10 years, Welcome Group will have a Central Service Representative starting at their next meeting. Everything is good.
- Emily S. – Acceptance Group has been hosting Zoom online meetings since the middle of March on Saturdays at 10 am. For the last 3 Saturdays we have held breakaway meetings into a second meeting format. We are averaging 60 people per meeting. We have not had a business meeting since the end of February and should have one within a week. We have a birthday meeting coming up on Zoom with a speaker.
- Heather C. – Fresh Start has a Wednesday night Zoom meeting at 7:30 PM with

attendance between 30 and 35. This week we are having our first Zoom business meeting. Also celebrating a birthday this Wednesday night.

- Velma C. – Four Seasons has had several business meetings (1 official and 2 mini) and decided to do a speaker meeting for birthdays and the sponsors give birthday people their medallions online. And we will go back and do the March birthdays in May. Seventh tradition will be virtually – we have an envelope or a bucket beside our computers and ask people to put that money aside. We are still working what to do depending on how long the quarantine is.
- Rick H. – Highland Park has started meetings online, Tuesdays at 12:15 PM and Fridays at 7:30 PM. We will have a business meeting next week. One of our members said that using chat while somebody is speaking is disrespectful so will try and avoid from doing that from now on.
- Jessica M. – Second Chance is on Zoom on Mondays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM. Will have first business meeting either this week or next week. We have been averaging 35 people.
- Lisa M. – Back to Basics has had 2 weeks of Zooms on regular meetings nights of Wednesdays at 8 PM and Fridays at 7 PM. We kept it to our own group to get enough people experienced with chairing. We have 15-20 people at our meetings. They are now open to other members. We have kept our formats the same except 7th Tradition and chips. We have not decided about 7th Tradition. We have had a couple of group conscience meetings about Zoom, but our first business meeting will be the week after next. Some people with health issues have been able to attend more. I attended a meeting on Zoom in PEI that was an AA trivia. I am hoping to talk to some of our members about having it as a social.
- Lisa N. – Alternate DCM and member of Back to Basics. I have access to meetings in Districts 6 and 7 and links for PEI meetings if anyone needs them.

6. Call for New Business Agenda Items.

Lisa M. introduced the following new business item: What groups are doing for birthdays and medallions?

7. **Motion to Approve the Agenda.** Paul B. reminded the group that we decided at the last meeting not to finalize the budget for a couple of months until we determined what to do with COVID-19. Steve kept it on the agenda as it is still outstanding, and we continue to have a record of it. We will not discuss the budget today. Heather C. moved that the agenda be approved as amended, and Paul B. seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Amended Minutes of the February 23, 2020, District 1 Meeting

Omissions and corrections:

- a) Secretary Al P. was not attendance and was unresponsive after 2 contacts by the DCM requesting access to the recording to help him make a snippet on the motion around the excess monies – surplus and the contributions from Live for Today Group. Deferred to next month.

9. Minutes of the March 29, 2020, District 1 Meeting

- a. **Omissions and corrections:** None. Al P. indicated that he had a family emergency,

so Steve A. completed the minutes. Steve accidentally stopped recording for a brief time and hopes he captured it all from memory.

- b. **Motion to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2020, District 1 meeting** was made by Lisa N., **seconded** by Rick H. **Motion passed** unanimously.

10. Officer's Reports

- a. **Treasurer's Report** (to view and download the Acting Treasurer's Report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/D1-Financials-Mar2020>).
- Lisa N., Acting Treasurer, reported on the month ending March 31, 2020: Opening bank balance: \$5,623.14. Deposits totaling: \$480. No cashed cheques. Closing bank balance: \$6,103.14. There are two pending deposits totalling \$120 and no outstanding cheques. I was unable to e-deposit two money orders from a the no defunct Sober Gals Group. I will go to the branch and deposit them this month. Working balance in operating account: \$6,223.14. Opening prudent reserve balance: \$2,128.49. Interest deposit: \$0.08. Prudent reserve account closing balance: \$2,128.58. Equity share balance: \$5.00. Total assets: \$8,356.72.
 - Lisa N. noted that the bank statement verifies that the bank balances are as reported.
 - Budgeted to Actual Report - January 1 to March 31, 2020: Total revenue of \$1,297.10, of that amount, group contributions were \$1,260.00. There were no expenses in March 2020. The year to date total for expenses is \$665.10. Therefore, the net surplus for the year so far is \$632.00.
 - Group contributions can be either by e-deposit by sending Steve or Lisa N. an email through an e-transfer or send to Steve by mail at 13 – 8 Birches Drive, Halifax, NS B3N 3H2.
 - At a recent Area 82 meeting they stated that they do not need money right now. Donations can be sent directly to GSO as they are still open and operating.
 - Zoom fee expenses of \$20 and airfare to St. John's, Newfoundland in October 2020, and Ottawa in November 2020 for the Eastern Canada Regional Forum by Steve A. will be submitted to Lisa N. Zoom fees had already been approved at the February meeting. **A motion to approve Steve A.'s airfare expenses was made by Lisa M., seconded by Paul B.** Steve got non-refundable tickets and would use the Ottawa ticket anyway to visit his family – I will reimburse District 1 for this if the Regional Forum is cancelled. With respect to the Area 82 Assembly in Newfoundland we will have to wait and see. Steve A. will keep us informed on the status of the ticket for the St. John's Assembly. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- b. **Secretary's Report** No report. Al P. not present.
- c. **Alternate DCM'S Report** from Lisa N. (to view and download the Alternate DCM's Report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/D1-Alt-DCM-Report-Apr2020>).

- d. **DCM's Report** by Steve A. (to view and download the DCM's Report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/D1-DCM-Report-Apr2020>).
- There was a discussion about getting more than 5 or 6 groups represented at these the Nova Scotia Service Weekend planning meetings. Heather C. announces the service meetings at all regular Zoom meetings that she attended. Also helping others who are not familiar with the technology.
 - The Area 82 Zoom meetings will continue Wednesday evenings in order to practice using Zoom.
 - Steve A. has been actively inviting groups to participate in general service in several ways. Recently he emailed all 13 GSRs or group contacts of the groups who have not participating at District 1 meetings. That email included [an article](#) in the last edition of the Grapevine on general service; Steve will call these same 13 GSRs or group contacts on the telephone once the agenda comes out for the Nova Scotia Service Weekend.

11. Other Reports

- a. **Central Service Committee Chairperson.** No report. No representative present. The committee asked Steve A. to contact Michael H. to make a personal invitation for either the Chair or Co-Chair to attend our District 1 meetings.
- b. **Area 82 Representative's Report** by Kirk S., General Service Delegate (GSD), Area 82:
- The Trustees decided that the Conference Committee on Public Information (PI) will only be allowed to take only two of the twelve PI agenda items to the General Service Conference. And they need to decide in the next week - by May 3rd. Steve A. encouraged District 1 Committee members to review the twelve PI agenda items and provide feedback to Kirk S. Kirk S. will inform DCMs what the two items will be. Feedback can be via email or phone after 5 PM. Then the GSRs can bring those two items to their groups prior to May 16th for feedback before the conference starts.
 - The conference is from May 16th to 23rd for six hours per day on Zoom.
 - All in attendance were provided an opportunity to individually ask questions of Kirk S. One question was whether the GSDs have a platform to bring other items to the conference besides the two PI items. Kirk's response: Any committee can bring recommendations to the floor during the conference and have those voted on.

12. Unfinished Business

- a. **Review, discussion, and approval of the District 1 budget for fiscal year 2020.** Deferred while we are still having Zoom meetings.
- b. **District 1 Treasurer position opening.** DCM Steve A. called three times for nominations to fill the vacant District 1 Treasurer position. No nominations were received. Lisa N. will continue as Acting Treasurer.

13. **New Business**

a. **Nova Scotia Service Weekend New Business Agenda Items**

- i. **District 10 Proposal to amend Area 82 Guidelines regarding General Service Delegate (GSD) expenses at General Service Conference in New York.** Steve A. recommended that you get feedback from your groups and share that feedback at the May District 1 meeting.
- ii. **District 1 Fresh Start Group Proposal for the Election of Area 82 Co-Chairs for CPC, PI, Treatment, Corrections and Grapevine to work with and assist the Chairperson** (aka the Alternate General Service Delegate). District 1 has already approved this proposal. Heather C. will also be participating in the Newfoundland and Labrador Service Weekend to explain the motion.
- iii. **District 2 Sunrise Group Proposal to Implement Zoom conferencing to facilitate Area 82 meetings.** We are already doing this, but it was never formalized.

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

CERAASA is the Canadian Eastern Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. The last one was held in Laval, QC. The past GSD, Tim M., suggested that Nova Scotia consider hosting it. The purpose of CERAASA is for GSRs, DCMs and Area Committee Members and AAs in general to come together to discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting AA as a whole; as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity and service common to the 10 areas in our region. Please take this to your group for their input to bring back to our next meeting.

- Questions: What is the attendance? (400 to 700 attendees). Was it held in Halifax in the past? (It has never been held in Area 82, only in Moncton). How is the conference funded, it as be costly, e.g. translation services? (There is \$2,500 seed money passed along and expected to be recuperated). Would this replace the Mid-Winter Round Up? (It might be a great idea to combine them). What is the next step if we say yes? (The bid for CERASSA would come from Area 82).
- Steve A. encouraged committee members to attend the next CERAASA in St. Catherine's, ON, February 26th to 28th, 2021 (visit: <https://www.ceraasa.org>).

c. **What Groups Are Doing for Birthdays and Medallions**

- Some of the ways: ask the members what they want to do (some people want to wait until we are in person again, some are celebrating on Zoom), advertise in newsletter, medallions at the 7 AM daily meeting displays picture up of a chip when people need a medallion. Some people are physically making chips available to those with less than a year.
- For people who do not know how to get on a Zoom meeting, some groups and members are helping members learn how to access Zoom via Internet or phone; and how to chair/host. People can be tracked down through other members or through Facebook. There was a suggestion for a standing item at business meetings to check on members who have not been in attendance.

14. **The next District 1 General Service Committee meeting** will be held by online Zoom video conferencing on **Sunday, May 31st, 2020, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.**

15. **The next District 1 Workshop** will be held by online Zoom video conferencing on **Sunday, May 31st, 2020, from 1:00 to 2:00 pm.**
16. **Adjournment – Lisa N. moved that the meeting be adjourned.** Seconded by Rick H. Motion carried unanimously. Steve A. declared the meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm. A thank you was extended to Kirk for his service for attending.
17. **Meeting closed with the Responsibility Pledge.**