

September 19, 2020 – Fall Assembly

Greetings Area 20,

I hope that all of you are doing well and staying safe out there.

Since the last Assembly meeting that was held on June 13, 2020, I have visited some District business meetings to give a short General Service Conference report. I would like to visit your district also!

District 21 – June 16<sup>th</sup> – Thank you Chris  
12x12x12 & More Meeting on June 24  
District 11 – July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Thank you Kate  
District 23 – July 13<sup>th</sup> – Thank you Scott  
District 73 – July 17<sup>th</sup> – Thank you Karen  
District 10 – July 10<sup>th</sup> – Thank you Kevin  
District 41 – August 20<sup>th</sup> – Thank you Tom

I attended the National Corrections Conference on August 1<sup>st</sup>. It was a wonderful conference. Two male prisoners in Angola were able to speak to us. It was wonderful to see how AA is helping people that are incarcerated. Thank you Mark and Scott. Great job!!!!

I attended many of the IL State Conference planning meetings and gave my General Service Conference report at the Virtual State Conference on August 15<sup>th</sup>. I also attended the final wrap-up meeting for the State Conference on Monday September 14<sup>th</sup>. No final figures are in yet, however the conference was a success.

I attended all of the Illinois State Policy meetings. This committee has been very busy updating the procedures for hosting the Illinois State Conferences. Each area in Illinois hosts this conference once every third year. This year Area 19 hosted the conference virtually. The “procedures” document has not been updated in a while, so this year the Illinois State Policy Committee had several meetings to bring the document up to date including information regarding Virtual Conferences.

Also, on August 15<sup>th</sup> I attended the Finance presentation given by the General Service Office via ZOOM.

Here are the minutes that I took of that meeting:

They are still having problems with ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning), but it is beginning to work. The problem is this, trying to get the three different systems to become one system. #1 system was FNV (Fellowship new Visions, a record of all groups, contacts and trusted servants; #2 GSO webstore, where all literature is sold.

#3 Group contributions. All three of those systems are being combined into one system named ERP, Enterprise Resource Planning system. The new computer system at GSO should be working by December 14, 2020. ERP helps make all of the systems work together.

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition of self-support \$8.86 million set another record up 5.71% from 2018

Hotel deposit for the 70<sup>th</sup> GSC, that hotel has closed its doors so we won't get back the deposit.

Paypal is working for contributions. / No venmo.

Highlights from A.A.W.S and Box 459 are both on-line.

Grapevine loss was \$27,303

Reserve Fund \$16.2 million resulting in ration of 9.2 months

Question from a Delegate: Where there any employees furloughed, layoff?

Answer, by Greg, 3 or 4 furlough, a couple of leaves, one retired. Answer by Stephanie, 3 AAWS and 1 Grapevine employees were furlough. (as of August 15, 2020)

Questions from a Delegate: Any plans on hiring by the end of the year?

Answer by Greg T., undergoing right now – the plan is not to replace one to one. Expect a smaller workforce in 2021.

Will the \$3 million be enough? (drawdown of \$3,000,000.00 from the prudent reserve) Will we have to drawdown again?

Answer by Leslie: how soon the money comes in the from insurance company for the cancellation of the 2020 International Convention.

Answer by Leslie-(drawdown) we hope to pay it (the drawdown) back within two years.

Question from a Delegate: When will we see the quarterly group contributions? Zenni answered, currently working on the data in NetSuite.

The data cannot be exported.

END OF MY MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup> FINANCIAL MEETING\*\*\*\*\*

The final reports for the 70<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference, in English, Spanish and Polish are all on the NIA website. Thank you Earl!

The 70<sup>th</sup> GSC Finance Update Presentation, "Around The Picnic Table" is posted on our website and included in the e-mail that I sent to everyone. (Thank you Earl!)

Rich H. stopped by my house and picked up of the Final Report to help distribute them to Districts 10/11/12/20/21/28/79. 225 English and 20 Spanish reports

I have received several e-mails from the General Service office regarding finances and other topics. I have forward all of those e-mails out to Area 20. I have also attached some of them to my e-mail to you for this Assembly.

There will be no "in person" FORUMS in 2021.

The Conference of Delegates Past and Present will not be in person. May be Virtual?

AA catalogues will not be mailed out for a cost savings.

All DCM and GSR kits have been sent out.

Box 459 and Highlights will only be sent out electronically.

No travel by General Service Office.

The General Service Office is asking for stories from the “A.A. Older Alcoholic” (included in e-mail)

The August 20-22, 2021 ECR Conference hosted by Area 55. (Save the date flier is included in the e-mail)

Due to the Conference approval of the Report and Charter item to change Item D to change the wording in the Conference Charter (included in e-mail)

Current amount to be self-supporting is \$8.11. I contacted Mark E., our East Central Region Trustee to get an understanding of where / and how this all started. This is what he said:

*About 3 or 4 years ago the "cost" of supporting the General Service office was \$7.28 per individual AA member. A movement was started in the Pacific northwest that each member was encouraged to send in \$7.28 on July 28 and the idea spread from group to group all over the country. And on July 28 and for days after loads of contributions came in for \$7.28 each. The next year it was a bit more and this year the cost is \$8.11 and again a grass roots movement has found many contributions of \$8.11 coming in on August 11.*

The Area Handbook in Spanish should be on our website now or soon.

Now about today's election for Area 20's East Central Regional Trustee candidate: Some background; there are eight regions total: 2 regions in Canada and 6 regions in the United States. We are in the East Central Region which includes the five states; Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. Within our five states there are 14 Areas. Each area can elect a candidate to be elected at next year's 71<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference. At our Area Assembly today we will see who we have elected for our regions trustee. I then will send their resume to the General Service Office. The Trustee will serve four “one year” terms. The Trustees Committee will review the resumes of all newly-nominated persons.

Also to be voted on today is a candidate from our Area for the Trustee at Large – US. More from Mark:

*Each area has the right and (some might argue) responsibility to nominate a candidate for each of these two positions. These candidates will be presented by you (or your delegate replacement for the panel 69 delegates), at both our East Central Regional Conference of Delegates Past and Present in February 2021 and again at*

*the General Service Conference in April 2021. The Trustee at Large – US will be discussed and the number reduced to a total of six at regional luncheons by the six US regional meetings at the Conference – each region will then present one candidate for Trustee at Large US at election to be held usually on Wednesday, at the Conference. In the same afternoon, the ECR Trustee will be elected and all of you witness how those elections go.*

I thank you for allowing me to serve you.

In Service,  
Marilyn F.  
NIA 20 – Panel 70 Delegate

Expenses for 2020: Printed GSC documents - \$492.44  
March 2020 ZOOM \$14.99