

# District 11 Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2017

The meeting was opened by Mel H. at 7:03.

District 11 Statement of Purpose: Marv S.

Tradition of the Month: Mel H.

Concept of the Month: Tim S.

Declaration of Unity: Scott S.

Role Call: 15 members present

## Officer Reports

Secretary: After corrections to the roster, report accepted.

Treasurer: Report accepted. See attached report.

Chair and Area 34:

July DCMC Report:

Hi Everyone,

It's the middle of summer and lots to do. Lawns, gardens, family, camping, days at the lake, and doing our best to help spread the message. The first thing I'd like to remind everyone about our August meeting. We will be drawing a person's name to send to the East Central Regional Forum. District 11 will cover the expenses for food, lodging, and transportation. To qualify for the drawing, one must be active in service (such as a GSR, DCM, Standing Committee Chair) and wanting to attend their first Regional Forum.

Also, a reminder that elections are coming up in October. Let's make our Groups aware of this and encourage people to get active. There are rewards for helping to carry the Message. We will also need to plan how we will transition duties to the newly elected.

Items on the agenda today include a review of the Pancake Breakfast and AA Group workshop, and planning for the September Picnic. So, let's get on with it.

WMAA 34 Report July

I attended the July meeting held in Brimley, Mi. A nice trip over the bridge.

During Group Concerns, it was brought up that the Area Web Site wasn't getting updated. It was suggested that the Area consider a compensated Webmaster. There was also a suggestion that the Area consider combining the Web Site and Directory committees. I'm sure these discussions will be ongoing, as they are problems. Speaking of Directories, it's being suggested to postpone printing until the first of 2018 to allow updating of new officers.

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The Ad Hoc committee on Meeting Agenda has presented a new proposal which addresses concerns about when Group Concerns are held. I have copies for review. If adopted, Group Concerns will be heard by the whole Assembly. The new agenda also requires more time for the meeting, so the starting time is moved to 10:00 AM. There will be a three month trial period beginning in January 2018.

A sample of the AREA 34 Handbook is also available, but can't be finalized until a new Meeting Agenda is finally adopted. The Handbook is a set of guidelines for Area 34 operations. I have a copy with me. It contains 24 pages, so if anyone wants a copy I will forward the email to them.

Meeting frequency is again being brought up (he,he,he...). A new proposal is to meet 10 months instead of 12, eliminating the months of June and November. More to come on that.

I also heard that new Public Service Announcements are available on AA's website.

That's all for now. Grateful to be serving, Mel H.

## Committee Reports

PI/CPC:

**I have a PI/CPC report for you since I'm out of town this week:**

Luke from the Fife Lake Group and I have been making some progress with our mock AA meeting. We decided to approach Catholic Human Services and the Veteran's Help Center on US-31. Currently we are waiting to hear back from both organizations. I hope they take us up on their offer because they both deal with alcoholics on a daily basis and a mock AA meeting would give them a great opportunity to see how AA works. The plan is to have the mock AA meeting at their offices, with the meeting lasting 30 minutes and 30 minutes for them to speak to us individually and ask questions. So we are asking for one hour of their time. Hopefully I will have some good news to report in August!

Corrections: Scott S. has volunteered to be Corrections Chair and was unanimously elected to that position. Thank you Scott!

Grapevine: Not present

Treatment: Not present

Accessibility: David B. asked that his contact info be included in the minutes and is provided here. Please remember that the minutes, like the

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roster, is not for public consumption. Anonymity is the foundation of all our Traditions.

Central Office Liaison: There is no current liaison, but CO will send a board member to each District meeting. A report is included below:

## **July Central Office Report**

It has been a very busy month at Central Office, with a lot of changes occurring.

First, we sponsored the Big Book Comes Alive event with Larry and Caan from Georgia on June 7-9, which was well attended and supported. Many thanks to the committee - Paul R., Rodasi C., Gail H., and Terry L. for planning this event, as well to all who participated!

A reminder: as of July 1, 2017, we are now closed on Saturdays. If anyone needs to make purchases during Saturdays or other times when the office is closed, they are encouraged to call Jodie S. at 206.310.1833 or leave a message at the office to have her call to schedule a time - and/or purchase over the phone (which we can now do).

On the volunteer front, we are now covered for the week in the office, and with the 24/7 hotline. However, we could use backup and fill-in coverage for office and phones, so we still have room for volunteers.

We are also looking for 2 board members to round out our board - including a Webmaster and Assistant Treasurer. Two years' sobriety and a willingness to serve are the requirements!

Sadly, Scott S. has resigned as our office manager and is moving on to better things. He has made a tremendous positive impact on the office and the volunteers, and will be missed. At our most recent meeting, it was discussed to put the position on hold for the time being, while we reassess the needs of the office. We will also send an alternating board member as a liaison to District 11.

We tremendously appreciate the contributions and volunteer support from all of the individuals and groups in the area! And the groups which meet at Central Office. It is invaluable to keep the office going. Also, groups and individuals are welcome to come to our board meetings, which are always the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm (with a summer break, occurring in August this year). Any question, concern, or idea for how we can serve the AA community can be submitted to [d11centraloffice@gmail.com](mailto:d11centraloffice@gmail.com).

Yours in service,

Jodie S., Chair  
District 11 Central Office Board

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## DCM Reports

Grand Traverse: It's informal, but here's my report:

My apologies for missing the meeting, but I am out of town. There is not a lot to report, but there a few items for me to report:

I received feedback from a few folks who said they really appreciate the AA Group Structure workshop. They were pleasantly surprised to learn as much as they did and really appreciated the informative nature of the workshop. I think it was very beneficial for those who attended, but we may want to reconsider offering workshops between Memorial Day and Labor Day. It was nice to see that many people show up on a beautiful Saturday in June in Traverse City. Huge kudos to Heather and all the volunteers!

We have 2 new GSRs in the GT county: Kevin for Interlochen, and Dick for New Hope. Welcome to both and thanks for your service! That's all I have for now.

In service, Amber

Kalkaska: Marv S. has attended several meetings in his area and reports they are doing well.

Leelanau: Open

Benzie: Tim S. reported that things seem to be going well in his area.

## Group Information, Announcements, and Concerns

None this month

## Old Business

### **Report from the Pancake Breakfast – June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

We had approximately 35 people in attendance. We had a poster board presentation and flyers and pamphlets available for attendees to take - which they did. We gave out all of the available pamphlets on “The AA Group” and most of the pamphlets on “The GSR”. These pamphlets had been left over from a previous service workshop. We had three topic speakers. Our Area 34 Alternate Delegate spoke on the topic of “The group conscience”. The poster boards are in my possession and are available to set up at any future District event.

Because we were prepared for an attendance of 75 people, we had left over food and dry goods. Left over perishable food including milk, orange juice, and butter, which we donated to the tribal center for their senior and teen events. Dry goods were inventoried and we have

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enough dry goods for the next pancake breakfast or for the September picnic. Scott S. is in possession of the Dry goods inventory and there is a list of the inventory in the box of goods, and I have a list to pass along to the organizer of the next event. We also have a half a box of breakfast sausage left over that Scott put in his freezer.

Cost of the event:

Food: \$148.72

Poster board supplies: \$43.95

Reimbursement for the delegate: 304 miles at \$.34 per mile = \$103.36

I am asking for reimbursement for food and poster board supplies for the amount of \$192.67

I want to say a special "Thank you" to Scott S., for arranging the location, showing up early to open up and setting up the microphone etc., and to Amber J for helping with poster boards, Mel and Pixie for bringing griddles and serving equipment, and to Denise for organizing the kitchen, and to the dozen or so volunteers that showed up to flip pancakes, crack eggs, wipe tables, and the several other tasks that were required for the breakfast to be a success.

Though disappointed by the low attendance, I was encouraged by the conversations that I had with some attendees regarding their interest in the service structure of AA.

Yours in service,

Heather G.

Reimbursements:

Separate motions were made and passed to 1. reimburse the Alternate Delegate for his travel expense to the recent pancake breakfast/service workshop, 2. to cover the expense of that event, and 3 to reimburse Mel H. for gas and lodging for his recent trip to Brimley for Area Assembly. \$79.04 was voted to reimburse the Alt. Delegate, and \$192 was voted to cover the expenses of the workshop, and \$236 was voted to reimburse Mel. H.

There was further discussion of the September picnic. Food issues are close to being finalized and will be reported next month. The picnic is intended to be a family affair, and games will be a part of the event. Games will be needed so please let Deb R. know if you can bring one, and what you are bringing. Attendees will need to provide their own seating. A flyer is attached to this report. Deb R. will have a volunteer sign-up sheet next month.

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## GSR reminders:

Elections in October: GSRs need to make sure their groups know.  
August drawing for District scholarship to East Central Regional Forum.  
Again, GSRs need to inform their groups. Must be present to win.

## **New Business**

The question was raised about what this District is doing to help people who are fresh out of treatment. Marc M. was mentioned as the person to contact with such questions, but in the ensuing discussion a motion was made, and passed, to purchase a case of Pocket Big Books to distribute to treatment centers. Cost will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Art H. raised the question of whether or not District wants or needs a Literature chair. This item will be on next month's agenda.

District 11 will be providing a panel at 4:00 PM at the 65th Michigan State Convention, July 28-30 at the Comfort Inn and Suites on South Mission Road in Mt. Pleasant. This year's theme is "Welcome to Our Journey." The panel's topic will be: AA Principles-Practice Makes Progress. The panel will be Dave B., Deb R., Brian J., and Amber J.

The meeting closed at 8:10 with the Responsibility Statement. The next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 8, at the United Methodist Church, 2525 Beebe Road, in Kalkaska.