

Northern Illinois Area 20 Winter Committee Minutes May 10, 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 – Butch, GSR Cambridge **Anniversaries** – Jeff 26 years, Debbie 24 years, Sandy 11 years, Chris 7 years, Jamie 8 months, Jeremy 5 years, Mike 14 years, John 23 years, Rob 37 years, Rich 37 years, John 7 years, Dan 8 years

Approval of Winter Committee Meeting Minutes: Moved by Cheryl V, seconded by Kevin A. Approved unanimously.

Delegates Report - Erik L

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Delegate-Report-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Delegate-Report-ES.pdf>

Treasurer’s Report – Dave F

Account			2025 Amount	2025 Amount
Checking				\$21,748.53
Green Can (restricted)			\$1168.03	
Pink Can (restricted)			\$6617.04	
Total restricted				\$ 7785.07
Net Checking				\$29,533.60
Prudent Reserve			(0.3 X \$85,145.00) + interest	\$25,543.50
Total				\$ 55,077.10
			Sum Contribution	\$21,889.13
Interest				.39
Net Income (YTD)			Sum Income	\$21,889.52
Net Expenses (YTD)			Sum Expenses (per PPR)	\$30,024.28
Revenue (YTD)				\$ -8134.76

Motions

Motion by NIA Answering service committee

We would like to remove a portion of the Answering service chair responsibility in the service manual. We recently passed a motion that helps us accommodate our Spanish speaking AA’s, the current map and pamphlet does not have anything in Spanish, but our web page/QR code does have the capability to help a Spanish speaking alcoholic.

The full motion is in the link below.

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-ES.pdf>

Motion from the NIA Answering Service Committee

In an effort and in the spirit of the long form of our tradition 11 which states we feel it better to let our friends recommend us, we would like to propose that we add links and/or phone numbers to the Suicide Hotline, NA, HA, GA, CA and AL-ANON on our NIA Area 20 Answering service webpage under “Non-AA Tools and Resources. The full motion is in the link below:

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-ES.pdf>

Motion to fund AREA participation at the 2025 East Central Regional Forum

The NIA20 Accessibilities Committee moves that a maximum of \$300 be reimbursed to each of the current NIA20 Area Officers, Service Committee Chairs, and their Alternates (shown below), to help offset costs to attend the East Central Regional Forum on August 22-24, 2025 in Indianapolis, IN, with the exception of the current Delegate & Alternate Delegate whose attendance at the East Central Regional Forum is already reimbursed under our Area guidelines. The full Motion is in the link below:

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-ES.pdf>

Motion to Amend Duties and Responsibilities in NIA Service Guidelines for various Trusted Servants Motion

The Service Manual Custodian moves to amend the Responsibilities for the various Trusted Servants in the Northern Illinois Service Manual (Service Manual). The Duties and Responsibilities (D&R) section begin on page 46 and run through page 76. The full motion is in the link below:

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-ES.pdf>

Motion to Amend Duties and Responsibilities in NIA Service Guidelines for Report & Charter and Service Manual Custodian

The Report & Charter Committee, in conjunction with the Service Manual Custodian, moves to amend their Responsibilities in the Northern Illinois Service Manual. The Duties and Responsibilities section for Report & Charter is on page 81 and for Service Manual Custodian is on page 77. The full motion is in the link below:

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Agenda-2-ES.pdf>

Officer Reports

Alt. Delegate – Lisa S - <https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Alt-Delegate-Report-EN-ES.pdf>

Area Chair – Dawn B - I attended every Zoom breakout for the PGSC. I learn so much attending these. We will hear a very short recap today. We will be addressing two more issues learned in our 2024 Area Inventory today. The presentation will be done by Robert S. and Kelly L. on District Committee Chairs and Service Sponsorship respectively. It

has been my aim in 2025 to address these issues and have an Area that is as informed as it wants to be. My hope is that the DCMs encouraged their Committee Chairs to attend today. Aaron and I are helping the Big Book Conference to move forward, and hoping to have registration available today or at Summer Assembly. I appreciate everyone reaching out with questions, thanks to all who do! If you are a member of the Area Committee, and are not getting agendas and announcements from me, please let me know. I have no new expenses.

Alternate Area Chair – Aaron V –

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Alt-Chair-Report-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Committee-Alt-Delegate-Report-EN-ES.pdf>

Registrar – Kim D –

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Registrar-Report-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Registrar-Report-ES.pdf>

Alternate Registrar – Dawn S –

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Alt-Registrar-Report-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Alt-Registrar-Report-ES.pdf>

Secretary – Sue M –

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Secretary-Report-EN-ES.pdf>

Alternate Secretary – Lorrie F –

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Alt-Secretary-Report-EN.pdf>

<https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Alt-Secretary-Report-ES.pdf>

Conference Reports

2025 Big Book Conference – Dave & Marcello – D42 and D20 are the co-hosts. October 18th Lord of Life Church. Committee chairs are filled with 50% of the alternate positions filled. A Vision for You is the Theme. We have two speakers plus a back-up. We meet in person or on zoom every 3-4 weeks. Most of the volunteers needed are in place. Half of the moderators are scheduled. The website is about 50% done along with on line registration. Flyers are available. \$15 for registration and \$15 for lunch.

Illinois State Conference Report – Sandy C - As we find ourselves six months away from the State Conference, our committees have been busy. Program chairs have put together quite a lineup of speakers and workshops. We will be inviting our new trustee. The banquet committee is keeping in touch with the hotel. Alcathon and Hospitality committees have hosting sign up on the D40 website. We have our DJ on Saturday night after the main speaker. QR codes will be at registration desk as well as hard copy programs. We still need an Entertainment Chair. We are getting registrations and hope you all will be sure to register early.

2026 Spring Conference – Jeremy – All but 6 positions are filled, speakers are filled. The PO Box is open; the website is coming soon. We have save the date flyers.

Old Business

Open Elected Positions – Alternate Chair for: Accessibilities, Answering Service, Corrections, Cooperating with the Literature, Professional Community and Public Information. Elections will be at the Summer Assembly.

Service Committee Reports

Accessibilities, Chris E and Concepts, Susan H were not in attendance. No reports submitted.

Answering Service , Dave T and Corrections, George P – Report given at the microphone. No written report submitted.

Archives - Carol H – I attended two of the monthly virtual Archives meetings sponsored by Area 72. Attendees are from all over the country and share amazing projects they are working on or have completed as an Archivist or Archives Chair. I continue to learn from them and get great ideas about how to support our districts. One of the projects members worked on was a submission of changes to the Archives Workbook for the General Service Office to review. Many of them have felt, like I have, that the workbook does not support the needs of someone coming in blindly to do this work. These virtual meetings are held the first Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m. I planned to have our Area 20 Archives meetings on the second Sunday of the month. Since this will fall tomorrow, Mother's Day, I am rescheduling our monthly Archives meeting. Since this is new for everyone, we will discuss how this will work. Information will be sent out to the district Archivists and District Committee Members (DCM's). We will also start setting up time with DCMs to attend one of their monthly meetings to share the importance of maintaining our individual group and district history. Karen and I made calls to thirteen registered district archivists, we were happy to hear that most have well established archives and have the support of their district. At some point we would like to schedule a road trip to see some of these displays.

Bridging the Gap - Joey B , Jess B- We are gathering temporary contacts in the Area. We are looking at building a new Area 20 BTG database that will differ from the years ago. We will be working with our Webmaster and Tech Committee to discuss ideas. We have signup sheets for temporary contacts with us here today and I've also emailed them out to the Area Committees, DCMs, and officers. We have been invited to participate in a BTG/ Answering Service workshop hosted by D21 on June 7th in Palatine. I have been in touch with Hugo (D64) and Ry(Treatment chair) about a BTG presentation at their district meeting next month.

Cooperation with the Professional Community- Lisa G – Our committee has been diligently filling several community requests for AA resources and presentations, organizing volunteer servants to support local events, and working collaboratively with other Areas to gather support for new ideas. 3/6/25 District 11 Business meeting (Crystal Lake) 3/9/25 District 62 Business meeting (Montgomery) 3/14/25 Flying Geese Anniversary Celebration (Crystal Lake) 3/22/25 CPC Subcommittee Planning meeting (Marengo), 3/29/25 Tri-County Open (Gurnee), 4/5/25, Pre-GSB meeting (Dixon), 4/17/25 Kane County Sheriff and PADS Second Chance Fair (Elgin), 4/22/25 Downers Grove High School Wellness Day (Downers Grove), 4/25/25 Thriving after 55 Wellness Fair (Elgin Community College). Our foundational efforts to increase the visibility and accessibility of AA resources through engaging in community and professional events are paying off! As the lists above and below indicate, our presence is welcomed, most often requested, by groups who've already had a connection with AA or our members. In addition to scheduling these events CPC is also responsible for our volunteer presence; that is why there are multiple meetings with specific groups. The recently formed Area CPC Planning Committee has been meeting periodically to serve by organizing, locating, collaborating, and directing upcoming projects and events. The suggestion from the CPC Handbook to host appreciation/informational luncheon for our professional friends has been put on hold; planning a 2026 luncheon will be revisited in the Fall. If you are interested, speak up! Upcoming CPC Service Opportunities are listed below: always REMEMBER the events and the list are subject to change at any time. JUNE 3, 2025 NIEAPA Conference 8:00 am-5:00 pm Drury Lane Oakbrook Terrace JUNE 11-13, 2025 NAMIcon VIRTUAL conference A Presentation on AA - All Day event.

Grapevine - Terry M – We presented our display boards and material at District 21, Palatine Club with an in-person power point during their hybrid meeting. Newly appointed GV rep Chris Q, D40, gave a helping hand. We are participating on the 2025 Illinois State Conference planning committee. Karen is busy spreading the GV word reporting that D11 added a grapevine meeting to their website and updated the GV/LaVina resource links to their home page. We represented and partnered with CPC with Grapevine displays at several Wellness and Resource Fairs. The 30th annual

Downers Grove South High School and a Second Chances Kane County Sheriffs event. Plans to represent at the Harvard Steak Fry in June too.

Literature - Jan S - The committee has been actively engaged in pre-conference work. I chaired the Literature Committee Pre-con session and was pleased that 30 people attended. I also attended five additional Pre-Con Sessions. The committee will share the results with their respective groups once the complete results are available. Chris, D41 Literature Chair, had an in-person sharing session with AA members on the PLBB. He also discussed the process of the Advisory Actions involved in making this book available, and positive feedback from members. Ruth, D42 Literature Chair, will manage the Literature Display at the Big Book Conference in October. Charles, D40 Literature Chair, will manage the Literature Room at the State conference. I am the Program Chair for the 2026 Spring Conference in March. We are currently preparing a Literature Display for future Area events and workshops. With the updated Literature Matrix, the Committee will regularly review revision opportunities. Total expenses for the year are \$487.40.

Public Information – Tina R - I have attended the spring assembly and the GSO workshop.

Treatment - Kevin A and Jeff L - We continue to hold our monthly treatment committee meeting every 3rd Thursday. We got books for two districts using green can funds. There is a need for AA's to go through the process to become a volunteer for NM Behavioral Health in Woodstock. As we go into spring and summer there may be a need for more coverage at treatment facilities. With both vacation time and The International conference coming up, we may need more people to volunteer to carry the AA message into treatment facilities. Ask your treatment people how you might help.

Webmaster – Scott T - <https://aa-nia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Spring-Comm-Mtg-Web-Admin-Report-EN.pdf>

Administrative Reports

Archivist - Cheryl V - District 10 Archives Sean & Dean heard my request for missing Concepts and provided me with 9 of the missing copies. This leaves 16 issues missing where we have no original copy at all. I am also looking for 62 duplicates for our files. These duplicates allow me to “destroy” the historical copy by separating the sheets. These are then placed in individual sleeves so that issues can be read without taking the “main” original out of the sleeve. I have started the process of going through my 15 years of personal e-mails, gathering the various attached files for our digital archives. This will save me from having to scan originals. A definite time saver. I have gotten through about 100 of my various folders. I continue to work on the electronic archives. One of the things I sometimes find challenging is the Spanish reports. Those that are electronic and named in English are not a challenge. Those that are printed, or the electronic name is in Spanish, are a bit of a conundrum. I’d like to suggest to our trusted servants that they place an English “footnote” on their reports. Something as simple as their name, their service position, the event that the report was for, and the date. This will give me, and future Archivist, and better chance of organizing reports. Expenses to date: \$687.97. Past Delegate, Jerry P, who passed away recently had a large collection of international Big Books. His widow, Irene has donated those books to the Archives.

Conference Advisory Committee Chair, Aaron V, Tech Committee, Rick, – A report was given at the microphone. No written report submitted.

Finance Committee, Operating Committee, Report & Charter Committee – No reports

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

DCM Reports

D10 - John C – Over 50 people at our meetings so far this year. We have some alternate subcommittee positions open. Quite a few D10 people took part in the Tri-County Conference held in April. Our district archives were on display. We

had a troop of actors who presented both hilarious and moving skits. Several D10 members participated in the alcathon and panel sessions. According to the standard rotation, the 2026 co-chairperson will come from Lake County, likely from D10. GSR Contact chairperson Brian C, is working on a GSR workshop on May 17. Brian is also recruiting volunteers to attend meetings that don't have GSRs to explain to them why they should have one.

D12 – Jaime – I attended the March 29th Tri-County Conference, D10, D12 Spring Breakfast. I promoted the BTG sign-up sheets. May 17th is GSR School. June 29th is our district picnic and we are creating a generic email for each district position.

D20 – Marcello – Meetings are twice monthly. We are working on website. We are hosting Spanish state conference May 23-25 in Chicago.

D21 – Debbie – Hosting summer assembly in Palatine. Our district is doing well.

D42 – Dave – We are hosting the Big Book Conference. Things are going well.

D40 - John Alt. DCM – We are hosting State Conference and picnic is Sunday, July 27th, 10-2pm in Wheaton.

D43 – Laura – We have bingo night coming up May 24th in Naperville.

D61 – Katie – Fox Valley Open May 17th, candlelight bowling May 24th, trivia night May 31st.

D62 – Josh J - Our District had a visit from Lisa (CPC) for a presentation about the committee's purpose. We had a Sponsorship Workshop hosted by the One Day at a Time Group in Plano. We recently were approached by a local church offering their building for meetings. They wanted to participate in community outreach and sent the offer to our website's info email. Two members followed up with an in-person meeting to discuss A.A.'s willingness to help. Our usual attendance at monthly District meetings is between 10 and 15 general service and committee members.

D70 - Kim S – Thank You Area 20 committee members for hosting a GSR School at the Alano Club. Save the Date: District 70 Picnic, July 26th, Lockwood Park, Rockford, 2–4 PM: Family fun with games, the children's farm, petting zoo, and wagon rides (\$6). 4 PM: Grill time! Bring your own meat and a dish to share. 5 PM: Special speaker Jessica N, our amazing answering service chair. We'll supply the plates, condiments, ice, and charcoal. Join us for our monthly meetings at the beautiful Anderson Japanese Gardens in Rockford. First Thursday of each month Members can stroll the gardens for free starting at 3:30 PM. Meeting kicks off at 5 PM.

D73 – Karen D – We want to thank everyone for coming to Dixon for the PGSCW. Thank all NIA officers that helped to complete this commitment. We are having Aaron present a GSR School Workshop in Dixon on June 28th, from 10-12 on Saturday morning. Flyers are available on the table. We have around 20 in attendance for district meetings.

D80 – Deb – Our meetings are now listed on the meeting guide app. We've sent GSR's to their groups to discuss the answering service project. We are beginning to reach out to treatment centers and correctional facilities. We are putting together a workshop on November 15th, two panels for first and twelfth step.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue M, NIA Secretary

Next meeting is June 21, 2025 in Palatine, Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, 200 N Plum Grove Rd.