

Northern Illinois Area 20 Summer Committee Minutes August 2, 2025, 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 quiet time and the Serenity Prayer. The Area Chair welcomed attendees. Meeting announcements were given.

First Time Attendees – Matt GSR, Serenity House, Laura, GSR D11, Brian D10, Rob GSR D10, Giles D42 secretary, Lynn GSR D51, Brian D10 Alt. Events.

Anniversaries – Steve 41yrs, Joe 12yrs, Tom 48yrs, Karen 45yrs, Larry 39yrs, Tim 9yrs, Rob 10yrs, Laura 2yrs, Matt 90 days.

Approval of Spring Committee Meeting Minutes: Moved by Kevin, seconded by Tina. Approved unanimously.

Delegates Report- Erik L

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Delegate Report \(EN\)](#)

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Delegate Report \(ES\)](#)

Erik gave a presentation on motion submission process for the General Service Conference.

Treasurer's Report – Dave F

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Treasurer Report \(EN\)](#)

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Treasurer Report \(ES\)](#)

Motions

District 40 requests that Area 20 submit the following agenda item for the 76th General Service Conference:

It is moved to return to using a plain blue binding with embossed letters (Alcoholics Anonymous) in the same color, for the hard copy “Big Book,” either with or without the dust cover.

The full motion is in the link below

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Final Agenda and Motion \(EN\)](#)

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Final Agenda and Motion \(ES\)](#)

Alternate Program

Larry S discussed Primary Purpose Finance. Why we have it, what it is, and how it works.

Officer Reports

Alternate Delegate – Lisa S - [2025 Summer Committee Meeting Alt Delegate Report \(EN & ES\)](#)

Area Chair – Dawn B –

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Chair Report \(EN\)](#)

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Chair Report \(ES\)](#)

Alternate Area Chair – Aaron V –

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Alt Chair Report \(EN\)](#)

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Alt Chair Report \(ES\)](#)

Registrar – Kim D –

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Registrar Report \(EN\)](#)

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Registrar Report \(ES\)](#)

Alternate Registrar – Dawn S –

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Alt Registrar Report \(EN\)](#)

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Alt Registrar Report \(ES\)](#)

Secretary – Sue M – [2025 Summer Committee Meeting Secretary Report \(EN & ES\)](#)

Alternate Secretary – Lorrie F –

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Alt Secretary Report \(EN\)](#)

[2025 Summer Committee Meeting Alt Secretary Report \(ES\)](#)

Conference Reports

2025 Big Book Conference – Dave & Marcello – No report

Illinois State Conference Report – Sandy C – Online registration is open, credit card only. All committees are doing what they need to be doing.

2026 Spring Conference – Jeremy & Paula– We meet the third Sunday of the month at the EDI club, 2pm. Save the date flyers are available and registration flyers will be at next Assembly.

Old Business

Open Elected Positions – Alternate Chair for: Accessibilities, Answering Service, Corrections, Cooperating with the Professional Community, Literature and Public Information.

Service Committee Reports

Accessibilities, Chris E - I have attended a meeting of the All Accessibilities Committee for the US and Canada, hosted a meeting of the NIA20 Accessibilities Committee, and continued work on a database of ASL interpreters for the Area. The Sunday night Plain Language Big Book Study Group finished at the end of June. Because of it's success, and requests to go through the book again, I will host a new Plain Language Big Book Study Group on Thursdays, 6pm starting August 7th. Flyers were sent out with my Summer Assembly report. You don't need to have a copy of the book to participate, we screen share an eBook for all to read along. Please spread the word and join us!

Concepts, Susan H - No report

Answering Service , Dave T- No report.

Corrections, George P Report given at microphone. No written report submitted.

Archives - Carol H - I had the pleasure of attending the AA International convention. I volunteered in the GSO archives room and met individuals from all over the world. I went to both Archive's sessions and spent time in the archive's hospitality room with additional resources, and a full-size replica of Dr. Bob and Bill that you could take pictures with. August 13th, we had a presentation at our monthly NIA archives committee meeting by our Area 20 Archivist, Cheryl V. She shared her experience creating and maintaining electronic files and folders for the historical documents she has been entrusted with, and the naming convention she found useful for consistent file management. Additionally, she provided us with her notes and reference materials to add to our resource library on One Drive that we are just starting to build. Our next monthly meeting is Sunday August 10th. The topic is "Group Histories" which has been the focus of our discussion the past several months. We will have two presenters, Teri, Area 53 Archivist and Geoge C, past archivist from Area 20 District 43. All are welcome to attend. Our Archives Committee poster board displays are being worked on, we hope to have them at the Fall Assembly. Until then we will continue to reach out to District Committee Members (DCM's) to participate in their monthly business meeting in districts that do not have active archives committees. This Sunday I will attend another archives meeting hosted by Area 43.

Bridging the Gap - Joey B , Jess B- Thank you to those who sent me Temporary Contact volunteers. I have sign-up sheets available. I will be participating in a Treatment/ BTG Workshop September 20th in Round Lake. Thank you, Kevin for asking me to participate. If anyone needs materials for BTG, please see me. I now have additional Spanish material that's been on backorder since January. I will not be attending the BTGWW next month. If you have any questions or would like to do a workshop in your District please feel free to contact me.

Cooperation with the Professional Community- Lisa G – Since the last Area gathering our committee has been diligently filling several community requests for AA resources and presentations, organizing volunteer servants to support local events. 7/20/25 7/29/25 CPC Planning Committee Meeting (Hoffman Estates) IL Attorney Generals Town Hall (Chicago) A note on working collaboratively with our Regional Area CPC/PI chairs-more specifically Area 19- and growing that relationship to gather support and ideas: Deirdre and our committee have cooperated on Zoom presentations to LPN's. At the Town Hall July 29 our voice of hope and recovery was offered to the several hundred people in attendance. Although I attended primarily for personal reasons a reminder was articulated to our Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul. AA is still here, has been for 90 years, and is free. With cuts to mental health funding and the removal of unhoused people from our streets they will need us more than ever. Renewing Area 20's commitment to our Primary Purpose and Responsibility Statement are our current focus. Our foundational efforts to increase the visibility and accessibility of AA resources through engaging in community and professional events are paying off! As the list below indicates, our presence is welcomed, most often requested, by groups who've already had a connection with AA or our members.

Grapevine - Terry M – We presented our display boards and material at D12 Monthly GSR meeting which we presented a power point in person during their hybrid meeting. Newly appointed GV rep Rick D District 12 set up the event. We have been asked to participant in a service workshop for D52 in November which GV will happily attend with our materials in tow. We are on the committee for the 2025 Illinois State Conference. Alternate Karen W is busy spreading the GV word recently reviewed the grapevine responsibilities with two new GV reps at the Flying Geese Meeting, Karen will be setting up the display again this month at District 11 meeting and the Flying Geese Retreat August 15-17th, and attending the East Central Regional Forum.

Literature - Jan S - We are wrapping up our communications to the groups regarding the outcome of some Motions regarding literature. It is now time to begin planning for the Fall/Winter activities and the committee has come up with great ideas which we plan on implementing. I am currently signed up to attend the East Central Regional Forum, the Big Book Conference, and the State Conference. My expenses YTD are \$487.00.

Public Information – Tina R - I have reached out to District PI Chairs, but have received no response.

Treatment - Kevin A and Jeff L -We continue to hold the less than popular treatment zoom meeting on the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm. Workshop will be held on September 20th at the Round Lake Alano Club. This serves to help folks sign up for Treatment, Corrections and Bridging the Gap. I will purchase literature to help with hand-outs.

Webmaster – Scott T - All summer committee reports that I had received since 9pm last night are in their appropriate places on the site. Besides the normal administration, some calendar events were added (which I have 2 more remaining to add) and had a couple District numbers to change and the service manual has also been updated. Continued Reminders: Please 1: Anonymity protect your documents before you send them to me. Please 2: PDF your documents before you send them to me. Let me know if you don't have that capability and I will try and help. Website development continues and we are meeting our goals with a target to present drafts to the Fellowship by year's end. Should you have anything for posting, please adhere to the guidelines as they are found on the website, especially taking care to anonymity protect the content, no photos of the fellowship and no references to gambling, raffles and the like. Last names, phone numbers and personal email addresses are not to be used for communication per our guidelines. If an event is not sponsored by NIA, an NIA District or group within NIA, per our guidelines they are not to be posted on the NIA website. You can send your information direct to me at the webmaster email. Please be patient as I try to do much of the maintenance in bulk unless it is an urgent matter. As of the writing of this report and our last meeting, my current expenses were \$00.00.

Administrative Reports

Archivist - Cheryl V - The move of the archive storage unit has been scheduled for next week. They were willing to accept a deposit and invoice us for the balance along with letting me send pictures of the unit to give a better estimate. Once completed I will be going through what we have and getting a better inventory. I will also be able to move forward with the continuation of scanning minutes first, then moving on to other documents. I participated in the monthly Archives workshop and presented information on how I have organized our electronic files. This included how I set-up storage and the naming convention I have used. Hopefully I presented tips on how Districts might start the process and move forward. Expenses to date: 2/2025 – reframe Bill & Bob - \$398, 2/2025 – new cases for Bill & Bob - \$49.98, 4/2025 – external hard drive for electronic files - \$239.99, 7/2025 – deposit for archives move - \$ 437.25 Total - \$1,125.22

Conference Advisory Committee Chair, Aaron V – Report given at microphone. No report submitted.

Tech Committee, Bryan D. – Report Given at microphone. No report submitted.

Finance Committee – David F. – No report

Operating Committee – Deb S. - Not met. No report.

Report & Charter Committee – Chris E. - Not met. No report.

Service Manual Custodian - Cheryl V -Changes from the approved motions of the 2025 Summer Assembly have been made to the handbooks. These versions have been uploaded to the website.

DCM Reports

D10 - John C –We had thirty-three attendees at our July 27th meeting. Representing about half of Lake County, we participate in the Tri-County Conference. The first planning meeting will be on September 14, 1:30pm at the Kenosha

Alano Club. Erik will give his delegate report at our September 28 meeting. Dawn and Aaron will be our guests on December 7, to discuss the Area's role in the service structure. We'll have food at both events, so we expect large turnouts. Our picnic is August 16 at the Half Day Forest preserve in Vernon Hills, and our Fall Breakfast is October 19 at Parkway banquets in Round Lake. Details may be found at <https://district10nia.org>. Our webmaster is staging an ongoing update of the website so that it more closely conforms to current practices and is more tailored to mobile devices. Our GSR Contact chairperson is continuing his GSR effort, in which volunteers attend meetings without GSRs to educate them about the value and duties of GSRs. Finally, at the July 27 meeting we adopted new bylaws.

D12 – Jaime S– Hosted District picnic with 100 attendees. Area Grapevine Chair, Terry, presented at District meeting. District meeting will change venues in September, back to Waukegan at a different location: St. Mark's Church. Filling committee positions and looking forward to the Tri-county planning meetings coming up in fall.

D21 – Debbie S–Hosted the Summer Assembly. Answering Service has switched to Google Voice. Archivist has sent out group history forms for the archives.

D22 – Paula P – George, Area Corrections is holding a workshop with food & good speakers in Elgin. GSR School will be held in December at Zion Lutheran Church. We are trying to instill enthusiasm for the upcoming 2026 Spring Conference and for upcoming elections.

D23 – Laura S – We will be hosting the next Assembly in September. Beef Hot Dogs for lunch. Co-hosting the 2026 Spring Conference with D22.

D40 - Sandy C – District picnic was held last month. Erik L. presented at July District meeting and Kelly L. will be presenting her Service Sponsorship presentation at the next District meeting. September. Robert S. will be presenting on service positions. Elections coming up in October. Need more volunteers for 2025 conference for Alkathons and Hospitality rooms.

D41 – Chris J – New to position and trying to rebuild District. Would like D40 to do a presentation on LCM's. Did get 2 new GSR's. Need job descriptions for District positions. Picnic will be Sept. 14th in York Woods, and combining with group history presentations.

D61 – Katie R – Had their District picnic and GSR School. Grapevine chair has gotten local libraries to subscribe to Grapevine for their locations. Treatment chair is working with D22 Treatment chair for support. Answering service has saved \$150 a month by going to Google Voice.

D62 – Josh J - Since the last committee meeting, answering service committee was helped by Dave for our update to Google Voice. We've added one new meeting, two new GSR's, filled the alternate answering service position as well as the Archives Committee Chair. Also in the works is an update to our District's Charter and Bylaw's. Our monthly meetings usually have 14-18 members. We will be co-hosting with D64 our annual softball game and picnic on the 17th of August.

D70 - Kim S – Dan will be at next District Meeting to discuss 2027 Spring Conference. Erik L. will give Delegate report 9/6 at Rockford Alano Club. Have a new Archivist.

D73 – Karen D – GSR School Service Workshop on June 28. Alt. Delegate Lisa S. gave the presentation. Comments were positive. Meetings continue to be held at Dixon Correctional Facility, Thomson Federal Prison, Ogle County Jail, Whiteside County Jail for men and women. Sept. 19th Erik L. will be giving his General Service Conference report.

D80 – Deb A - Having good attendance at District meetings. Picnic will be 8/24 Buffalo Rock State Park at noon. GSR School will be 10/5.

D91 – Alice P - 9th Anniversary Cookout on 10/4 at 5:00pm. Lisa S. will be speaker.

After open microphone, a motion to adjourn by Robert and Jaime. The meeting ended with the responsibility statement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue M NIA Secretary and Lorrie F Alternate NIA Secretary

Next meeting is the Fall Assembly, September 13th at Lord of Life Church, Elburn, IL.