

REVISEED MINUTES FOR DISTRICT 41 MEETING OCTOBER 15, 2015

NOTE: Mailing Address - District 41 Treas. P.O. Box 7226, Villa Park, IL 60181

NOTE: Mailing Address - District 41 Answering Service, P.O. Box 6365, Villa Park, IL 60181-5318

NOTE: NIA web site: www.aa-nia.org

PRESENT AT MEETING:

Maggie A., Tina A., Alicia E., Brian F., Jason H., Susan H. Susan I., Beth K., Lee K., Brian Lynch, Linda L., Jeane M., Tom Mo, Mark N., Mike O. and Colin O.

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with a Quiet Time, Serenity Prayer, GSR Preamble, 11th Tradition and 11th Concept for World Service. Basket passed for the 7th tradition.

Jason H. chaired the meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS:

New GSRs – Brian F. (Young and Restless, Lombard, Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.).

Visitors – Marilyn F. (Area 20 Alternate Chair) and Carol.

Anniversaries – Susan H. (4 yrs.), Linda L. (6 yrs.) and Tom Morgan (6 yrs.).

Birthdays – Susan H.

Announcements: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Jason brought multiple copies of “We Need You” District elections (to be held December 17) flyer and asked everyone to distribute the flyers at their various meetings and to announce the upcoming elections. Stated the desire to have new blood at the District level. Jeane M. raised a question of qualifications for District positions. Various opinions were stated.

Jason announced the availability of copies of General Service Conference Final Report.

OLD BUSINESS: Jason reviewed the progress of the Big Book Conference bid. Invited people to stay for the planning meeting immediately after the D41 meeting.

Maggie A. (DuPage Open Chair) announced that one speaker has been secured for the Open. Asked for suggestions on possible speakers with 20+ of sobriety. Various people were considered as possibilities. Maggie will follow up on speakers. Asked everyone to pass out flyers.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

SECRETARY: (Tom M.) October 2015 Minutes were approved.

TREASURER: (Linda L.) Reviewed contributions from various groups. Ending balance for October was \$4,665.53.

DCM: (Jason H.) No further report.

Alt. DCM: (Susan H.) No report.

ANSWERING SERVICE: (Maggie A.) Maggie procured three volunteers via texts.

ARCHIVES: (Open) Beth expressed interest in open Archives position. A discussion of the whereabouts of Archive material ensued.

BTG: (Tom Manning) Absent.

CPC/PI: (Open)

CORRECTIONS: (Tina A.) Tina stated that she's gone to two meetings at DuPage County Jail. Also attended some Spanish-speaking meetings. Stated she found out how Big Books are distributed in the jail. Answered questions about Big Book distributions. Said *Twelve and Twelves* are needed at the DuPage County Jail. Tina will find the exact cost for soft cover *Twelve and Twelves* for next month.

ALT. CORRECTIONS: (Open)

GRAPEVINE: (Susan H.) Susan announced that free shipping is in effect through the end of the year. Brought a copy of *Grapevine News* to pass around.

ALT. GRAPEVINE: (Open)

LIAISON/ANONA EAST: (Maggie A.) Anona East will provide literature for DuPage County Open.

LITERATURE: (Alicia E.) Offered to help Tina get prices for her cases of books. Offered Newcomer packets.

LCM: (Ray W.) Absent.

NEWSLETTER: (Mike O.) Will bring Winter Newsletter to December 17 D41 meeting. Either forgiveness or fear will be the topic. Solicited contributions of articles.

SPECIAL NEEDS: (Susan I.) Will do research on duties of Special Needs Chair. Will talk with people with experience in special needs.

ALT. SPECIAL NEEDS: (Lora B.) Absent.

TREATMENT: (Mike F.) Absent. Jason reports Elmhurst IOP is going fine and DuPage CIU is in process of moving. Resolution to provide one case of Big Books for Share passed unanimously. Alicia E. will check on quantity prices.

ALT. TREATMENT: (Ernest K.) Absent.

WEBTECH: (Jeane M.) Jeane reported 478 new viewers and 850 return viewers. Attended national AA Technology Workshop in St. Louis. Reported that it was intense. See report below:

National A.A. Technology Workshop Report

Members attending the National A.A. Technology Workshop in St. Louis, MO, on October 2-4 2015, had the opportunity to meet others from across the US and Canada, and to focus on carrying the message through our fastest-growing means of communication—technology. Methods of communication are shifting, due to an influx of new technology, and that's the whole purpose of the Technology Workshop. Technology doesn't just include websites. It also includes emails, and eservices—for monetary transactions, purchasing supplies, planning, and donations. Also, there's the Mobile Now area technology service, content management, innovation of mobile apps, cloud storage and backup. Of course, our newsletters, correspondence, e-books, meeting directories and archives are all involved. The Technology Workshop was to benefit all intergroups, area committees, districts, public information, contact services, Bridging the Gap, and again, the AA directories.

All of this technology information is getting broad. How much of this information are we going to need? This is the direction everything is going at this point. I met with John, our new Area 20 Webmaster, and we discussed his plans to work with Wordpress. Because we are connected to the Area 20 site, I mentioned to him that when he publishes a new site, our site will go down, which he was not aware of (not every district is connected to the Area 20 site.) We could also have our own web address, web hosting, and paying for that service. But staying with Area 20 keeps our name affiliated with AA and NIA.org addresses. We always have the option of moving away from Area 20, but we like working with the area and using the area address. It's worked out pretty well.

Also, the newest thrust is going toward mobile apps. Even the search engines have changed over, so that the first sites you'll see when you do a search is what's originating from mobile sites. So, we really need to plan for mobility. At this time we can view our website on a mobile phone, but it isn't in the mobile format. There are people talking about the use of Drupal,

WordPress, Dreamweaver, and other programs. Maybe we can all get the same program and software, but we're dealing with people who like their Drupal. Drupal developers are not going to want to work in WordPress and the Wordpress developers don't want to use Dreamweaver (the general consensus is that the other guys' software is harder). That is a large part of what the discussion was about. It's been good to hear that discussion.

One attendee developed the software used for CASO'S meeting directory. It is dropped into WordPress as a plug-in. The problem is that the WordPress plug-ins don't fit into other programs such as Drupal or html. WordPress is a wonderful program. Additional AA plug-ins are being developed for WordPress and could be our future.

Members of an Area 20 Technology Committee, including myself, Jeane M, led by our Area Webmaster, John C, discussed going forward with the development of a new Area 20 WordPress website.

Because our District 41 website is powered by the Area 20 website, we will also be building a new website. Our long-range goal is to create websites needing a minimum of training to maintain. In the meantime, I am refreshing my WordPress skills, and wishes to thank District 41 for the opportunity to be of service. The site reaches around the world to help the still-suffering Alcoholic, so mobility, accessibility, and anonymity are primary considerations.

Additional money for the trip had previously been approved.

WORKSHOPS: (Lee K., Beth K.) Lee K. brought flyers for the Women's *Shame* Workshop in March at Oakbrook Community Church on 31st and Midwest Road.

Carol from District 15 announced a New Year's celebration on December 31 at Elk Grove Pavilion at 6:30 p.m.

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

If you are a District 41 member and have not attended a district meeting within the last six months, chances are your name will be removed from the mailing list.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, December 17, 2015 @ 7:00 P.M. Anona Center East.