

March 4, 2023

Area 12 Committee Meeting

ATTENDANCE

Sally T – Delegate, Brian G – DCM 6/7, Ron H – GSR Cedars Tuesday Night, Pamela P – Area Chair, Buck R – Cooperation with the Professional Community, Ilir T – Alternate Delegate & Interim Treasurer, Dick H – p62 delegate, Ken T – DCM 5, Lois D – GSR Recovering Sisters district 2, Joe D – DCM 2, Terry – p70 delegate, John S – DCM 13, Karen K – DCM 1, JoAnn T – DCM 4 & Archives Chair, Susan R – Ad Hoc Committee, Al L – Secretary.

DELEGATES REPORT

Delegate Report 2.4.23

Section 1: Area 12 activity

1. Area 12:

a. Continue to visit Intergroups and Home group celebrations

b. District meetings especially those concerning the Proposed Agenda Items

c. Assisting Committee officers as needed

d. Ilir working on the April 15th Preconference Assembly

2. North East Regional AA Service Assembly

a. February 24-26 Albany, NY

i. <https://www.neraasa.org/register/>

ii. The planning for NERAASA 2023 is chugging along nicely with 2 hotels

sold out already

iii. The purpose of the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA) is for GSRs, DCMs, Area Committee Members and Intergroup and Central Office Representatives of the Northeast Region 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 Areas of the Northeast Region.

iv. Chiara G. from D6-7 will be speaking on the 9 am Saturday panel regarding changes to the Big Book

b. NERAASA Inventory Committee

i. Sally T speaking on the 1:30 pm Saturday panel

3. NERD March 2023:

a. Hosted by our Area, held in Wilmington. A gathering of current and former Delegates

4. Regional Forums

a. <https://www.aa.org/regional-and-local-forums>

b. June, 2023 in Boston MA

Section 2: AA beyond Area 12

1. 73rd General Service Conference:

a. Proposed Agenda Items

- 184 proposed items have

now been reduced to

under 100 items

- Final list due around Feb 16th

- Working with the DCMs to determine where to focus on the list of PAIs.
 - PAIs regarding the 12 & 12 changes were grouped. Definitely focus the question of how do we want the writings of Bill W. to be handled moving forward.
 - PAIs related to the 5th edition BB grouped. A draft will be made available for viewing at the GSC
 - PAIs related to the Plain and Simple translation, also grouped, also a draft to be made available.
 - Proposed Agenda Items related to the Preamble — PAIs # 8, 18, 20, 30, 52, 57, 59, 70, 74, 84, 86, 99, 116, 128, 134, 140, 150, 160, 164, 165, 176, and 180: The Grapevine Board thoughtfully reviewed each request below regarding the Preamble and took no action. The 72nd General Service Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña reviewed and discussed this issue thoroughly in April 2022 and took no action. The Grapevine Chair and the 72nd Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña met in October 2022 and reviewed these proposed agenda items. It was determined there was no new information that required further discussion
- b. The 2022 Conference Final Report now available. Please contact the delegate at P72delegate@delawareaa.org
2. News from the General Service Board:
- a. Conference The 2022 Subcommittee on Conference Improvements is developing an “Illness and Injury Contingency Plan” for the General Service Conference and

is exploring voting options that will allow a Conference Member to continue participation during the Conference week if they are physically unable to attend the Conference sessions.

b. Online groups participation workshop: The committee acknowledged the value of

a Conference workshop to engage a broad range of perspectives on the topic of Online Groups Participation. The committee included time for a potential workshop during the Friday afternoon session in its draft of the Conference Week Schedule.

c. Cooperation with the Professional Community

- Interviews have begun with members of a focus group of professionals who work in the field of mental health to explore more effective ways to communicate about A.A. The committee agreed to forward the final draft of the pamphlet, “A.A. in Your Community” to the 2023 Conference Committee on C.P.C.

- Consideration continues to develop service material to help A.A. members speak with their healthcare providers about A.A. and proposed literature for mental health professionals. There is continued work on potential posts for the LinkedIn project. The Fall 2022 issue of About A.A. was distributed on October 11.

d. Finance: UNAUDITED AAWS Board Financial Report for 2022.

Our contributions for 2022, subject to audit, are a little over \$10.5 million which is really close to our budget of \$11 million.

2022 is the first year since 2018 where contributions did not exceed the previous year.

Literature Sales were just under \$12 million with a budgeted amount of \$11 million (8% increase) Highest gross sales since 2019.

Depending on the impact of the literature price increase on cash receipts, a reserve

fund draw may be needed in the second quarter of 2023.

- As of December 31, 2022, the reserve fund balance net of Grapevine subscription liability is \$12,749,059 (approx. 7.8 months of costs) pending recalculation of the subscription liability by Grapevine. Grapevine still operating at a loss (about \$282,000 annually)

Note: This is less than the \$12,852,286 balance at December 31, 2021 because the Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee authorized an emergency withdrawal of \$200,000 to support Grapevine operations.

Due to the COVID outbreak at the 2022 GSC, cost increased roughly \$320 per delegate. The total cost per delegate for the week was about \$9,800, and they only

ask Areas for \$1800.

e. AAWS Self-support subcommittee: looks at ways to communicate to the Fellowship the significance of the Seventh Tradition. While contributions are sent to the General Service Office (GSO), the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous has fiduciary oversight on how funds are used at GSO.

- Article in the Winter Box 4-5-9

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https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/f203_en_seventhtraditionsfactsheet.pdf

f. General Sharing Session: Trust

- General Service trustee Josh E. welcomed everyone to the General

Sharing Session at the General Service Board Weekend. The topic was “Trust.” Josh highlighted how Concept 3 says that “Our entire A.A. program rests upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other. Therefore, we trust our leaders in world service. The “Right of Decision” that we offer them is not only the practical means by which they may act and lead effectively, but it is also the symbol of our implicit confidence.” Josh shared that to get to a place to be on the same team, there is an immense amount of vulnerability needed to be open to forgiving. In our work, it is a requirement of this service, as it says in the literature, “We are people who normally would not mix.” I do not have to like you, but I have to love and respect you, with the spirit of being open, honest, vulnerable, and exposed. Instead of criticizing and critiquing, displaying contempt or a lack of respect, rolling eyes, defensiveness, not being able to receive, being reactive, or stonewalling. You cannot connect if your decision is not to talk about it anymore, and putting off an answer is not a way to find trust. I believe in my heart that even the most challenging of people, even when it is myself, can find love and forgiveness, he said.

3. News from The General Service Office:

- a. Winter Box 4-5-9 now available
- b. Publishing: Jacketless BB helps reduce costs and production time
- c. New HR manager in place since the summer 2022
- d. Virtual basket article

TREASURERS REPORT

AREA 12 COMMITTEE MEETING

March 4, 2023

TREASURER'S REPORT

AREA TREASURY AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2023

1. NEW MAILING ADDRESS – PO BOX 89 CHESWOLD 19936 --- Email blast: See & distribute Flyer

- Not without any hiccups so far but was able to solve the issue with the post office

- Any return to senders can be re-sent; sorry for the inconvenience

2. January and February deposits made for a total of \$2,655, \$44 of which was an individual

contribution.

3. Expenses – total paid out in February was \$1,284

a. \$1,246 Storage.

b. \$25 Delaware Corporation Tax fee.

c. \$13 Website monthly fee.

4. Net income for February \$1,371; net income year-to-date (\$2,898)

5. Reminder – Submit your expense reports even for those who received an advance payment.

6. District reports of Group contributions being updated.

7. Delaware Corporation filing completed February 23rd and IRS filing 990-N completed March 3rd.

8. Financial reviews continue for both Assembly and convention accounts and are being conducted by

Dick H. Convention for 2022 and Area finances for 2020, 2021, 2022.

- 9. Need to revise 2023 budget
 - a. Immediate Past Delegate expenses
 - b. Insurance
 - c. Archives
 - d. Total over \$1,000 – must go to Assembly (June 2023)

CPC \$ - \$ - \$ 685 0%

Convention/Special Events \$ - \$ 2,250 \$ (2,250) \$ 300 0%

Corrections \$ - \$ - \$ -

Finance \$ - \$ - \$ -

Literature \$ - \$ - \$ -

Public Info/Technolgy Svcs \$ 236 \$ 236 \$ 313 \$ (78) \$ 685 34%

Treatment Facilities \$ - \$ - \$ -

Sub Total Committees Expense \$ 1,482 \$ - \$ 1,482 \$ 2,564 \$ (1,082) \$ 4,470 33%

Other Assembly Mtgs \$ - \$ 15 \$ (15) \$ 440 0%

Expense Area Committee Mtgs. \$ 15 \$ 15 \$ 15 \$ - \$ 90 17%

Bank Fees \$ - \$ - \$ -

Franchise Fee \$ 25 \$ 25 \$ 25 \$ - \$ 25 100%

Regional Mtgs/NERAASA \$ 600 \$ 600 \$ 600 \$ 5,200 12%

Pre/Mini Conference \$ 932 \$ 932 \$ 932 \$ 1,380 68%

General Service Office \$ 2,500 \$ 2,500 \$ 2,500 \$ 2,500 100%

Sub Total Other Expense \$ 4,071 \$ - \$ 4,071 \$ 55 \$ 4,017 \$ 9,635 42%

Total Expenses \$ 5,553 \$ - \$ 5,553 \$ 2,619 \$ 2,935 \$ 25,460 22%

Net Income or Expense \$ (2,898) \$ - \$ (2,898) \$ 716 \$ (3,614) \$ (10,460) 28%

Reserves Beginning \$ 31,086 \$ 4,500 \$ 35,586 \$ 27,251 \$ 8,335 \$ 31,086
 Net Inc./ (Exp) \$ (2,898) \$ - \$ (2,898) \$ 716 \$ (3,614) \$ (10,460)
 Transfer Reserves \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -
 Ending \$ 28,188 \$ 4,500 \$ 32,688 \$ 27,967 \$ 4,721 \$ 20,626
 Prudent Per Policy \$ 7,638 \$ 4,500 \$ 12,138 \$ 9,215 \$ 2,923 \$ 12,138
 Reserve Actual Exceeds Policy By: \$ 20,550 \$ - \$ 20,550 \$ 18,752 \$ 1,798 \$ 8,488
 Current
 3/3/2023, 1:35 A

ALTERNATE DELEGATES REPORT

AREA 12 COMMITTEE

MARCH 4, 2023

ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

o Mini-Conference will be held during the April Area Assembly

☐ Saturday April 15, 2022 9:30 AM – 3 PM

☐ Coffee, donuts & lunch will be served

☐ St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Dover

☐ Flyer ---

o Met with Districts at NERAASA

☐ Each District has an assignment

i. 2 for all Districts and 1 unique

☐ Email went out Tuesday morning with Dropbox links and attachments

i. One email for all

ii. Has two topics for all Districts to consider – BB plain language

and 12x12

iii. Each District's assigned agenda item

o BTW - About NERAASA...

☑ Great presentations – well researched and presented

i. Will be available on the NERAASA website

ii. Some presented one viewpoint

iii. Mostly younger presenters – the future of AA

iv. “Open-mindedness,” old-timers and “old bald white men”

☑ Business meeting outstanding

☑ The Controversy

o Mini-Conference Prep meetings

☑ Sent out flyer – please share

☑ Worksheet from Maryland

☑ If anyone wants to discuss items that did not make the agenda

o Transmitting info to Groups

☑ DCM's reaching out to GSR's and establishing communications not an easy task – like herding cats

☑ Developed a group contact mailing list from the Registrar's rolls not separated by District

i. Corrected bounce-backs

ii. Heard from some former GSR's

☑ Experience shows that Districts and Groups who hold extra business meetings to discuss agenda items have a better awareness and more informed discussions

☒ GSR's ought to be aware they are "Trusted Servants" and they also have the right of decision BUT it is ultimately about communications with groups and members.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

Area 12 Ad Hoc Committee Report 4 March 23 Since our Assembly in February, I have attended NERAASA and I attended two roundtables related to the formation of District 14, a virtual district in Area 12, which passed as a motion in February's Area 12 Assembly. I attended the Secretaries/Registrar's Roundtable on the first night and asked what other areas were with their virtual groups. Per the 2021 advisory action, they were registering their groups as virtual in districts based on the zip code of either the group's contact or GSR. There are only 5 virtual districts which are either formed or in the process of forming in the 93 areas of the US/Canada. Two are up and running in Area 72, western Washington, and in District 20, Area 48" HMB" or "Neny" New York. Both of these districts accept groups from anywhere as long as they are virtual. Area 45, Southern New Jersey, has formed a virtual district in a 3-year trial program. And our area has given the greenlight for a district, but we need a working registrar and the tech committee to make suggestions and proposals for including them in the assembly. A new district also needs to be registered as a district with the GSO so groups can be placed in it. What happens, for example, if the local GSR rotates out and the new GSR is from abroad. How is that solved? Will the group then belong to another GSC? There were experiences shared in the roundtable, but there were also many unanswered questions. Areas are generally waiting for guidance from the Conference. We are in the flying blind state. On night two, I attended the Roundtable for Intergroups and Central Offices. I asked this group, too, how they were handling their online groups. Less experience was shared here, and I answered more questions than received answers. Intergroups are listing virtual groups on website lists. Some were only listing virtual groups on website lists and not in paper copies. Since February's assembly and vote, I have been contacted by a virtual group in District 12 wanting more information and my answer is we have the approval to form a district from the Assembly. We are in the beginning state

of making this district a reality. Now, the formation of a district, registering with the GSO, setting up a bank account to pay for a virtual platform, electing a DCM, working out their inclusion with the assembly will take time. If virtual groups want to be part of the Delaware AA Service Assembly, either their GSR or group contact must use a Delaware zip code and they will be assigned at this time by the GSO to the District of that zip code. To be a member of the Delaware Assembly per our bylaws at this time, they must be a registered Delaware group and not from elsewhere. We have directed our registrar, which we do not have, to list virtual only groups in district 14. Realize we are in the planning and defining stage at this point. We are at step 1. If a virtual group has a local GSR, they may want to attend the nearest in person district at this time. If you have a GSR in a virtual group who wants more information, please give them my contact information so that I may contact them as our work progresses and answer any questions I can. Respectfully Submitted, Susan R Ad Hoc Committee Chair.

DCM REPORTS

DCM 2 Joe D reported 15 GSR's from District 2 and several from District 3.

DCM 4 JoAnn T stated she attended NERAASA virtually and found it informative.

She also mentioned the upcoming Traditions Play at the Simpson Center in Camden on March 18 from 10:30 – 2 PM.

DCM 5 **District 5 DCM Report**

3/4/2023

District 5 meets in Newark on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm. We have now relocated to Memorial Hall Room 3 at the First Presbyterian Church 292 W. Main Street.

Three GSRs and the DCM attended NERAASA. Two GSRs and the DCM attended the Sunday morning Area meeting where agenda items to prepare for the pre-conference assembly were suggested to the districts.

We used our monthly online service discussion on Wed. Mar. 1 to begin work on the agenda items. We looked briefly at our three items and divided up the work.

There were four GSRs and Alt-GSRs in attendance. We divided up the proposed agenda items included in the background information between the five of us. We will report on those proposals and discuss the agenda items themselves at our next monthly business meeting on Wed. Mar. 15.

So far, I have sent the GSRs the background information on the item about the revisions to the 12&12 and the discussion of policies about editing AA literature written by the founders of the Fellowship and their assignments for reviewing the materials. I will shortly send them the background information on the plain language translation of the Big Book, and soon after the background information on the discussion of the limits on contributions and bequests to the Fellowship.

As appropriate, I will also send the GSRs the relevant panel presentations from NERAASA.

Between our meeting on Mar. 15 and the pre-conference assembly on Apr. 15, the GSRs and Alternates will report to their groups and discuss the agenda items with them.

Respectfully submitted Mar. 4 2023

Ken T.

DCM 5