

## Northern Illinois Area 20 Spring Committee Minutes May 18th, 2024, In Person and Online/Video

MINUTES DISCLAIMER: THE MINUTES ARE CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL PUBLICATIONS AND SHOULD BE USED FOR AA PURPOSES ONLY

**Meeting Opening:** The Northern Illinois Area 20 Chair called the meeting to order at 9am. The group participated in a quiet time followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Area Chair welcomed attendees and made the meeting announcements.

**Total Attendees:** Attendance was not taken

**First Time Attendees:** Jessica D70, Stephanie D43, David D71, Matt D42, Chris D22

**Anniversaries Since Last Assembly:** Tina 33 years, Jeff 25 years, Chris 6 years, Sandy 10 years, John 22 years, Chris 33 years, Alan 8 years, Rob 36 years, Rich 36 years, Dan 7 years, Jessica 14 years

**Approval of 2024 Winter Committee Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Delegates Report - Erik L.**

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/Delgate-Report-Spring-Committee-5-18-24.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/Spanish-Delgate-Report-Spring-Committee-5-18-24-.pdf>

**Treasurer's Report – Dave F**

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Income	
7th Tradition Contributions	
Contributions - District	2,047.64
Contributions - Group	17,293.10
Contributions - Other	163.91
Contributions - Personal	780.02
Interest	50.80
<b>Total 7th Tradition Contributions</b>	<b>20,335.47</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$20,335.47</b>
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GROSS PROFIT	<b>\$20,335.47</b>
Expenses	
Primary Purpose Basic	
B01-24 2024 General Service Conference	1,000.00
B02-24 2024 General Service Conference Contribution	11,000.00
B03-24 2024 Area Assemblies	3,206.30
B04-24 2024 Area Committee Meetings	1,745.96
B05-24 2024 Service Orientation Workshops	1,363.26
B07-24 2024 Concepts Newsletter	259.50
B08-24 2024 Area Committee participation in District Committee functions	744.64
B09-24 2024 ECR Conference of Delegates Past and Present	2,168.95
B10-24 2024 Area Operations	6,569.02
B12-24 2024 Spring Conference, Area Participation	5,573.04
B17-24 2024 Service Committee Workshops	322.53
<b>Total Primary Purpose Basic</b>	<b>33,953.20</b>

Primary Purpose Motions	
M083 Hybrid Equipment Purchase 2022	971.46
M086 Area Participation in 2023 ECRF	1,200.00
M087 District Participation in 2023 ECRF	1,479.66
M089 Motion for area service committees to create / update display boards used at area functions	249.11
M091 Motion to rent headsets for 2024 Spring Conference	2,960.00
M092 Motion to Send Contribution the GSB 2024	10,000.00
<b>Total Primary Purpose Motions</b>	<b>16,860.23</b>
Purchases	129.75
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$50,943.18</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	<b>\$ -30,607.71</b>
NET INCOME	<b>\$ -30,607.71</b>

## Motions

### Motion to write a letter to the General Service Board, requesting to amend the Conference Charter to include Founders Literature

Panel 64 Past Delegate moves to request that the Panel 74 NIA Delegate forward a letter to the General Service Board, prior to the 2024 deadline, with a request amend the Current Conference Charter, Section 3, paragraph 2, to include the “Founders Literature” of the books Alcoholics Anonymous and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. That in addition to this amendment, any changes to the books Alcoholics Anonymous and Twelves Steps and Twelve Traditions be returned to its originally written wording **as published in 1953**. (version of 12&12) – what version of the Big Book & what sections – what does the Assembly think

#### Background

The books Alcoholics Anonymous, first published in 1939, and the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, first published in 1953, were written primarily by Bill W, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous. They are, admittedly, dated in language. However, according to aa.org, “Today, an A.A. presence can be found in approximately 180 nations worldwide, with membership estimated at over two million. There are more than 123,000 A.A. groups around the world and A.A.’s literature has been translated into over 100 languages.” This implies that these two books are translated into multiple languages, for multiple nations.

By adding these books to the Conference Charter a policy will be in place covering them for changes. This policy would be: “**But no change** ... may be made with less than the written consent of three-quarters of the A.A. groups, as described in the Resolution adopted by the 1955 Conference and Convention.”

*My notes: December Assembly 2023 – Sharing Session*

*Other countries outside the US & Canada “license” our books, specifically the Big Book and 12&12, that allows them to print and distribute within their countries.*

*After the GSC voted to change the Preamble and the 12&12, some countries asked if they were “required” to use the changes or could use the previous versions.*

*England voted this year to add their own stories – typical for translated countries also*

**A second for this motion was made and accepted. A request to table was declined. Highlighted are the changes/Corrections to the original motion. The final motion to be voted on at the Summer Assembly will have additional background information.**

### **Motion to Amend Corrections Workbook M-45**

Panel 74 NIA20 Corrections Chair moves that we amend the "Corrections Workbook" to read "The only purpose of the pink can is to provide G.S.O. Conference-approved *or Grapevine published* literature." This policy comes from page 18 of the "Corrections Workbook" (M-45), section titled "Area 10 (Colorado) Seventh Tradition Support", second paragraph, third sentence.

#### **Background:**

I want to clarify the language to explicitly allow the purchase of Grapevine published literature using pink can funds.

The Conference-Approved Literature bulletin (SM F-29) on the second page states "Since each issue of (the) Grapevine cannot go through the Conference approval process, the Conference recognizes (the) Grapevine as the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous." The same statement can be found in The A.A. Service Manual (BM-31) on page 84.

On page 56 of the Corrections Workbook in the "Literature Guide" section, sub-section "For Youth", it lists two Grapevine books: In Our Own Words (GV-19) and Young & Sober (GV-27). This seems like implicit approval of the use of Grapevine material.

#### **Rational:**

I wish to purchase and distribute the book "Free on the Inside" (GV-43) within IDOC and/or Jail facilities in the NIA20. This is a compilation of articles from the Prison Issue of the Grapevine (published annual in July). These are stories by sober members who have experienced AA in prison.

I believe the incarcerated population is the target market for this book. I believe those suffering with alcoholism behind the walls can benefit greatly from this book.

**Clarification was made as to the intent of this motion. The Author does want to send a letter to the General Service Board to change the Corrections workbook.**

### **Officer Reports**

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**Alternate Delegate – Lisa S**

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/Alt-Del-Report-Spring-Committee-Meeting-5-18-24.pdf>

**Chair – Dawn B.**

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2024-Spring-Committee-Packet-English.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/Spring-Committee-SP-Packet.pdf>

## **Alternate Chair – Aaron V**

Hello Trusted Servants! Thank you for taking the time to attend and participate in today's Spring Committee Meeting. Special thank you to Sandy & John from District 40 and all their volunteers for hosting the Spring Committee Meeting. I will continue to work with each Assembly or Committee meeting host District to ensure that we have what we need to carry on the business of Area 20. Thank you to all who took time to facilitate the 11 Pre-General Service Conference Workshop (PGSCW) Zoom breakouts, the volunteers that helped host PGSCW on March 23rd, and all those that took the time to read through the agenda items to ensure our NIA 20 Delegate, Erik L, was properly equipped to carry to voice of our Area to the General Service Conference. The East Central Regional Conference is right around the corner! It will be held in conjunction with the Michigan State Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan from June 7-9. The Friday evening keynote speaker is our very own Rich H! Registration is still open. Additional information can be found at the website listed below. You won't want to miss it!

<https://aamichiganstatewide.com/2024/04/25/2024-aa-michigan-state-convention-ecr-conference/> The work for the 2024 Big Book Conference and Illinois State Conference is underway. I look forward to participating in the planning meetings in the future and assisting in any way I can. This year I am eager to continue to host regularly scheduled GSR Workshops on Zoom. This is a great opportunity to be able to get to know each other, receive and give helpful advice, and address things that are not covered at Assembly breakouts. I had previously committed to getting these started earlier in the year and I promise they will resume soon. PLEASE ask me to visit your District meeting or workshop. I'm happy to come and observe, participate in any way you need, or simply just to make the coffee! My expenses so far have been \$437.35

**Registrar – Rob M** - Some updates have come in today. If you are not receiving Area communications from Dawn, see me to get this corrected. I am behind on some of the paperwork. I apologize for that but am working on getting caught up.

**Alternate Registrar – Kim D** – No report submitted

**Secretary – Sue M**

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/Spring-Committee-Meeting-05152024.pdf>

**Alternate Secretary – Rachel M** – Nothing to report

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## **Conference Reports**

### **2024 Big Book Conference – Michelle, Co-Chair Registration**

Registration is open. Mail-in registration is available. We amended the flyer to accommodate and mail-in registrations by adding our Registration Chair information. Registration cost is \$15.00, box lunch is \$15.00 for a total cost of \$30.00. No lunch available for purchase the day of event. Pre-registration is required. The BBC committee is here today with packets for each district. An email will be sent with the pdf flyer. The date of the event is November 9<sup>th</sup> at the First Covenant Church, 316 Wood Rd, Rockford. The venue is large so we are anticipating 300 in attendance that day. Please take the flyers back to your groups.

### **2025 State Conference – Jeff L. and Sandy Co-Chairs**

Most chairs are filled. The next planning committee meeting will be at 2pm on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Anona West, 129 Fremont St., West Chicago.

## Old Business

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### Open elected positions review:

- a. Answering Service - Alternate
- b. Archives – Alternate
- c. CPC – Alternate
- d. Literature – Alternate
- e. PI – Alternate
- f. Accessibilities – Alternate
- g. Corrections - Alternate

### DCM Reports

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**D10** – Lori - We have our picnic scheduled for August. We have a GSR workshop at the Serenity House in September. I will have all those dates for you coming up.

**D11** – Dan - A Treasurer and Alternate were elected at the last meeting. We look forward to Erik's report on June 6<sup>th</sup>. We are hosting the Area Summer Assembly on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. A flyer will be out next week. We look forward to hosting another service workshop with D12 and D10.

**D12** – Bonnie- Thank you to Erik for his report at our district meeting on Wednesday. June 15<sup>th</sup> we are holding a workshop in Lake Forest for BTG, Treatment and Corrections. A flyer is forthcoming. We are working on filling the open positions. We are working on changing the location for our district Christmas party.

### **D20** – REPORT FROM MARCELLO GIVEN BY ABEL AND TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH TO ENGLISH

First, I thank God for 24 more hours in AA. Receive a cordial greeting from the RCGs (GSR's) of District 20 and I also take this opportunity to thank Lisa, our Alt. Delegate, for her visit on May 2nd to the district with the information of the history of the big book and how to carry out the conference with the area and that was of great benefit to all of us and we are working to see how we can collaborate on the next Big Book Conference and it was also agreed at the last meeting on May 16th that we are going to follow up on it for the next conference. We are also visiting the 19 groups that we must visit to inform them and especially those who do not have their RSG(GSR's) also inform them that we have 15 RSG(GSR's) and we are working in unity and so far from January to date we have already visited the 19 groups thanks to all the RSG(GSR's) I could not make it possible alone. I also take this opportunity to extend a cordial invitation to our state convention this year. May 25 and 26, to be held at Hilton Hotel 5550 N River Rd Rosemont il 60018. By the memento is everything and in advance we thank you for your happy 24-hour apollo.

**D22** – Paula - August 25<sup>th</sup> is the picnic at the Wing Park in Elgin, from 10-4 pm. Bring a dish to pass, chairs, and family. We will have games for children and adults including a pie eating contest. Flyers will be available at the next meeting. We will be hosting the Area Committee meeting in October. We have 4 positions open. I am looking for suggestions to get these positions filled.

**D23** – Laura – We had a sponsorship workshop April 20<sup>th</sup> that was well attended. We are planning another workshop in August. Most of our district positions are filled.

**D28** – Tracy – We are doing okay. A couple positions need to be filled. Lisa from CPC came and helped get our CPC chair filled. We had two different churches listed for our district meeting that caused confusion. We are putting on an event in September. It will be an open meeting with food.

**D40** – Sandy – We have the district picnic on July 28<sup>th</sup>. We may have a pie eating contest. Erik may attend the June meeting to give his final report. We are in the middle of updating our website and should be done next month. The literature chair is getting new literature and racks. We are looking to have a Grapevine workshop and other workshops.

**D41** – Lael – We are also overhauling our website. Our picnic will be September 14<sup>th</sup> at York Woods in Oak Brook. We have a few positions to fill. Our DCM has stepped down, so I will now be the DCM.

**D42** – Dave – We had a service workshop two months ago with support from the Area. It was great! Our LCM's have been doing a really good job at reviewing and visiting groups in our district. There is a big problem with inaccurate information on our website. The church we were meeting at is remodeling and becoming a daycare. We had to relocate to St. Andrews Church in Downers Grove beginning in June.

**D43** – Laura – We have all chair positions filled, but have alternate positions open. We have an Accessibilities Survey going to all our GSR's. The survey was put together by our Accessibilities Chair to campaign for people with disabilities attending meetings in our district. The PI/CPC Chair still has the ongoing Instagram and Facebook pages. She tells us how many clicks and details of who is clicking. Anyone clicking on them can find their way to the AA website. The second annual AA trivia night is on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**D61** – Kate – Things are going well. Last month we had the Fox Valley Open that was well attended. May 29<sup>th</sup> is our service workshop. August 3<sup>rd</sup> is our district picnic at Lions Park in Elburn. The secretary and alt. secretary positions were filled. All we have left to fill is literature chair. We started a hybrid meeting for the district. One person used it. My alternate and myself are visiting as many groups as possible. We just gained 3 new meetings and picking up quite a few new GSR's.

**D70** – Michelle – Reading report from Kim S. Alternate Chair- I apologize for not being in attendance today. Due to severe health problems, our DCM has stepped down. At this moment, I have no plans on stepping into the position, but will continue to do what I need to do for our district and area. Most of it is all new to me and I was planning on taking these 2 years to learn. We are looking to fill the position, but until then, if anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me. Prior to this I was nominated for the Big Book Conference Chair. We have flyers and registration available today. Again, please see one of the ladies, Michelle, or Jessica for any questions. I am very thankful for them stepping up for District 70 today. I do plan on being at the next area function and hope to see you all at Big Book Conference 2024

**D71** – Dave – I am a beginner, so go easy on me! We had two people at our district meeting that were GSRs. I did a census of the forty groups around Dekalb and Dekalb County and got around 10 or 15 coming for the last 6 months. We have a CPC chair. Lisa has taken me around to some cool stuff. I am getting plugged in to everyone here to help me get started. I'll take all the help I can get.

**D73** – Karen – We cover four counties, Lee, Carroll, Ogle and Whiteside. We continue to have good attendance at the district meetings which meet every third Friday at 7pm in Dixon. We have worked hard at updating our district website to have more information and more user friendly. We have a new webmaster. The Area CPC Chair, Lisa contacted me and came out to Oregon and met our CPC Chair, Kim S. Group activities: We have a Memorial Day Picnic hosted by one of the groups, a campout in August and we continue to have potlucks and speaker meetings monthly by two different groups. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, we have a workshop put on by our CPC and Grapevine Chair in Dixon from 2:30 – 4pm. It is called In Honor of Founders Day. They are going to perform a play called Victor E and Slogans from the AAGrapvine.org.

**A few items during the open mic portion of the meeting:**

George, Corrections Chair, has new Pink Cans with QR Codes on them. Contact George to get a can.

Cheryl, Service Manual Custodian – New versions of the manual are on our website. The format is now the same as the printed version. It is my hope this will meet with approval so I can continue with only two versions of the manual.

Bryan – Tech Committee – A quick reminder that anything posted on our website needs to be anonymized. Any flyers, etc.... need to be ready to post. We will not correct them. They will be returned, so please keep this in mind when submitting anything to be posted on the Area website.

Cheryl – Archivist – I have been working on a One Drive, so I have been pulling files from our website. You will start to see older things disappear. Also, on the archives, I have started a list of printed and digital stuff that I will be looking for because we are missing things. The reason for doing this is anonymity. We have full names and full-face pictures on our website that need to be corrected.

Dave – Answering Service Chair – I do have stickers with the QR Code if you are a DCM or GSR, please see me.

Motion to adjourn by Robert and Cheryl. The Meeting ended with the Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue M.

NIA Secretary

**Next meeting is the Summer Assembly at First Congregational Church, 461 Pierson St, Crystal Lake, hosted by D11 on June 22nd.**