

**Area Committee Meeting May 22, 2016  
AmericInn Ashland, WI  
Minutes**

The meeting opened at 8:00 am.

Housekeeping by Sara P including voice/vote explanation, vote by substantial unanimity unless otherwise stated, and 4 minutes for DCM reports & 2 minutes for comments.

Timer: Dawn

Counter: Vickie A.

Traditions read by Steven from District 03.

**Roll Call: Area Officers**

Area Chair / Alternate Delegate, Delegate, Secretary, Registrar, Treasurer

**Committee Chairs**

Archives, Corrections WI, Corrections MI, CPC, Finance, Now & Then, Literature, Public Information, Structures & Guidelines, Treatment

**DCMs:** 01, 02,03, 04, 05, 07, 08, 09, 10, 13, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23

**Minutes from the 3/5/15Area Committee Meeting were approved without changes.**

**Delegate's Report – see page 3**

**DCM Reports – see page 5**

**Unfinished Business – none**

**New Business:**

- 1) **Archives Chair is not present, is it OK for Pete W. to act as Archives Chair and have a voice and a vote? None opposed.**
- 2) **Can Archives give a report at the end of business? None opposed.**
- 3) **Timeliness of Website updating, Jay H.**  
District 23 expresses its gratitude to the PI Committee for resolving this issue.

**4) Liability Insurance for Conferences**

My name is Barry Brewer, I am an alcoholic and am currently serving as CPC chair for Area 74. When I was a DCM, I had a question from a member that was trying to start a meeting at a facility in District 02. One of the members of the church council requested that a waiver of liability be signed in order to hold meetings at said facility. Apparently it was a directive from the Green Bay diocese. Essentially this would require obtaining a liability insurance policy of some kind.

In the not too distant past, this Area investigated and got some pricing (I believe through the Finance Committee) to have an insurance policy underwritten for Area events. I do not believe this undertaking went past the investigational stage.

In a separate activity, in late 2015, a thread of emails from Area Chairs beginning with Area 15 in South Florida was circulating throughout the country about whether proof of liability insurance was being requested by facilities for Area events (mainly Assemblies and Conferences). I perused through the emails and established the following:

- A. No Insurance Required

- Area 74
- Area 51 N. Carolina
- Area 35 N. Minnesota
- Area 33 Michigan – No insurance at Area level - perhaps a rider to the facilities policy.
- Area 24 Iowa No Area policy – If required, purchase a policy for the event.
- Area 34 – W. Michigan & E. UP. – No insurance required
- Area 86 W. Ontario – No insurance at Area level. Occasionally Districts are asked.

#### B. Insurance Required

- Area 15 - South Florida - Assemblies at Hotels – no cost provided
- Area 1 Alabama & NW FL – Not required for Assemblies, required for conferences \$200-300 for \$1M coverage.
- Area 61 Rhode Island – Required for annual convention - \$290 per year
- Area 23 Southern Indiana – requires insurance for Assemblies – has Certificate of Insurance that they provide to the venue – no cost for policy disclosed.
- Area 16 Georgia – Has insurance for their Area office – have rider for Assemblies – No cost disclosed.
- Area 28 Maine – Has \$1M policy covering their officers for Area events. Also covers their 5 Committee meetings and 2 Assemblies. Cost about \$500 per annum.
- Area 27 Louisiana - Insurance to cover Assemblies. Also covers their Archives. No cost revealed.
- Area 36 S. Minnesota - \$408 per annum. No other information.
- Area 46 New Mexico – Insurance to cover Assemblies and state convention – No cost disclosed.
- Area 8 San Diego Imperial – They apparently have insurance. They check the box yes when asked if requested.
- Area 7 N. California - \$1M coverage for 8 ACM, 4 Assemblies & Area Archives - \$1000 annually
- Area 26 Kentucky – Most require proof on insurance - \$1M per occurrence, \$2M aggregate is \$639 per year
- Area 47 C. New York \$1088 per year (increased from \$640) from Travelers Indemnity Co. thru Charity First NE – 12 events per year - \$1000,000 damage to premises, \$5000 medical expenses, \$1M personal injury, \$2M aggregate
- Area 44 N. New Jersey - \$1M coverage – ACM, Assemblies sponsored by districts and Area provides the insurance certificate. Annual convention – Convention Committee procures separate policy – No cost provided
- Area 5 S. California – Area has insurance policy. Riders are added as needed for additional events. No cost provided.
- Area 29 Maryland – Area has a blanket policy & add riders to venues. Also have 2 conventions per year \$500 each for these

My aim today was to restart the dialogue concerning whether the Area should resurrect the task of investigating the need for liability insurance at least for Area events. In our increasingly litigious society, do we become proactive and look into having something underwritten, or wait until a venue requests proof of insurance and we need to scramble to get something in place? In addition, is there someone willing to underwrite a policy that would cover the 600 some meetings in our area that meet in facilities on a weekly basis? As I said, I

just wanted to recommence the exchange of ideas to decide if this is something we need to do. On the other hand, I do not want to spend money unnecessarily. However, as you can see by the examples above, it is likely coming in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,  
Barry Brewer  
Area 74 CPC Chair

**Motion by Gary District 18: Create an ad-hoc committee to investigate insurance matters. Seconded by Char V. 29 yes, none opposed. Motion passed.**

**5) Consistency and use of “co” vs. “alt” in Structures & Guidelines.**

After some discussion it was agreed that Jason and his committee should clean them up and present it as a motion at the next Assembly.

**6) Archives request: Pete W.**

Archives would like a copy of emails and reports sent to committee chairs and DCMs. Archives would act as a backup to the committees. Just add [area74archivist@gmail.com](mailto:area74archivist@gmail.com) to any emails you send. Put the Committee or District name in the subject line.

**Next Area Committee meeting is August 6, 2016 at 10:00 am at The Reiter Center in Three Lakes.**

Meeting closed at 9:56 am with The Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Z, Area Secretary

**Delegate’s Report:**

**Delegate’s Report to the Area 74 Area Committee Meeting**

**05/22/2016**

Thank you all for being here today. This report will give you an overview of my activities since our last Area Committee Meeting. I would also like to share with you some open positions on the General Service Board and at the General Service Office. Lastly, I will provide an overview of the future events I will be participating in.

Since we last met I have attended the General Service Conference in New York from April 15-23.

I attended and participated in the District 04 Traditions Workshop on May 7 in Stevens Point Wisconsin. A special thank you to Jeff and Renee for hosting me the night before.

I attended and participated in a District 18 Workshop on Leadership in AA in Palmer on May. Thank you to Gerri Ann and Bill for your hospitality.

I also participated in two teleconferences with our Trustee and the other Delegates from the East Central Region on April 13 and May 15.

I attended the most recent District 20 meeting. I also participated in District 20's teleconference call for the 2017 Spring Conference planning committee.

Yesterday, I presented my report to the Area 74 Assembly. Thank you for making yesterday so great and for your excellent questions.

I know some of you have inquired about the Conducting Area Business (CAB) Ad Hoc Committee. Regrettably, the CAB Committee has not met since the last Area Committee Meeting. I take full responsibility for this and we will begin meeting soon after this weekend and I expect to have a final report or a progress report at the next Area Committee Meeting in August. Thank you for your patience.

To date, I have incurred approximately \$1100 of my annual \$2600 budgeted expenses.

**I am available to present on the General Service Conference or any other topic you wish at your Workshop, group or District.**

There are several openings I'd like to share with you

There is a vacancy for a Non-Trustee Director on the AAWS Board. The position will begin after the 2017 General Service Conference. Resume forms are due in by July 1, 2016 and a professional resume may also be included.

There is a Class A Trustee (non-alcoholic) vacancy on the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. This vacancy will also occur AFTER the conclusion of the 2017 General Service Conference. Resumes are due in by July 31, 2016. Please forward this information to anyone you know who may have interest.

There is a job opening at AAWS for Director of Publishing. Note that resumes and cover letter are due in by June 1, 2016. Please share with anyone you know who may be qualified or have interest.

The Feasibility Study Brainstorming Session Notes have been forwarded and I will forward them to the Area Committee as soon as I am able.

The Now & Then is our communication platform within the Area 74 Service Structure. We all have a responsibility to provide articles and content for the newsletter. I encourage you all to write an article for the Now & Then. If I can get one done, you can too!

I wanted to mention that the Finance Committee has made copies of the new F-203 service piece that is offered free from AAWS. Please check it out and make use of it when you are sharing with your GSRs and committee members. It is a great way to communicate about the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition and the services offered by GSO.

Upcoming Dates

I will be presenting my Delegate's Report to District 23 on Sunday June 5

I will be speaking in Green Bay in Friday June 10 at the 218 Club

I will be part of the District 20 Workshop on Saturday June 18

Respectfully submitted,

Derek Tait

Panel 66 Area 74

Northern Wisconsin/Upper Peninsula of Michigan  
906.203.1420  
djtjune3@hotmail.com

### **DCM Reports:**

#### **District 01: Nate K**

District 01 monthly GSR district meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at the Central Office. Attendance at the District Meeting ranges from 15 to 25 people. We currently have about 10 GSRs who regularly attend the meeting. The most recent meeting was chaired by our Alternate DCM, Jennifer A. as I was on vacation. At that meeting, the district voted to make a bid for the 2018 Spring Conference. We currently are looking for someone to fill the Public Information committee chair position. Our district events co-chairs, Kimberly and Kristen, have been active in planning events in the district. We have recently invited Derek T., Area Delegate to speak on Friday, June 10th. Also, the district events chairs have put together a voting document to pass around to the groups to get input on possible future district events.

#### **District 02: Char V.**

District 02 extends from Oshkosh in the south to Clintonville and Bonduel in the north and west from Weyauwega to Brillion in the east. There are 130 meetings held in the district weekly. Our District meetings are held on the second Sunday each month at rotating venues within the district. We continue to average between 20-40 attendees. All A.A. members are invited to attend. Our next meeting will be held June 10, 2016 in Appleton. Our District G.S.R. roundtable sessions which are held one hour prior to our District meeting continue to go well. The service committees also meet prior to the district meeting. All committee chair positions are filled. The committees continue to be strong in carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. Recently Appleton, WI, which is within District 02 was ranked the number 1 drunkest city in Wisconsin. We have intergroups scheduled for June and July.

Our district reviewed our newsletter guidelines. We changed the guideline about printing flyers to A.A. related rather than A.A. sponsored. We added a line that the Newsletter Editor will inform the Treasurer of the money due to print the flyer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Char Van Deraa  
District 02 DCM

#### **District 3 Stephen W**

Mark D., Public Information Committee Chair, and his committee have worked to get A.A. literature into local libraries. The committee has also been working to get A.A. pamphlets into local medical offices. Working With Others group, Tuesday night @ 7 pm, continues to have a monthly speaker meeting (2nd Saturday of each month). Dani M. continues as GSR for this group. Thursday Night group will be holding their annual summer picnic. I will pass along more information when it is available. Our district is currently in the process of switching our phone service to Freedom Voice.

Thank you,  
Stephen Webster

**District 04** We have 29 groups and our monthly district meeting is regularly attended by 15-20 members. We have all our committee chair positions filled. We recently held a Traditions Workshop on May 7 and it was lightly attended only about 25 people. We wish to thank Derek

and Kim for coming to present. Our annual picnic is scheduled for August 6<sup>th</sup> and we have our annual intergroup on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Our Monthly speaker is going to try something different by scheduling AA couples to speak instead of Individual members and will start in June and will run the next 3 months consecutively.

We are in the test phase of switching over to Freedom Voice phone service and are excited about that. We now will be having a monthly AA orientation for Outpatient as well as Inpatient treatment patients at Ministry Behavioral Health.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff D. DCM 04

**District 05** – The Fall 2017 Area 74 Conference Committee is moving ahead. The venue has been selected and the sub committees will be selected at the next planning session No current workshops scheduled, three are currently in the planning stages.

We are currently looking into adding the accessibility features to our District meeting list.

Thank you for letting me be of Service  
Bryon Bensen  
District 05 DCM  
715-579-5820

#### **District 07 Diane**

- Diane Dallman filled the DCM service position to avoid 'dark district' status. Thus, focus is on engaging groups/GSRs in active participation.
- DCM and Literature service person visited each group in January 2016. We handed out the treasurer's bundle on money/spirituality, as well as updating GSR/meeting data. The natural death of one of our old timers gave us the experience of turning away funds which the family wanted to give to the District, however none of whom belonged to the fellowship of AA.
- We are currently adding the Spanish Speaking Groups in Abbotsford to the District 07 meeting list. This is unique in that the Spanish Speaking Groups belong to Area 75.
- The District sponsors two events each year, a summer picnic and autumn festival. This year we are changing up the autumn event to eliminate expenses of DJ/dancing since few use it; instead of speaker use the time to eat and share; prepare groups to voicing 'what's happening' in their own geographic area.
- We are working with a core group to set an example of how a healthy home group can benefit AAs, the group and District as a whole, stressing that good, structured, business engages AAs, and enhances service and healthy sobriety.

#### **District 8 – Joe**

Our GSR Dist. Meeting is on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Mount View in Wausau.

Well I'm happy to report that our district is doing better than the last time we gave a report to the committee. We went from only having 5 or 6 members attending our district meeting to now having 15 or more attending. We are having a lot more groups getting involved. We went from having several open chair positions to having all but one filled. That being the Grape Vine chair.

Our District 08 Corrections chair will be asking for volunteers interested in forming a committee made up of members from Area 74 to help with hosting the WI/Upper Michigan Corrections Conference to be held in the Wausau area spring of 2017.

Our district is also talking about putting a Home group workshop to be held this fall.

It's exciting to see all the new GSRs getting involved and our district growing.

Joe Wallace, Dist. 08 DCM

**District 9 – Norm** – District 09 currently has 39 meetings 4 meetings are in corrections ( 1 Menominee,MI-1 Marinette,WI-1 Oconto,WI-1 Shawano, WI) of the 35 meetings our district is having a problem getting volunteers to step up to district service we currently have 7 of the 8 “chair” positions open, no secretary and no newsletter editor on the other side of the “coin” our Gillett Monday night recovery group is working with the Oconto county human services and AODA program to coordinate an outreach program to help those just getting out of jail or prison GOD bless yours in service Norm

**District 10 – Tracey M -no report received**

**District 13 – Sonny**

Subject: Period Report for Spring 2016

For the period the District 13 persons were involved with organizing and arranging for the Area 74 Spring Conference event to be held at Americinn of Ashland WI in May 2016. Some of what was involved was getting the people who would staff certain areas of the event such as registration tables, hospitality room, ice cream social etc.

The DCM also received 3 Bridging the Gap forms from persons incarnated and whom are close to their discharge from jail or prison. Of those 3 received none were from the District 13 area of service and 2 were forwarded to their respective Area 35 or Wausau District. 1 still and could be forwarded to Area 35.

Most of the Districts meetings were about the Conference arranging and preparation to host that spring event.

**District 18 – Gary T**

Our county jail and a prison committee is meeting once a month and they are updating the volunteer list and getting more literature and information to the jail along with volunteers to carry the message to within these facilities along with several of the groups help within our District.

Our treatment committee is also meeting once a month and are vesting the public areas to keep the literature racks full of pamphlets.

We have started up a group at Jacobetti Veteran's home on Sundays at 6:30 P.M.

There are about eight GSR attending district meetings and about 12 – 15 attendees. We are getting new people interested.

The workshop was enjoyed by all who attended and thanks go out to our delegate and past delegates. Thanks go out to the Palmer big shooters group for hosting it Jerriann their GSR you were very instrumental in putting it together.

We are talking to have a district picnic to try and increase interest in our district.

I myself have attended 9 separate groups and have asked how I may help them and just being able to be of service and fellowship with the members in the district.

As you heard we are talking to the groups to host a conference and assembly.

Sincerely yours Happy, Joyous, and Free

District 18 member  
Gary R Trombley  
(906) 346-3544

### **District 20 – Dean**

District 20 is located in east central Upper Peninsula of Michigan. We have 22 meetings covering 2500 square miles and every day of the week. Last District meeting was April 30th. Next meeting is June 4th.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Next U.P. Traveling Intergroup is June 11th at First Baptist Church in Manistique Michigan. Flyers on table
- Sponsorship Workshop June 18th at St. Therese Catholic Church Germfask Michigan. Flyers on table.
- Redid meeting lists in a nice tri-fold format with additional information on the previously blank sides
- Purchased business cards that have the District 20 hotline, email and website information.
- Reviewing prudent reserve: purpose, how much, etc.
- I attended a workshop in District 18 on the 9th concept and the 2nd tradition. Good workshop
- I have been involved in the Monthly DCM and PI Committee conference calls.
- Spring 2017 Conference status. (report given yesterday, hopefully)
  - o Flyer released and on table.
  - o Flyer includes motels that have given a discounted rate. o Registration--\$18. Banquet--\$22.
  - o We will have an onsite lunch available at an addition cost for those interested. Checkbox is on flyer.
- We have a very active literature program to support District 20 needs. We also take our table around to Intergroups in the U.P. All literature is sold at cost. We have been coordinating with Area on purchases. Also added a tab on our website to facilitate ordering literature. We have a nice website at [www.district20area74aa.org](http://www.district20area74aa.org). Meeting lists, flyers, literature, minutes and a calendar for activities are all posted on the website.

### **District 21 – Mark**

District 21 includes Northern Houghton and Keweenaw counties in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. We have a 24-hour phone service manned by Dial Help in Houghton, meetings are listed in our local newspaper, are mentioned on our local radio stations, and can be found on the Area 74 website. We currently have 22 regularly scheduled meetings as well as 5 seasonal Keweenaw County meetings in that will resume June 1<sup>st</sup>. On request meetings are held at the Houghton



County jail and / or work camp. Also, we are working to reestablish year round meetings in Keweenaw County that were discontinued several years ago.

We cooperate with Houghton County's drug court; and Phoenix House, a local residential treatment facility, who regularly refer people to our meetings. Although not in our district we continue to support Michigan Department of Corrections Baraga Max prisoner AA meetings every Wednesday at 7:15pm.

When I attended my first District 21 meeting three plus years ago there were three of us in the room. Today we have a strong core group of 12 to 14 GSR' s, chairpersons and officers, most with multiple responsibilities. Our district meetings now rotate location every three months; and we buy and stock literature in bulk for the convenience and cost savings of all AA's in the district.

A lot of progress has been made, but there is still much work to be done to involve more people in district activities, and to carry the message to those who still suffer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Schreiner  
Area 74, District 21, ADCM

#### **District 22 – Andrew**

**(Andrew was not present at the meeting, but gave me this report – MZ)**

This is Andrew Bryan the new DCM of district 22. I was the alternate but Ben K. recently took a job out of state and moved. I was at the assembly last weekend in Ashland, but did not attend the area committee meeting since I am learning my DCM responsibilities as I go and was unaware DCMs were supposed to attend the area committee meeting and give a district report. I did attend the assembly and am eager to convey what I heard back to my district. In regards to a district report I do not have a lot to report. We have had low participation at our district meetings with an average of 2-4 GSRs attending and getting involved at the district service level. We have reached out to our county's (Door County) human service department and they have asked for a list of names and numbers of aa members who are willing to carry the message into their AODA groups. We have an active AA hotline which connects those who want with a recovering aa member and also list our meetings. We have a website which also list our meetings and hotline contacts [doorcountyyaa.org](http://doorcountyyaa.org). If you have any questions let me know.

Thanks,  
Andrew Bryan District 22 DCM

#### **District 23 – Jay H**

District 23 has been focusing concentrated effort in five main areas since our last report:

- I. An attention to details in regard to the hosting of the up-coming “*Area 74 2016 Fall Conference*”, due to be held on September 16-18, has continued to captivate us. All major elements have fallen into place and we will now have our flyer/registration forms out in the June issue of the “*Now & Then*” newsletter, and slated to be posted on the Area 74 Website by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Please take advantage of our “Early-Bird” room rates by registering sooner than later! We’re not wishing away the not-yet-to-arrive summer season, but we are pretty darn excited over hosting this early autumnal event! Don’t forget to bring your dancin’ shoes and a copy of Larousse Gastronomique along with your Alcoholics Anonymous “Big Book” for night reading as you “turn in” Friday and Saturday evenings; the former

to explain in a gourmet's lexicon the earthly pleasures you're about to experience at Saturday night's banquet dinner, and the latter to help revisit the guiding principles behind which we plan and experience our conference's spiritual basis together.

- II. The institution of our PI/CPC Committee's "Public Service Announcement (PSA) Initiative" scheduled to be started-up in June on three area radio stations out of a potential rotating list of fourteen (14) broadcasting stations identified as serving our district's area.
- III. A reassessment of our District 23 "HELPLINE" service, and an accompanying redesign and streamlining of instructions to the holder of the phone, who's interest in being best prepared to serve the needs of *"the still suffering alcoholics"* is met.
- IV. The culmination of our hope and efforts to re-ignite our Washburn County Jail meeting, which has ceased to exist for a six-year span, has been taken up and organized by our district's "Triangle Home Group" and will be coordinated and supplied with A.A. service workers by them. We anticipate this effort starting up in June. It's anticipated that the meeting format will be a randomly rotating combination of "Speaker meeting" and "Step meeting" featuring the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Steps.
- V. Distributing accumulated Seven Tradition funds to various A.A. causes and organizations.

Thank You for the Opportunity to Serve A.A.,  
Jay Hands, DCM

District 23/Area 74 – A.A. 715.469.3656 [jay4district12@gmail.com](mailto:jay4district12@gmail.com)