

District 11 Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2017

The meeting was opened by Mel H. at 7:00 PM with the Serenity Prayer

District 11 Statement of Purpose: Dave V.

Tradition of the Month: Jim

Concept of the Month: Deb R.

Declaration of Unity: Marv S.

Role Call: Sorry, didn't count voting members this time.

Officer Reports

Secretary: Accepted as published.

Treasurer: See attached. Accepted as published.

DISTRICT 11 TREASURER'S REPORT

March 2017

Checking Account Activity

Balance as of 3/1/2017: \$3901.37

Incoming:	Suttons Bay Sun Night	\$34.00
	Sober & Crazy	24.00
	Downtown Group TC	60.25
	Back to Basics	21.97

Total Incoming: \$140.25

Thank you for your support

Mel Gas	40
Workshop	112.06

Total Outgoing: \$152.06

Balance as of 3/31/2017: \$3889.56

Savings as of 9/30/2016: \$600.81

There are still uncashed checks, waiting for them to clear account.

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DCMC an Area 34: See attached.

April DCMC Report

Hi Everyone,

Busy month. I'd like to welcome Ted S. as our DCM for Benzie county. Hope he finds helping to spread the message fulfilling. We still need someone from Leelanau county. We're scheduled to meet there next month.

The Mock Conference in Mount Pleasant was interesting. Our delegates will be facing a lot of decisions, especially those items involving social media. I still have 2 cds with all the agenda items if anyone wants one. District 11 was well represented there. We had 7 members in attendance.

WMAA Area 34 Report:

The March meeting was dedicated to the GSC agenda items that will be discussed at the Mock Conference and, of course, the General Service Conference in New York. Most of the discussion was about getting into social media accounts like Google and LinkedIn and Twitter.

The directories are at the Printers, and we are waiting for the proof copy before printing.

Two more names were drawn for the East Central Regional Forum scholarships in March (Audra B. and Harry S. from District 4) and 1 alternate (Michael R. from district 1). Two more names were also drawn at the April meeting (Tim S. and Randy from District 11).

We hosted the April meeting in Benzonia. Thanks to all who helped with that. It went well.

At both the March and April meetings, there was discussion about a proposal to restructure the Area meeting agenda targeting better communications between Area and Districts. **One proposal called for holding a Delegate/DCM meeting at the same time as Group Concerns. I raised the question how does that serve our groups with Delegates and DCMs in another meeting when their concerns were being discussed. Further discussion was tabled to get group input on the proposal.** The primary function of AA's structure is to serve the groups.

That's all I have for now. Thankful to serve, Mel H.

Mel would like GSRs to take the issue contained in the bold face above back to groups. We will continue this discussion after groups have talked it over.

Mel also mentioned that Area wants to know if local libraries need materials such as pamphlets and Big Books. Scott S. offered to provide materials if purchase is approved by District

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Committee Reports

PI/CPC: Christina T.

Christina reported that her communication with District 13 about holding mock AA meeting has stalled. She has met with Luke, who has volunteered to help her and has some valuable insights, and they have decided to proceed on their own with a mock meeting that would include six members of the professional community and four AA members. No date set yet, and they will need a venue. They have drafted form letters to send out when the time comes. The plan is to hold several of these mock meetings. Christina asked if her group should buy big books. The possibility of book purchase will be discussed at the May meeting under Old Business.

Pixie suggested that Munson open meeting could be used as a model. Christina responded that Munson did not offer quite the format she was seeking, primarily because of the size of the Munson meeting. Christina added that the District would have approval of who in the professional community would be invited.

Marv asked if Christina had received GSO guidelines for her committee. She has. Marv reported that a similar type of meeting in which he had participated did not go well.

Mel suggested that we do this in a workshop format, during which we would hold an open meeting.

Deb R. suggested that maybe a first step meeting format would be useful.

Christina repeated that she wants to keep this mock meeting small.

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Corrections: Deb R. is acting as a temporary Corrections chair.

Deb R. reported that that Area is looking into Jpay as a way to open communication with inmates through correspondence.. She is temporarily willing to work as corrections chair. Phil from Keep It Simple Group offered to work with Deb. Thanks Phil. Deb will be going to Northern Area Corrections meeting next week.

Grapevine: Phil S.

Phil reported that Kalkaska still needs women for the jail meetings.

Treatment: Marc M.

Through Mel, Marc reported that he will get with us next meeting.

Accessibility: No chair.

Central Office Liaison: Scott S.

Scott reported that Central Office is looking for a Monday afternoon 2 to 5 volunteer, as well as a Friday 10-2 volunteer. **GSRs need to inform their groups of the need for these volunteers.** Still need volunteers for Spring Roundup. No one has volunteered or shown any interest. Deb R. reported that when she worked the booth at the Roundup, that she had been financially sponsored by Central Office. **GSRs should report to their groups the need for Central Office volunteers to man the booth at the Spring Roundup.**

DCM Reports

Grand Traverse: Art H. read the report which is included below.

April 2, 2017

District 11 Trusted Servants,

The Grand Traverse GSRs are sharing the mock conference agendas with their groups to see if there are items they want to discuss and provide feedback on. To date, I have not received any feedback. I appreciate getting the agenda items before the deadline this year. My hope is that we will come up with a more efficient way to get the information in front of our groups as we continue to improve. The agenda contains a lot of information and I think it's overwhelming to our members. Personally, I was remiss on following up on the information and will try to improve in the future.

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Heather G is leading our next district-sponsored workshop. The theme is "The AA Group". We will have 3 topics with 3 different speakers:

- AA Group Structure - Heather G (Llamda Group GSR)
- The Group Conscience - Rick P (Alternate Area Delegate)
- What is a GSR? – Art. H (District 11 Secretary)

We also plan to have table top displays with information on each topic for people to visit during the fellowship time. Heather will ask for volunteers to help with setup, cooking, literature, and cleanup in a separate communication. Let either of us know if you are willing to help in some capacity.

I have attached a flyer to this report that contains the logistics. I will email the flyer to the GSRs, Central Office and the Camel Courier. Hopefully, people will print and share them with their groups. We will provide hard copies at the May District meeting. Regarding the funds, we are requesting reimbursement of expenses up to \$175, but we may not spend all of that. We have some supplies left from the last workshop, but we ran out of eggs and sausage so we need to plan to buy more. We also need to purchase flyers & literature from Central Office for our informational table tops.

We are entering the "busy" season, which means lots of fellowship, but also lots of drinking opportunities. I am excited to see how active our district has become over the past couple of years. I hope our efforts allow the hand of AA to be there for those who reach out for help.

In service,

Amber J

Kalkaska: Marv S. reported 8 people from the Kalkaska were at the Mock conference. The Mill Pond women's group has closed. All other groups are doing well.

Leelanau: Still no DCM, or anyone else.

Benzie Tim S. reported that several groups are in the process of getting structured, and that one group has had its first group conscience meeting ever.

Group Information, Announcements, and Concerns

Deb R. reported that someone from her group complained that there is a group in another district that is refusing to sign court sheets. She was asked if something could be done about it. Some discussion followed, the

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gist of which is that each group is autonomous and does not have to sign anything the court requires, that anonymity issues should keep us from providing full names or any other personal information when a meeting leader is asked to sign such a sheet, and that refusing to sign such sheets does not send the right message to the court system, with which it is in AA's best interests to cooperate.

Old Business

Discussion of selection process for District scholarship to East Regional Area Forum:

Mel reiterated that we had decided that whoever receives a scholarship would be first time attendee at the Forum, and be a GSR, DCM or committee member; and that the scholarship should be funded up to \$400

Motion by Deb R. that we draw a name during the August District 11 meeting, and that the recipient must be present.

Seconded by Bill C.

Motion passed.

Reimbursement for Mel H. for expenses incurred in burning CDs of the Mock Conference agenda and Attendance at Area Assemblies.

Motion by Deb R. to reimburse Mel H. \$25 for burning CDs of the Mock Conference agenda.

Seconded.

Motion passed.

New Business

Discussion of June workshop.

Motion to by Bill C. to support the June workshop with up to \$175.

Seconded by Phil S.

Motion passed.

Discussion of sending a letter of thanks to the GT Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians for making their facilities available to District 11.

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Motion by Rick A. that we go forward with such a letter.

Seconded by Deb R.

Motion passed.

Art H. will draft a letter to be presented at the next District meeting.

Deb brought up the possibility of a District picnic in September. Consensus seems to be in support of the idea and discussion will be held under old business at the next District meeting.

Motion to close at 8:15

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 PM at a venue to be determined.