

Meeting opened at 7:00 in person with serenity prayer

Sobriety Birthdays: No sobriety birthdays this month

Present: Steve C, DCM; Michelle, Secretary; Marc C McFarland; Doug G, Ros Rec; Curt C., HOW; Dan S., Treasurer; Sue P., GSR SOS; GSR Home at Home; Cheryl, GSR Language of the Heart; Jim E, GSR Three Legacies Group; Mari E, Workshop Chair; Phil, We Agnostic; Debra U, GSR Belvidere Alano; Kevin H, GSR Healthy Solutions; Andrew B, GSR 4th Dimension of Existence; Jeff K., Alt DCM; Bill D., Alt Treasurer; Leann N., Webmaster; Rebecca D., Answering Service; Candy P., visitor; Ginger A., visitor.

Secretary report: Passing around a list of the groups with their business meeting information. Check to see if yours is correct and/or fill it in if it is blank. motion to accept; approved

Treasurer Report: See treasurers report. Please send donations to the PO box address which is P.O. Box 1021 Rockford, IL 61105. motion to accept; approved

GSR Reports:

Augury: Not present

Belvidere Alano: Working on changes to the group. Sept. 11th 5:30 potluck with speaker at 7pm. Shane will be the speaker. Breakfast from 8am – 10:30am on the 4th Sunday of the month. Cost is 6 dollars.

Healthy Solutions: Saturday, September 11st there will be speaker meeting at 5:15pm with a potluck to follow. Janine E. will be speaking.

Home at Home Group: No new report

HOW Group: HOW anniversary dinner: November 20, 2021 Ticket price \$20.00. Matt G. is the speaker. Lindsey A will be speaking on Friday the 10th at 8pm. Josh S. will be speaking on the 16th at 3:30pm.

Language of the Heart: Business meeting is next week Tuesday, 9/7/21 @ 5:30 pm on zoom. Speaker meeting is Sunday, 9/12/21 @7:00 pm on zoom. Speaker is Melanie L. Soberversary is Saturday, 9/25/21 @ 3:30 pm @ the Alano Club & on zoom. We still need a treasurer. Our new Venmo is Venmo @ LOTHAA. Received word that SOWANII is canceled this year.

NE Group: No new report.

McFarland Group: No new report.

Muddy River: Meeting Monday at 6pm, Wednesday at 7pm, and Thursday at 6pm.

SOS: Sue P is now the GSR.

Roscoe Recovery: we have discontinued our Zoom meeting on Saturday morning which has resulted in a much larger live meeting. That live meeting is getting closer to pre Covid attendance. We continue to have some Zoom meetings along with other live meetings. And we will do so for foreseeable future.

Three Legacies: We voted in new officers. We still need a Treasurer, and alternant positions. Our Churches position on masking is wear them if you want. We also have two tables set up for self-distancing.

We Agnostics: WA group continues, with steady attendance both on Zoom and in person.

Treatment: Not present

CPC/PI: I was able to contact crusader clinic and the Director will set up meetings with all of the clinic branches so that I can talk with the staff.

Corrections: – Open position

Grapevine: Not present

Special Needs: Not present

Workshop: Workshop on practicing the principles of Steps 6 and 7 in AA. Saturday, October 2nd 12:30pm -2:30pm at the Augury. Host is Tony J from the Augury. Panelist: Amanda B (HOW), Andrea K (Healthy Solutions), Joe o (Augury), Melissa

H (HOW), Mike D (3 Legacies) and Scott S (HOW). Considering hosting workshops at various groups around the district on a bi monthly basis due to SOWANII being canceled.

Web: 1. I have some updates to make to the schedule and ask the GSRs to look it over tonight and give me any corrections/adjustments before we leave. 2. Communication with previous webmaster remains slow and corrections to the coded website requested in June are not yet completed. I would like to move the site to Wordpress.com (using our own domains) and use the Meeting Guide App's plugin. This will assist in making the website a more sustainable asset for the district and its next webmasters. 3. Wordpress cost \$300 annually. I will need authorization for this expense. This puts Web/Tech over budget for 2021. This charge will need to be made using a credit card. 4. I will be keeping an eye out for tech savvy AAs who would make a good alternate and encourage volunteers if you know of any group members looking for this kind of service work.

Newsletter: open position

Bridging the Gap: Not present

Answering Service: Added 2 new people to the app. Looking for someone who speaks Spanish. Please tell your groups about the opportunity to volunteer with the district phone. We could use some more involvement. Considering a workshop in the Fall to recruit volunteers.

Ad Hoc Finance Committee: Our committee has researched the need for a prudent reserve for District 70 and has taken in the following guidelines and advice to come to our recommendation. **AA's 7th Tradition states:** *"Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority."* **The AA Group Treasurer (Pamphlet):** "Prudent Reserve: Most groups try to hold a certain amount of money in reserve. There is no predetermined amount for such a reserve, but most groups try to put aside enough money to cover at least one to three months' operating expenses. The group itself usually determines the actual size and scope of the prudent reserve. Our experience shows that an accumulation of A.A. funds for unspecified purposes beyond a prudent level may divert a group's attention from carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Groups with excess funds are encouraged to support other service entities." **Area 20's Prudent Reserve:** In consulting with Area 20's treasurer and alternate treasurer we learned that currently Area 20 has a 30% of one year's operating expenses as the prudent reserve. This is held in a separate account and is reported as a separate line item. Here is a snapshot of the Area's current budget: Checking account balance: \$29,813.06 Operating funds balance: \$25,525.36 Restricted funds balance: \$4,287.70 and consists of: "Pink Can" \$438.56 "Green Can" \$849.14 ECRC Seed Money: \$3,000.00 Savings account balance: \$23,514.00 (Prudent Reserve) **Other Districts and their prudent reserve:** Other AA districts vary in what they have as a prudent reserve. They all have different budgets and they can be vastly different from each other. Districts with similar operating expenses and income as District 70 however seem to all stick with what amounts to be 30% of a year's operating expenses or a three-month reserve. Most do not hold their reserve in a separate account but do report it as a separate line item. **Committee recommendations** The committee recommends that a 30% of one year's operating expenses be adopted by District 70. We do not feel the need to hold this in a separate account only list it as a separate line item. By using the percent rule this will give the district some flexibility with the reserve amount if contributions increase or decrease. If the District approves, we would also like to see the extra funds be given to the GSO.

Questions asked about when this will officially begin if approved. It was said that this will begin in January with the new budget.

Announcements: 4th Dimension of Existence is waiting on GSO approval. They currently meet Wednesday and Friday at 5:30. Please go show your support. They meet at St. Johns Church in Belvidere

DCM: I Our Fall Assembly meeting will be Sept. 18, 2021. I have emailed out information and agenda items. GSR's have a vote to represent their group's conscious at all Assemblies. It is an election year at NIA20 also! And a motion on the Spring Conference will also be voted on. The G.S.R.'s responsibilities are listed in the AA Service Manual on page S26. I have a couple service manuals to give to anyone who doesn't have one. I mailed out election fliers for District 70, announcing the upcoming Dist 70 elections, which will be on Oct 7, 2021. I will be visiting the groups and making announcements about the importance of filling these positions. I am still waiting on District 70 contribution information from the General Service Office and from NIA20. Once I get it, I plan to do a 7th Tradition Inventory of our District. We have been following our District 70 guidelines now since March 2021. There are some guidelines that I would like to talk about now. **ALL COMMITTEES RESPONSIBILITIES** 1. *Regular attendance at the monthly district meeting or attendance by committee chair alternate (if chairperson is absent) so that a full verbal & written report of that committee's works and progress may be made available for review by the district as a whole. Each committee chairperson is to have an alternate chairperson. If a chairperson misses three meetings in one year they may be replaced. Reprinted from THE DISTRICT 70 GUIDELINES page 4.* If a committee chairperson misses 3 district meetings in a year, they can be replaced. Our guidelines are based on the AA service manual, page S33. **Inactive District Committee Member** A.A. *relies on the autonomy of each district regarding the period of time and involvement that constitutes inactivity. While the district needs to establish its own practices or guide-lines, it is generally suggested that a service worker be asked to resign if he or she is unable to carry out the responsibilities of the position. Reprinted from THE AA SERVICE MANUAL page S33 with the permission of A.A. World Services.* It is up to the discretion of the DCM chairperson to ask a District committee chairperson if they would consider resigning. The DCM chairperson can declare the position open without a vote from the committee. **Some background material on District 70 guidelines / 3 missed meetings a year.** Before we had District guidelines, and a chairperson was inactive, we would discuss it as a committee. One member would say "I see him at this meeting, and I will talk to him.". Or "I know her sponsor, I will call her." Other times the committee chairperson would tell someone that they would be at the next District 70 meeting, and they wouldn't show up. This would go on for sometimes up to 9 months and the position was inactive. Then we had to find someone new anyway. It is therefore at the discretion of the DCM chairperson to make the call. It is not set in stone. We do not want to get rid of people when we can not fill all the positions. **Suggestions:** *If you are a chairperson, get an alternate. It is part of your responsibilities in our Dist 70 guidelines. It is always good to have an alternate to step up into your position when you rotate out. *If you are going to miss a district meeting, email your report to our secretary, to be read at the district meeting. This is better than being absent, (NO REPORT) in our minutes for that month. Our job is to carry the AA message. Anybody that has been involved in service work at the group, district, or at area knows that we don't always get things done the way we want to. Sometimes we feel we could have done better. I have heard it said that you should never say no to AA. This is not always true. Especially in service work. When a person takes on a service position at the district, there are a lot of responsibilities. Some members have been pushed into positions they were not ready for. What I am trying to say is when our members stand for a position at our district, they need to be well informed about their responsibilities. Too many times I have watched members take positions because someone thought they should. Service work should be spiritually fulfilling, not something we feel that we failed at and let AA down.

Old Business:

- 1) Open Positions: Corrections is open. No one stood for an open position this month.

- 2) Prudent Reserve: The information provided from the Ad Hoc Committee is just information to discuss with your groups and bring questions to next business meeting. Motion to be made next month.

New Business:

- 1) Webpage: Continued discussion on changes to the website. Overall consensus was that we want to ensure this will be easily passed along to webmasters in the future. Motion was made for Webmaster to purchase WordPress at \$300. 2nd and approved.
- 2) Covid discussion: Question about district or groups roles in monitoring mask usage. It was shared that this is not a matter for district to decide. This is left up to the groups and the building in which they meet.
- 3) Motion was made to return to hybrid meetings for district. 2nd and approved. Next meeting on the 7th will be offered both in person and via zoom.
- 4) District 70 AA Give-Away: There are several items left over from the intergroup office such as: water coolers, folding chairs, cabinets, end tables, AA poster, AA signs, and literature racks. We would like to get these items out of storage and back to the groups. Please come either Sunday October 3rd or 10th from 10am-2pm to grab these items for your group or upcoming events. Location: 13647 Metric Road Roscoe, IL 61073
- 5) Jeff suggest that we ask our group about whether they want District to have a Venmo account

Motion to close ; 2nd, approved,

NEXT MEETING: October 7th at 7 p.m