

2021 Winter Committee Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2021

Online Audio/Video Meeting

Meeting Opening

Chair Carmela R. called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The group participated in a quiet time followed by the Serenity Prayer. This was followed by some basic virtual meeting housekeeping protocols.

New Attendees

Charles H. – District 42 Alternate District Committee Member (DCM)

Kelly L. – General Service Representative (GSR)

Ted S. – GSR

Ana M. – visitor

Matthew S. - Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)

Christine K. – GSR

Randy K. – visitor

Francelia K. – District 12 Alternate DCM

Emily W. – GSR

Leann N. – GSR

Johnna I. – District 28 DCM

Anniversaries

Johnna I. – 12/31, 9 years

Don J. – 1/1, 19 years

Carol H. – 1/22, 22 years

50 Years of Sobriety Celebrated!

Approval of 2020 Fall Committee Meeting Minutes

Robert S. made the motion to approve the 2020 Fall Committee Meeting minutes and George C. seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Meeting Business

Delegate's Report – Marilyn F.

Hello Everyone and Welcome to the Winter Committee Meeting.

I hope that everyone is staying healthy in this strange time.

Since the last Committee Meeting held October 27, 2020, I have attended the following:

- The Annual Big Book Conference hosted by Districts 10 and 12 on October 30, 2020
- The East Central Region ZOOM meeting with our Trustee Mark, and the other Delegates in our region on November 7, 2020
- The Corrections Conference on November 13, 2020

- Workshop on Bill's Story on ZOOM November 14, 2020
- GSC report for District 42 on November 17, 2020, thank you Jim.
- Eastern U.S. and Canada Forum on December 5, 2020
- Winter Assembly held on December 11, 2020
- On December 12, 2020 I forwarded our Registrar's/Alt Registrar's motion to the General Service office to be placed on the 71st General Service Conference regarding registering online meetings.
- Western U.S. and Canada Forum on December 19, 2020.

On September 26th, 2020 I sent the form to the General Service office letting them know that Area 20 has elected Cheryl V. as our candidate for the East Central Regional Trustee. I will be presenting Cheryl at the virtual Conference of Delegates Past and Present on February 13, 2021 and at the General Service Conference in April 2021 via ZOOM. I am collecting information on all of the activities that Cheryl has been involved in.

I just received an e-mail from our General Service Office that there is an opening for Non-trustee Appointed Committee Member(s) for Trustees' Public Information Committee. If you are interested in this position, please let me know.

I am looking forward to attending the 71st General Service Conference (virtually again)! We will be having ZOOM Pre-General Service Conference meetings, so please pick the committees that you are interested in and join us. Any alcoholic can attend. You don't have to have a service position.

I thank you for allowing me to serve you.

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

Discussion:

Don J. asked Marilyn to repeat the contributions summary.

Announcement: Chair Carmela and Registrar Carol H. jointly asked attendees elected to serve terms beginning on January 1, 2021 to send their information to the Registrar for addition to the Area Roster and for registration with GSO.

Treasurer's Report – Dawn B.

**2021 Report from the Panel 70 NIA Treasurer
NIA Winter Committee Meeting – January 9, 2021**

Balance Sheet

The QuickBooks Balance Sheet summarizes our assets, liabilities and equity (equity is assets minus liabilities) incurred during a specified period. See attached report [at the end of the minutes] for the period from January 1, 2021 through January 9, 2021:

- Checking account balance: \$19,935.04
- Operating funds balance: \$15,080.72
- Restricted funds balance: \$4,854.31 and consists of:
 - "Pink Can" \$4,112.41
 - "Green Can" \$741.90
- Savings account balance: \$23,514.00 (Prudent Reserve)

Profit and Loss Statement

The QuickBooks Profit and Loss Statement summarizes the revenues, costs and expenses incurred during a specified period. See attached report for the period from January 1, 2021 through January 9, 2021:

- Total Contributions: \$2,476.15
- Total Expenses: \$338.53
- Net Operating Income: \$2,137.62 which is the amount that our income exceeds our expenses in 2021

Miscellaneous

- The 2020 Big Book Conference bank account is whole at \$2,500. With contributions received, the donations over seed money for the Big Book Conference are \$379.47
- We have begun to have PayPal donations come through. The address for PayPal is on the NIA website. It is: treasurer@aa.nia.org. Please clarify if this is a personal, meeting, or District donation. If it is a meeting donation, please clarify meeting number or day/time/location so that we may credit the correct meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn B., NIA Treasurer – Panel 70 treasurer@aa-nia.org

Discussion:

Christy B. asked if Dawn had the 2020 full year Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet statements available. Dawn said she did, and she will get those to Webmaster Earl to post on the NIA website.

Alternate Treasurer – Allen J.

Allen presented information on the 2021 area contributions. The summary report breaks down contributions from districts, groups, individuals (posted anonymously), pink can and green can.

The Alternate Treasurer's Report containing the 2021 contributions summary is attached to these minutes and posted to the NIA website.

Discussion:

Jane H. asked what the pink and green cans are. Allen explained that the Pink can is a separate line item for donations designated specifically for corrections literature and the Green can is a separate line item for donations designated specifically for treatment literature.

Chair Carmela announced that approval of the Treasurer's Report is required only at the Assemblies, not at the Committee Meetings.

Other Officers' Reports – The other area officers' reports were omitted from the agenda to make time in the schedule for the Service Orientation Workshop. The Alternate Delegate's report and Registrar's reports are attached to these minutes and posted on the NIA website. No other written officer's reports were submitted to the secretary.

Old Business

Open Elected Positions Review

Chair Carmela said that elections for the open positions listed below will be held at the Spring Assembly. The duties and responsibilities for these positions are listed in the Area Service Manual.

- Accessibilities Committee Chair – Alternate
- Answering Service Committee Area Chair – Alternate
- Archives Committee Area Chair – Alternate

- BTG Committee Area Chair – Alternate
- Grapevine Committee Area Chair – Alternate

NIA 20 Service Manual

Chair Carmela announced that the most recently updated versions of the Service Manual (English and Spanish) are available electronically on the NIA website. The revised service manual has been printed in both languages in preparation for returning to in-person meetings where it can be distributed.

2021 Area Calendar

Chair Carmela announced that all Area meetings in the 1st Quarter 2021 will be virtual meetings on Zoom. This is in accordance with the recommendation of the NIA Ad Hoc Committee on Returning to Meetings that during the pandemic all meetings in the quarter will be held either virtually or in-person based on the Governor's restrictions for large gatherings in place at the beginning of the quarter. Carmela also said that the May 2021 Spring Committee Meeting may be virtual as well.

Bids for 2022 Conferences

Chair Carmela announced that bidding is open for a district or districts to host the 2022 Spring Assembly Conference or the 2022 Illinois State Conference. We are required to host the state conference in 2021 according to the rotation schedule established by the three Illinois areas. Carmela posted a link to the NIA conference planning guide in the Zoom chat room. This guide provides assistance to districts that may be thinking about hosting.

Help for preparing bids is available from Alt Chair Eric L., the area coordinator for conferences, and the Conference Advisory Committee. Additionally, Carmela and Delegate Marilyn who are on the State Conference Policy Committee can help with bids for the state conference, as can Erik L. who was on the host committee for the 2019 State Conference.

We have 9 weeks to the Spring Assembly, and Carmela asked that districts consider hosting and bring their bids to the Spring Assembly.

Sharing session: Attraction to Assemblies

Chair Carmela R. started the discussion by saying this is a time to share ideas and bring your experience to the group. No decisions will be made during this sharing session. She would like to hear suggestions for getting people excited about attending and hosting conferences, assemblies, etc.

Susan H. said that if topics were announced ahead of the assembly, you could get a group of people interested in the topic to come together. That is a great way to share the experience and get to know each other.

Lisa S. suggested having area committee chairs/officers come to district meetings to deliver a personal invitation to the assembly to district members.

Renita D. suggested having raffles and signup sheets for events. **Earl N.** noted that we cannot have flyers with raffles (any form of gambling) on the Area website. He also wanted to let everyone know that if you send the Area a flyer, it needs to have the name of the person sending it as the contact name on the flyer, or else he can't post it.

Robert S. suggested that the area needs to discuss what will be going on at the assembly before the assembly so that GSRs can let their groups know what will be discussed/voted on.

Christy B. suggested having a committee scramble. The idea being that instead of selecting a specific breakout to attend when you register, the host randomly assigns you to a breakout where you get to learn about something new to you.

Dawn B. said that potential GSRs be informed that the meetings are held on Saturdays, so if you work regularly on Saturday, this is not a good service work fit for you. She suggested that districts encourage people to go to the assemblies together for fellowship. She also suggested having the group meet on Zoom ahead of time or having people come early to the assembly Zoom room. It can be helpful to have a GSR meeting separate from the district meeting so they can learn what they are there for and what to do.

Chris E. said that their district gives reimbursements to GSRs for travel to assemblies and lunch expenses. He has asked his district officers to come to attend the breakout sessions, but if no one else from other districts are there, there isn't much sharing. He mentioned the secretary/registrar breakout with only one or two district people in attendance as an example.

Allen J. said that when he was Alt DCM/DCM in his district, he passed out GSR stories from the Grapevine to help them understand the job and get excited about doing it. He said DCMs have to do things to help GSRs feel comfortable, not alone in this service work.

Kim T. said one way to get GSRs interested in coming to assemblies and committee meetings is to let them know what the committees are and that they can join any of them. There is a large array of interesting things going on in A.A., and newcomers need to hear about them to get excited about service work.

Rob M. said that educating sponsees and newcomers on the benefits of service is important. It is a great way to get to know each other on a different level, and it is fun.

John O. suggested getting communication to the districts from the different service structures in a timely way.

Carmela R. shared on going to a virtual District 40 Grapevine workshop put on with help from Grapevine Chair Susan H. There were 18 participants from 5 districts in attendance and it was very engaging. Susan talked about groups having Grapevine representatives, and a couple of people there wanted to become representatives. Susan will be working with a different district to have another Grapevine workshop on February 11, 2021.

Francelia K. said that as a newcomer it was important to be welcomed. She felt welcomed at the meeting today and thanked everyone.

Christine D. wants information on the February 11th Grapevine workshop.

Kevin A. said that as part of the attraction to the A.A. process, we have to give of our time and make efforts to invite new people to events and spend time with them.

Robert S. asked about the District Meetings List. **Chris D.** replied that he is working on it and expects it to be ready in a week. He wants to talk to Registrar Carol about the districts with January 1, 2021 rotations and about virtual district meetings not having Zoom meeting information on the list.

Christy B. suggested having a sharing session where DCMs and sponsors shared their success stories about getting people involved in district/area service work.

Service Orientation Workshop

Alternate Delegate Chris D. presented the service orientation workshop with participation by Alternate Chair Erik L., Chair Carmela R., Webmaster Earl N., and Delegate Marilyn F. The presentation materials from this workshop will be posted on the NIA website.

Meeting Closure

Adjournment

Kevin A. made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Chris E. seconded it. Area Chair Carmela R. adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m., and the A.A. responsibility statement was recited.

The Spring Committee Meeting will be held on May 1, 2021. This meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held virtually.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy B.

NIA 20 Secretary

Attachments

2021 Winter Committee Meeting – January 9, 2021

1. NIA, Ltd. Balance Sheet as of January 8, 2021
2. NIA, Ltd. Profit and Loss January 1-8, 2021
3. Alternate Treasurer's Report (Summary of Contributions)
4. Alternate Delegate's Report
5. Registrar's Report

NIA, Ltd.

BALANCE SHEET

As of January 8, 2021

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Cash	0.00
Checking	15,080.73
Restricted Funds	
ECRC Delegates Past and Present Seed Money	0.00
ECRC Seed Money	0.00
Green Can	741.90
GSO Birthday Plan	0.00
Illinois State Conference Seed Money	0.00
Pink Can	4,112.41
Total Restricted Funds	4,854.31
Total Checking	19,935.04
Total Cash	19,935.04
Prudent Reserve	23,514.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$43,449.04
Accounts Receivable	
Do not use - Accounts Receivable (A/R)	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
Other Current Assets	
Do not use - Uncategorized Asset	1.00
Do not use - Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$1.00
Total Current Assets	\$43,450.04
TOTAL ASSETS	\$43,450.04

NIA, Ltd.

BALANCE SHEET

As of January 8, 2021

	TOTAL
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Do not use - Accounts Payable	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Other Current Liabilities	
Liabilities	
ECRC Delegates Past and Present Seed Money	0.00
ECRC Seed Money	0.00
Green Can	682.85
GSO Birthday Plan	0.00
Illinois State Conference Seed Money	0.00
Pink Can	1,671.52
Total Liabilities	2,354.37
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$2,354.37
Total Current Liabilities	\$2,354.37
Total Liabilities	\$2,354.37
Equity	
Fund Balance	38,958.05
Operating Reserve	0.00
Net Income	2,137.62
Total Equity	\$41,095.67
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$43,450.04

NIA, Ltd.

PROFIT AND LOSS

January 1-8, 2021

	TOTAL
Income	
7th Tradition Contributions	
Contributions - District	1,000.00
Contributions - Group	1,476.15
Total 7th Tradition Contributions	2,476.15
Total Income	\$2,476.15
GROSS PROFIT	\$2,476.15
Expenses	
Primary Purpose Basic	
B03-20 2020 Area Assemblies	550.00
B10-20 2020 Area Operations	168.00
B13-20 2020 Big Book Conference HOSTING	-379.47
Total Primary Purpose Basic	338.53
Total Expenses	\$338.53
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$2,137.62
NET INCOME	\$2,137.62

NIA Alternate Treasurer's Report

Report date: 1/8/2021

The address for the NIA Treasurer for the Panel 70 rotation is: Northern Illinois Area, Ltd., P.O. Box 808, Streamwood, IL 60107. Contribution envelopes are available at every NIA Assembly and committee meeting. Please complete the form on the envelope when making contributions to NIA so we can correctly account for your contributions.

In service,

Allen J., NIA Alternate Treasurer

alt-treasurer@aa-nia.org

Summary of contributions received from 1/1/2021 through 1/1/2021

Date deposited (All)

Row Labels	Sum of Contribution amount
(blank)	
Green Can contribution	\$37.24
Pink Can contribution	\$128.00
Group contribution	\$1,476.15
Personal contribution	\$25.00
District contribution	\$1,000.00
Grand Total	\$2,666.39

Date deposited (All)

Sum of Contribution amount					
District	Group number	Group name	Contribution type	Total	
10	198661	We Are Miracles Group	Group contribution	\$30.00	
	613375	Mens Promises Group	Group contribution	\$35.00	
	646390	Shed Group	Group contribution	\$60.00	
	723437	Primary Purpose Big Book Study Group	Group contribution	\$50.00	
10 Total				\$175.00	
11	105290	Freedom Farm Campfire Group	Group contribution	\$80.00	
	122796	Burtens Bridge Group	Group contribution	\$60.00	
	141414	Mc Henry Open Group	Group contribution	\$30.00	
	(blank)	District 11	Green Can contribution	\$12.24	
				Pink Can contribution	\$22.00
11 Total				\$204.24	
12	136405	L/B Womens Acceptance Group	Group contribution	\$191.00	
12 Total				\$191.00	
22	682487	Thurs Night West Dundee Group	Green Can contribution	\$25.00	
22 Total				\$25.00	
28	84031	Sunday Open Meeting	Group contribution	\$70.00	
	664134	Usual Suspects Group	Group contribution	\$49.45	
28 Total				\$119.45	
43	165272	How & Why Group	Pink Can contribution	\$106.00	

43	165272	How & Why Group	Group contribution	\$102.30
43 Total				\$208.30
52	126908	Sunday Night Action Group	Group contribution	\$22.50
	613245	Primary Purpose Group	Group contribution	\$100.00
52 Total				\$122.50
61	104372	3-11 Group	Group contribution	\$96.00
(blank)		District 61	District contribution	\$750.00
61 Total				\$846.00
62	671120	As Bill Sees It Group	Group contribution	\$42.00
62 Total				\$42.00
63	613044	Monday Morning Closed Disc Grp	Group contribution	\$50.00
63 Total				\$50.00
70	616115	Healthy Solutions Group	Group contribution	\$15.00
	640215	Roscoe Recovery Group	Group contribution	\$177.90
	676780	The Upper Room Group	Group contribution	\$20.00
	681239	Belvidere Wednesday Closed Discussion (Group contribution	\$70.00
70 Total				\$282.90
71	614583	One Day Cafe Group	Group contribution	\$50.00
(blank)		District 71	District contribution	\$250.00
71 Total				\$300.00
90	169688	Last Chance Group	Group contribution	\$25.00
90 Total				\$25.00
	728179		Group contribution	\$50.00
(blank)			(blank)	
		Anonymous	Personal contribution	\$25.00
Total				\$75.00
(blank)	(blank)	(blank)	(blank)	
(blank) Total				
Grand Total				\$2,666.39



January 9, 2021

2021 Winter Committee

Alternate Delegate Report

Welcome all to the NIA-20 Winter Committee meeting and Service Orientation Workshop!!!

I would first like to welcome new GSR's and DCM's that may have just rotated in and are attending today in their first "official" capacity. Some of you may be old stalwarts and others might be feeling that "deer in the headlights" feeling, but rest assured we welcome you and appreciate your service!! We assume that this may be the first time some of you have attended one of our events so the Area prepares for that possibility by presenting a Service Orientation Workshop which is intended to give you an overview of General Service and help you settle in. If I may offer one bit of advice, it would be to ask questions and never have the feeling that a question is "lame", or that you should "already know" the answer. Everyone, myself included, has felt that misplaced sense of pride at Service events and I assure you IT WILL PASS, so you might as well ask now since I promise, you are not alone!!

It's only been a few short weeks since our last meeting in December so I don't have a great deal to report on my activity as there is often a lull in the pre and post holiday period as we gear up for the new year. To that end I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we will be ramping up for our Pre General Conference service workshop and background material for the agenda items will be sent out to all DCM's in February. The proposed items for this year's conference are on our website (under the Delegate's page) for those of you who feel the itch right now and can't wait. If you have no idea what I just said, you're in the right place!!

I had not submitted any year to date reimbursement requests.

In loving service and respectfully submitted-

Chris D. – Alternate Delegate – NIA 20 Panel 70

**Area Registrar
PO Box 524
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-0524**



2020 Report from the Panel 70 NIA Registrar Winter Committee Meeting – January 9, 2021

Welcome to the Winter Committee Meeting and Service Orientation Workshop. Hope you enjoy the experience of these sharing sessions.

As your area registrar I feel like my job has just begun. For the first time since taking on this position I am able to enter information directly into the new records database, Fellowship Connections (FC) which replaced the old records database, Fellowship New Vision (FNV). Over the holidays I attended two training sessions held for the area registrars and two discussion meetings about the new FC. There are still a lot of options that we do not have available as the General Service Office rolled this out, but we have been reassured that they will come in time. Right now, we have the need to have information and later they will work on providing the nice to have. Unfortunately contact information is not available for each group, but there is still quite a lot of clean up work that can be completed before those actions are active.

We are also at that time of the year when district service positions may have changed. If you are a new District Committee Member or Committee Chair/Alternate we need that information. Please complete and submit the attached forms to registrar@aa-nia.org:

- District Service Position Change Form.docx
- DCM_en_f-43distinfochangeform.pdf

This will ensure that our communications go to the correct person and that any service position updates are completed so that the General Service Office can forward the appropriate service workbooks. I will be working on providing district service position reports to DCM's in the next month or as requested so updates can be completed in FC.

To update a group's contact information or meeting information please complete the Group Change form found on the aa-nia.org website. New group forms are available as well however there are several options for a new online or virtual meeting and it would be easier to talk through those options so please send us the details of your specific situation and we will call you to discuss and provide the appropriate form.

There are three different options for registering an online or virtual group:

1. Complete a Panel_70_New_Group_Information_Form – Microsoft Word and pdf versions are attached. One completed copy to the district (usually the secretary or registrar) and one copy to the area registrar registrar@aa-na.org. The group needs to have a discussion with the district and area about registering within those geographic areas.
2. Complete the G.S.O. Information Form - Online A.A. Meeting/Group – An editable pdf version is attached. The completed form is sent to the General Service Office (GSO) records department. These online groups receive a 9-digit number they can use for corresponding with GSO and making contributions. The GSO maintains a record of the group in "Fellowship Connection" the new GSO database. However, the assigned number is called a "group i.d." rather than a group service number because it's not the same as what face-to-face groups receive in that they are linked to a district and area. Since these meetings/groups are outside of the service structure they have no representation at the General Service Conference.
3. The meeting/group can register with the online AA intergroup <https://aa-intergroup.org/>. The Online Intergroup is a service entity where meetings utilize various mechanisms — video conferencing, phone conferencing, message boards, email list services, and chatrooms for online AA recovery meetings. Since these meetings/groups are outside of the service structure they have no representation at the General Service Conference.

Many of you have been accustomed to receiving group and district information in a Microsoft Word format from past registrars. Those mail merge forms are not available at this time so Excel spreadsheets are the current report form. The General Service Office is working to provide those tools to area registrars in the future so please be patient. The forms can be accessed on the NIA Website <http://aa-nia.org/group-forms/>. **All communication of changes and updates should be sent to the registrar@aa-nia.org mailbox or mailed to Area Registrar, PO Box 524, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-0524.** Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H., NIA Registrar – Panel 70