

## Northern Illinois Area 20 Spring Assembly Minutes March 2, 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:** 113. 41 GSR's, 18 DCM's & Alternates, 10 Officers, 6 Past Delegates, 8 Service Committee Chairs, 30 members. This does not include zoom attendees.

**First Time Attendees:** Christa D10, Casey D10, Jim D10, Michelle D21, John D61, Heaven D11, Amy D11, Diane D61, Jordan D23, Chris D22, Troy D62, Joe D62, Brook D22, Christine D22, Mike 22.

**Anniversaries Since Last Assembly:** Kelly 25 years, Allen 25 years, Jeff 2 years, George 43 years, Jan 35 years, Amy 2 years, Paula 33 years, Chris 33 years, Dan 30 years, Heaven 10 months, Casey 7 years, Aaron 5 years, Andy 25 years, Sue 11 years, Bob 24 years, John 26 years, Carol 25 years, Erik 36 years, Marilyn 40 years, Steve 15 years, Mike 50 years!

**Approval of 2023 Fall Assembly Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report – Dave F.** Profit and Loss as of March 1, 2024

Income	50.00
7th Tradition Contributions	
Contributions - District	
Contributions - Group	8,143.79
Contributions - Other	47.00
Contributions - Personal	480.97
<b>Total 7th Tradition Contributions</b>	<b>8,721.76</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$8,721.76</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$8,721.76</b>
Expenses	11,000.00
Primary Purpose Basic	
B02-24 2024 General Service Conference Contribution	
B03-24 2024 Area Assemblies	493.28
B04-24 2024 Area Committee Meetings	1,521.68
B05-24 2024 Service Orientation Workshops	538.67
B07-24 2024 Concepts Newsletter	259.50
B09-24 2024 ECR Conference of Delegates Past and Present	1,439.83
B10-24 2024 Area Operations	3,471.68
B12-24 2024 Spring Conference, Area Participation	287.99
<b>Total Primary Purpose Basic</b>	<b>19,012.63</b>
Primary Purpose Motions	1,200.00
M086 Area Participation in 2023 ECRF	
M087 District Participation in 2023 ECRF	1,479.66
M091 Motion to rent headsets for 2024 Spring Conference	2,960.00
<b>Total Primary Purpose Motions</b>	<b>5,639.66</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$24,652.29</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -15,930.53</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -15,930.53</b>

## Delegates Report - Erik L.

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/Delgate-Report-Spring-Assembly-3-2-24.pdf>

**Review Pre-General Service Conference Workshop Plan - Erik L. & Lisa S.** The zoom breakout schedule was reviewed as well as information to access the background information and how the final workshop will take place.

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### Conference Reports

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**2023 Big Book Conference** - The final Treasurer's report is not available yet. Dawn reported that everything looked ok.

**2024 Spring Conference – Hugo:** Close to 300 people in attendance. Hugo handed out several lunches that were paid for by a member. 13 free lunches! 40 Banquet meals are still available. If you cannot attend, please purchase a ticket for someone else.

**2024 Big Book Conference – Kim:** The conference is scheduled for November 9th, 2024, at the First Covenant Church located at 316 Wood Road, Rockford. The event will run from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. Today, I bring with me 500 registration flyers, we are currently seeking guidance on granting our webmaster access to update the website accordingly. If anyone can help with this matter, I would greatly appreciate it. Registration will officially open on April 1, 2024. Our program committee continues its search for main speakers. If you would like to submit a tape for our consideration, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Our committee meets on the first Saturday of each month, and while all positions are currently filled, we welcome anyone interested in working within our subcommittees.

**2025 State Conference – Jeff, Sandy, and Robert:** The first planning meeting was last Saturday. A bank account has been opened with the \$500 seed money. Most of the committee chairs have been filled. Pat E is the Saturday night speaker. Mike F is our Friday night speaker. We have a GSO staff member coming. The next planning meeting is March 24<sup>th</sup> at Winona West at 2 pm. We want to let you know that the Regional Forum will be the same weekend. This conflict could not be avoided.

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### Old Business

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#### Open elected positions review:

Alt. Accessibilities Chair, Alt. Answering Service, Alternate Archives, CPC Alternate, Literature Alternate, PI Alternate positions are still open. The following positions were filled: Archives Chair – Carol H. CPC Chair – Lisa G. PI Chair – Tina R. All were elected by simple majority.

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### New Business:

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Open 2024 hosting for Summer Committee Meeting - D10 will host

#### Motions

Here is the link for all motions in their entirety:

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/Spring-Assembly-Final-Agenda-Motions.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/Sp-Final-Agenda-Motions-Sp-Assembly-2024.pdf>

#### **Motion to Create an Appointee Position for Linguistic Translation Coordinator(s)**

The NIA Accessibilities Chair and Panel 64 Past Delegate move to create an Appointee position for Linguistic Translation Coordinator(s).

**This motion passed. Vote count was not given.**

### **Motion to amend the Voting Procedures for Area Elections**

The Panel 72 Report & Charter Committee moves to amend the voting procedures for Area elections in the Northern Illinois Area 20 Service Manual (pages 23-25 of web version 12/2023, pages 32-34 of the printed version 09/2022), for clarification and easier reading.

**A friendly amendment was accepted:**

Page one, under Area Elections, the bold, underlined sentence: **The past Delegate should review the qualifications for each position before the nomination procedure and election for that position.**

Is changed to:

**The Past Delegate should review qualifications for each position from the NIA's Service Manual's Duties and Responsibilities before the nomination procedure and election for that position.**

**The motion passed 76/6. There was no minority opinion.**

### **Motion to amend the list of the Area Assembly and Area Committee**

The Panel 72 Report & Charter Committee moves to amend the list of voting members of the Area Assembly on pages 17 of the Northern Illinois Service Manual and the list of members of the Area Committee on page 26 for clarification and consistent ordering.

**As a result of the passing of the above Linguistic motion, this position was added to the Area Committee List.**

**This motion passed 92/3.**

### **Motion For Contribution to the General Service Board**

The Finance Committee moves to send \$15,000.00 to the GSB

**Discussion: As a result of a motion approved at the Fall Assembly, a \$10,000 check was submitted to the GSB. A request to table this motion was voted on. It failed 57/33. Minority opinion was heard. This motion passed 78/21. Minority opinion was heard resulting in a member wanting to change their vote. A friendly amendment was then offered to change the amount to \$10,000.**

**This amendment was accepted and the motion passed 79/3**

### **Service Committee Reports**

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**Accessibilities – Chris E.** Over the last two months, I have prepared for the Accessibilities panel that is happening at the Spring Conference today at 4pm. I hope to see some of you there! My expenses to date are \$757.74 for literature and mileage.

**Answering Service – Dave T.** I have begun working on the display board. I am looking for an Alternate. The QR Codes are all set.

## **Bridging the Gap –**

**Joe B** - I have been working with Jim through email and calls the last couple months. I have been working with my home district to get the BTG position filled and provided information. If you are interested in Jim or me coming out to your district, we are available. Please join us for the BTG panel this afternoon.

**Jim T** - Due to the shortened schedule for today's Assembly, Bridging The Gap will try to share some limited information with any attendees at the 30-minute breakout session jointly held with our partners in service, the fine folks from the Treatment, and Corrections committees which is scheduled from 12:30pm to 1:00pm The Spring Conference Host Committee had asked Bridging the Gap to present a one-hour Panel Discussion/Workshop today from 2pm to 2:45pm which will be open to those people who will be attending the Spring Conference. If you are interested in finding out how Bridging The Gap is teaming up with Treatment, Corrections, and the Answering Service Committees to carry the Bridging The Gap, and the AA message, to people inside treatment and correctional facilities, and to those who are returning home and would like to receive a copy of the handouts for the BTG Panel please send me an email to the BTG email address posted on the NIA Roster.

**Concepts – Lisa for Susan H.** The Spring Concepts will be out as soon as the Spanish translation is complete. Beth Z is doing the formatting and is interested in becoming the Co-Editor. She will at the very minimum continue formatting.

**Corrections – George P.** I have Pink Cans available.

**Literature – Jan S.** First, I obtained the new current list of District Literature Chairs. A zoom meeting was set, and seven attended from a list of twelve. This will be our committee. The 1st Zoom call had 6 in attendance from a list of 14. The Districts consist of 10, 11, 40, 41,42, 43. After introductions, we discussed the NY Letter sent in November and the pre-conference meetings with the delegate. I was happy to participate in the District 42 Service workshop. They have been in transition and are now supporting service committees. I brought a complete display of various literature and shared some pamphlets they may not know about. I gave them a brief presentation on the advantages of our literature and how important it is to use the resources we have to keep current. March will take me to the Spring Conference, Pre-Conference Literature sharing session, and an Area Service Workshop.

## **Treatment –**

**Kevin A** - I have been to D90 Rock Island to participate in a treatment workshop. They are trying to attract interest in carrying the AA message into several facilities. It was attended by Health Care professionals as well as boots on the ground participants. I was invited and participated in a Service Orientation Workshop in D42 that was well attended. We have put together a panel for the Spring Conference. I am asking for travel reimbursement and a meal \$263.43 for the D90 trip and \$85.54 for the trip to Hinsdale D42 Service Orientation Workshop.

**Jeff L** – I will be on the panel this afternoon. I was invited to two workshops, but unfortunately, cannot attend either. I have the workbook now.

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## **Administrative Reports**

**Archivist – Cheryl V.** For general information, NIA archives are in an inside 10 x 10 storage unit that is packed to the rafters with boxes. Currently this storage unit is in Elgin. While many of the items have been sorted and labeled by our previous Archivist, much of it hasn't been sorted through yet. Our displays are not pre-made. We pull items from the various boxes to create a display. I would like to apologize to the Assembly for not updating the Assembly Actions with the motions from the Winter Assembly. I got caught up in updating the NIA Service Manual and translation that I forgot to update the spreadsheet. I will update it along with the approved motions from today. I would like to subscribe to Adobe Acrobat Professional for use with digital archives and redacting. It would be my thought that this would be a reimbursable expense as I will be using it to make archived minutes available for distribution and placement on the web.

However, in looking over the Primary Purpose Register (PPR), I see that Archivist is not listed in any group. I will be looking into what needs to be done so that efforts of the Archivist are reimbursable. Obviously, some are, as our storage unit is certainly being paid for... I hope!

**Electronic Equipment – Rob M.** The equipment is working well.

**Finance Committee – Bonnie P.** The Area Finance Committee has met once since the Winter Committee Meeting and discussed the PPB and PPR. We mainly discussed the extra funds that we are sitting on and need to move forward to GSO. In the spirit of Tradition 7, "...we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose." the Area 20 Finance Committee recommends that the assembly forward \$15,000 (now \$10,000) to the General Service Board. Figures as of 2/25/2024 \$42,996.79 Checking \$23,401.65 Prudent Reserve (30% Proposed PPR) \$69,878.97 Current Funds Remaining. We are fortunate in Area 20 to have groups that contribute generously. DCMs, please ask the area to have service workshops and request Area Officers/Committee members to visit your Districts. Area officers and committee chairs let's provide the services and collect the reimbursements that the assembly has requested and agreed to support. GSRs, if there are any services you would like to see the Area do, please let your DCM and the Assembly know. REMINDER TO SUBMIT YOUR RECEIPTS IN A TIMELY FASHION.

**Service Manual Custodian - Cheryl V.** The changes approved at the Winter Assembly have been added to the Service Manual at this time. Both the English and Spanish versions have been updated on the web. The latest NIA Service Manual was sent to the printer and is available today. Based on approved motions at today's Assembly, it is now out of date. I would like to suggest that NIA start considering the idea that the NIA Service Manual be "split" to a GSR Handbook and a separate document for Duties and Responsibilities (D&R). This would be a move "back" to what we had prior to 2008. Roughly the first half of our manual is information that is that our GSRs and general membership would find useful to their service commitment. The last portion of our manual are the Duties and Responsibilities of the Area officers, service committees, and other Area trusted servants. The first half generally have had limited changes over the years. If we were to do this, the older version would not go out of date as quickly. This would allow more frequent printing of the GSR Handbook. The D&R would be available on the website and could be printed for reference and brought to NIA meetings as we approach bi-annual elections.

**Technology Committee – Bryan.** We migrated email. We want to discourage email forwarding due to cyber security issues (protecting our anonymity). We are working on One Drive. We will be purchasing new equipment that will help translation over zoom.

**Inventory Committee – Lorrie F.** The purpose of this committee is to better communicate and encourage more participation from DCM's and GSR's. If you have questions to include in the inventory, my email is on the roster. Jim T, Larry S, Chris E, Allen J, have been helpful getting the inventory started and refined. We plan to do a GSR inventory and one for DCM's. We will have it available at the June Assembly with a return date of September Assembly.

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Officer Reports can be found on the Area website, aa-nia.org.

Motion to adjourn at 12:00. The Meeting ended with the Responsibility Statement. Committee Breakouts were held during the lunch portion before resuming the Conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue M.

NIA Secretary

Next meeting is the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop on March, 23<sup>rd</sup> at Lord of Life Church.