

District 7 General Service Meeting Minutes

Cross View Lutheran Church
6645 McCauley Trail
Edina, MN
August 13, 2007

I. Open - 6:30 pm

A. Serenity Prayer

B. Introductions: Terry T., Terry L., Pam, Sue, Joe S., Linda Mc., Karen Mc., Dave B., Collette, Zach, Karen, Larry F., Erica H., Dan M., Lindsay, Brady K., Jim D., Bucky, Randy

C. Concept study: Larry Fyten presented Concept 8. Duncan will present Concept 9 at the meeting in September.

D. Recognition of new General Service Representatives (GSR's):

Collette – Serenity Group 44th and France
Linda McGovern – Mtka. BB Study Group

II. Approval of July 2007 District 7 General Service Meeting Minutes.

III. Standing Committee Chairs and Intergroup Liaison Reports:

Bucky - Intergroup Liaison:

- Intergroup has been updating 12 Step lists, speaker lists, and volunteer lists and is near completion. They have sorted the number of meetings per city and how many 12 step volunteers reside in the corresponding city. For example, Eden Prairie has 8 meetings per week with 8 male and 8 female volunteers. The ratio varies greatly and is much lower in some cities. Please bring “Help Carry the Message” forms to each of your groups. Please call Intergroup to see if your information is current.
- Intergroup thanked all attendees at the Intergroup Open House.
- The Intergroup Board will be filling 4 positions at the Sept. 27 meeting. Anyone interested should review the requirements for standing on the board and submit a resume if eligible. Resumes are available at Intergroup.

Grapevine: No report.

Anne B.- Literature: Not present. No report.

Randy A. - Archives: No report.

Larry F. – Corrections: (Written report as submitted by Larry)

- I finished making the folders for Area 36 Corrections Temporary Contact Program. I went back and included my cell phone number on all folders for restocking the folders. I have brought each of the folders along for the meeting to review.
- I was able to get to only two meetings for the presentation. Crushed Grapes and Cavalier West Monday Night Group. (@ 7:55 that evening there were no cars there). I will try again. Also, got the folders to Fox Hall Group.

Open - Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC): No report

Public Information (PI): No report

Michael S. - Web: No Report.

Kay K. - Group Records: Not present. No report.

Timothy F. - Newsletter “The Messenger” (952-250-3671) Alt. Chair, Erica H. (952-944-3324; eholzer23@gmail.com): (Written report as submitted by Timothy)

- Newsletters have been mailed. They went later than I would have liked, but as I reported earlier this will take some time to figure logistics and just plain re-arrangement of personal time to achieve the desired outcome. I have mailed two newsletters to each group I have the address for. Currently there are approximately 9 groups for which we do not have a mailing address. It is known where they meet but that is all.
- I believe the following two changes will be permanently implemented. First, we switch to envelope mailing. There is no postage savings for sending out as a folded piece of paper vs. in an envelope. We can send multiple copies to the groups and increase circulation to a broader population within the AA community. Also, this will free up a quarter page of print. Second change of course is to send multiple copies to the groups. I would say start with two or three copies per group. For larger groups perhaps give them the option to request more. The GSR can be utilized for determining what their group needs or is requesting.
- Please ask the GSRs to put word out to their groups for the following:
 - District 7 Newsletter Committee needs your help. We are looking for 2 people to help one day a month. The commitment would last about 1 hour. Contact Timothy for further details.
- Next month there will be an update as to how Chair and Co-Chair duties will be delegated.
- Encourages all committee chairs, GSRs, and officers of District 7 to submit articles for publication. The committee would like 2-3 articles from participants in District 7, approximately 3 paragraphs long, to be published in the upcoming editions. Some examples of articles are: GSR-write about your group; committee chairs- write about the duties and responsibilities of your committee; etc. Please submit all articles to t.fenske@comcast.net. Visit area36.org to look at examples and articles from various district newsletters to get an idea of what is needed for our publication. It will be better to have too many articles than not enough, so start writing!

Terry L. – Finance: Written Report

- Still working with the Treasurer to insure we have an adequate supply of contribution envelopes available at District meetings, Area meetings and at the Minneapolis Intergroup. The District Committee has made changes and has a final draft of the new financial policy for District 07 ready for review and approval by the District (To be distributed at the August 13th District Meeting).
- Attended the Southern Minnesota Area Finance Committee meeting on August 11, in Mankato. The following highlights some of what we discussed at the meeting:
 - We reviewed the Area Treasurer's financial report and statements. Generally we agreed the financial health of the Area looks good.
 - Concerns were expressed regarding the financial loss incurred at the Area RUS Conference. There were two suggestions to be carried to the committee. The first being to better manage the income and expense related to coffee/food and to allow the negotiated costs and the expense projections of the planned event and a prudent estimate of the attendance to drive the registration price.
 - We discussed the fact that the Area Budget for 2008 was not yet available and asked how the Area would proceed. Sissy, the Area Chair stopped by our meeting to explain her plan. She indicated that the budget would be done soon and she expected to have it go out next week in the Area Newsletter, the Pigeon. During the course of that discussion she mentioned that there was to be a proposal to add budget for an Interpreter during the afternoon Area Committee meeting and that the proposed budget would likely include that. The Finance Committee unanimously took issue with that, as in recent Assemblies the Area had decided that SMAA would not fund Interpreters. We agree that before funding ever be included in a proposed budget the Area Assembly, as a body, would need to reverse its previous decision(s). Niles, the incoming Area Finance Chair was to carry a statement to that effect from the Finance Committee to the Area Committee in the afternoon.
 - The General Service Conference asks each Area to contribute a specified amount to help defray the costs of the Delegate attending the annual General Service Conference. (This year was \$1200). It has been noted and discussed that many areas (56 of 91) contribute more than the requested amount. It has been suggested that Area 36 consider contributing more as well.

IV. Officer Reports:

Brady K., Treasure:

- No report.

Joe Salemi, Secretary (612-239-2966) Barb H. Alt. Secretary:

- Written reports are needed on a monthly basis from all committees. Please submit all reports to jsalemi@usg.com by the Saturday prior to each meeting. For those of you without email access, please mail the report to Joe's home at **2769 Spy Glass Dr., Chaska, MN 55318.**

Lindsay W., Alternate DCM (952) 221-8335:

- Attended the Structure Committee at the Area Assembly. Appx. 10 people were present.
- Discussed various district's policies. Discussed the AA booth at the State Fair. All slots are filled.

Jim D., DCM:

- State Fair Booth for District 7 is August 29th. GSR's need to provide names and contact information for people serving that day. We need a team Captain to help the DCM that day. GSR's are responsible for their time slots being covered.
- Attended Area 35/36 Joint Archives Workshop in St. Cloud on July 21, 2007. Archivist from Oklahoma, Mark, gave an outstanding presentation on Alcoholics Anonymous history. Ken R., Archivist for Area 36, gave a presentation on A.A. History in Minnesota. I am enclosing that presentation for everyone.
- The Old Timer's Reunion
Alano Society of Minneapolis
2218 1st Ave S
Minneapolis MN 55404
(612) 871-2218

Saturday
August 25
1:00 p.m.
- kArea 36 Area Committee Proposals:
 - In Cooperation with A.A. members in Area 36 and Intergroups in Area 36, reinstate Intergroup Liaison Reports at Area Assemblies. (GSR)
 - Area 36 Mailing List Policy. (GSR)
 - Add glossary to the Big Book. (GSR)
 - CPC Committee is developing a powerpoint presentation that will be shown at the Area Assembly on October 13th.
 - Election for West Central Regional Forum candidate for Area 36 at Area Assembly on October 13th. (GSR)
 - Area 36 2008 Budget will be ready this week.
 - Remote Communities and Special Needs Committee is making a proposal to budget for ASL Interpreters on a trial for 1 year for the morning session of the Area Committee Meetings. A 30 day notice will be in place in case of the need to cancel. (GSR)
 - RCSNC new Committee Chair is Meg H. Sue will serve on the Committee.
 - Structure Committee said there will be no name change for the Delegates Workshop. Trusted Servant Workshop being planned for late January in Northfield.

V. GSR Sharing and Questions:

Mtka BB Study Group (Sunday 9:00AM; Mtka Community Center)

Brings meetings to Detox and answers phones at Intergroup.

Pam, Crushed Grapes (Monday PM; Step & Tradition):

Their group takes a meeting to Fairview Riverside.

They are also responsible for the literature rack at Fairview Southdale.

They will be conducting a group inventory.

They are currently signing people up for State Fair commitment.

Dan M. GSR, Foxhall (Thursday 7:30 PM; Wooddale Church; Open Speaker):

Answers phones at Intergroup and takes meetings to 1800 Detox.

Jim, France Ave. Group (Thursday 8:00 PM; Step Mtg.):

Looking for support for their group. Nothing new to report.

Duncan, Colonial Way (Need Mtg. info):

The meeting is moving from Wednesday night to Tuesday night starting in September.

Erv, Normandale Group (Cavalier Club; Tue 8:00PM; Thur. 7:30PM)

No report

Collette, Wednesday Women's Serenity (Morning):

No report.

Sue, Wednesday Women's Serenity:

They switched from District 18 to District 7 to avoid conflict with Dist. 18 meeting on Wednesday night.

Zach, Cavalier Big Book (Thursday 6:00):

New Grapevine Meeting at Cavalier Club on Monday evenings at 6:00.

VI. Area 36 Remote Communities Liaison; Sue:

- ASL Topic
- Nursing Homes; Large Print Big Books
- Homeless
- Shelters
- Different Countries
- Handicap accessible

VII. Old Business:

- Financial Policy Review
 - Will be approved at September meeting if no major changes
- We need budget reports from Treasurer
- Expense reimbursement forms should be available to all committee members and officers

VIII. New Business

- Discussion of proposals for Area.
 - Proposal: In cooperation with Area 36 AA members and Intergroups, reinstate the Intergroup Liaison Reports at Area Assemblies (some districts are hesitant to include Intergroup support)
- Steering committee meeting policy:
 - Terry L. suggested not having the meeting in a restaurant.
 - Clarification on who is invited and when the meetings should be.

VIII. Close - 8:00 pm

A. Responsibility Statement

Responsibility Statement

I am responsible... When anyone, anywhere,

Reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

A Declaration of Unity

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.