

Area 74 Area Committee Meeting Minutes
Sunday, September 13
Via Zoom

Meeting opened at 8:00

No new DCMs present.
No new GSRs present.

Approve Minutes from August 1, 2020 Area Committee Meeting

Comment: The added correspondence from Char was a forwarded email and not her language. Minutes were updated to reflect as such.

DCM Reports - See appendix 1

Delegates Report – See appendix 1

Comment: Concern that now and then is not accessible with the secure website.

Comment: Were you aware of the people who were going to be standing did you know that Brian already held a position at the Area Committee? – I did not know that Brian was willing to stand. I was aware that Brian was a current member of structures and guidelines committee. In hindsight, would it have made a difference, I'm sure it would have.

Comment: I wonder sometimes if people with concerns and they are upset about something and it never gets to the appropriate people and decisions are made about things without ever being addressed.

Comment: I was excited that our GSRs chose to be there yesterday and that was great.

Comment: Can now and then post their email for the fellowship to subscribe if they are concerned about access?

Comment: Now and then posted their email.

Unfinished Business:

- Area 74 Service Calendar

Comment: Delegates Workshop Date

Comment: Is there a date that is more advantageous for the delegate?

Comment: Both dates are crazy in terms of preparation?

Comment: The issue has always been getting it back to the groups.

Comment: March 6th was the selected date. 22 yes, 1 no

Comment: Optional Area 74 Committee Meeting Date

Comment: Something to consider regarding the date in August we think about moving the Area committee meeting out to better serve the districts. By having the ACM directly after the assembly, we have not had an opportunity to get any feedback from groups. I like the August because it gives us a chance to get feedback from groups. Something to think about for the future.

Comment: 1st weekend in August puts it a bit further away from the conference.

Comment: August 7th was selected as the date. 20 yes, 0 no

Comment: October 23 or 30 Assembly

Comment: I prefer the 30th to have it further away from the September Conference

Comment: The board meeting meets in mid-October, would be better to be later.

Comment: October 30th was selected as the date, 17 yes, 4 no

- **October 24, 2020 Assembly Agenda**

Comment: I want to clarify that the motion was not brought forward by District 6, it was brought forward by Jim, then supported by District 6 after the fact.

Comment: We need to address that was struck to me most yesterday was really neat what District 21 did yesterday, District 21 had 5 votes at the assembly. That was great.

Comment: Procedural question, line item by line item or is it a total vote?

Comment: How do we bring motions forward; it came out of committee.

Comment: This is one of the things that can be discussed in the future.

Comment: Is there anyway that the dates to remember can be put out if it can be sent out.

Comment: Can we include GSRs in setting to the agenda

Comment: October Assembly Agenda approved, Yes -21, No-0

New Business:

- December Meeting Virtual vs in-Person

Comment: In-person vs Virtual: Virtual - 19, In-Person – 3

Chair will be appointing people to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Area Inventory.

Comments from the chair: I filter through how we can help the still suffering alcoholic. Web pages and meeting guide app, I am going to be talking to Lucas and we should be able to use a plug-in and we can manually enter the meetings into the meeting guide app even if the district does not have a website. If you know “techy” people have them contact me so we can move this forward.

Next Area Committee Meeting December 12, 2020

Meeting closed at 10:04

appendix 1

District 1

DCM report District 01 for fall Assembly 9-12-2020

1. Currently, we have many of our normal scheduled meetings happening in person.
2. Our two main meeting halls are currently holding meeting with strict guidelines in place to comply with both city and state requirements for meeting spaces.
3. Several of our larger groups have elected to continue with zoom meetings till further notice.
4. At this time our district meetings are also being held on the zoom platform the second Thursday of each month. Attendance is good by sitting chairs and GSRs.
5. One of our concerns is our lack of ability to reach the people who are incarcerated at this time. We are working with local correctional facilities to try to set up some video communications. Also, our corrections volunteers are meeting one on one through the glass at select facilities. In addition, we have just received approval from Brown County correctional that we can implement a pen pal program to coexist with our current bridging the gap services for the newcomer soon to be released inmates. This would be temporary until the end of jail quarantine.
6. The district groups voted to not have our end of annual summer picnic.
7. As a district we are hanging in there, but this covid 19 and all it brings is starting to wear on many of us, but we will hang in there ONE DAY AT A TIME!!!!

Yours in service

Bill D. DCM district 01

District 2

September 13th DCM Report for ACM

At the present time District 02 has face to face meetings and Zoom meetings. Some face to face meetings have restrictions. Some are being held outside at AA members homes. A number of meetings continued meeting during the pandemic.

We still have a number of open positions LCM's B, C and F. Chair Positions Archives, Grapevine, PI and Treasurer.

At our last District meeting we talked about doing a Virtual Workshop/Intergroup. It is at the group level now. We will see how much interest there is and move forward.

Our next District meeting is on September 13th at 2:00 pm.

District 3

District 03 serving south Wood County

Greetings!

Not much has changed since the last report. Some things that continue to progress are that we are seeing new people enter the rooms of A.A.

As we continue to navigate the circumstances of Covid-19 we have seen more people come to in person meetings. A social distance is in place and some people adhere to the mask mandate, but not all. We still have an online meeting presence and continue to hold our district meeting, every third Thursday @ 5:30, online.

We have limited participation at our district meeting with a few wonderful men and women. A treasurer, a P.I. committee chair, a G.S.R., and myself.

We have had some change over in meetings regarding service positions and I am hopeful of some participation to increase.

On a personal note I have been attending a D.C.M. monthly meeting and have found great help within that format. It has introduced me to many people, answered questions about concepts, area related business, and structure. I hope to see continued growth among members in that meeting.

I have also been involved in a monthly meeting with the area P.I. chair. This has also brought benefits with structure and nuances of area guidelines to light, as well as initiatives on how to carry the message to alcoholics. Many great people involved on the committee.

As a district we are continuing to pursue future items such as speaker meetings, events, and ways to engage alcoholics in the best, safest way possible for what the future might present.

I look forward to the conference, assembly, and agenda items and what we can do, as well as appreciate all the hard work put forth by people all over our district with such a chaotic time.

Thank you and God bless,

Daniel S.

District 4

District 4 Covers Portage County and Waupaca County. We have meetings in Stevens Point, Waupaca, Plover, Iola, and Amherst.

Right now we currently have 23 In-person/Hybrid meetings and 14 active Zoom meetings.

We are active in the Treatment center in Stevens Point.

We are unable at this time to go into either Waupaca or Portage county Jails at this.

We are currently looking for a Treatment Chair, and Archives Chair. Also, the rotation for Secretary, Finance Committee member, and Picnic Chair are coming up too.

In August our District was able to contribute a donation to GSO for \$500 dollars.

We had a successful summer Picnic August 15th with 37 people in attendance.

We are working on creating our budget for 2021.

October 17th We will be hosting a "Safety Workshop" from 6pm to 8pm cst.

District 5

Greetings from District 05

We are super excited to be hosting the 2020 all virtual fall conference. These are crazy times we are in but let me tell you I could not be prouder of our fall conference committee for handling adversity and being thrown curve balls through out this year. Bryon and his committee have handled it with grace and an open mindedness to do the next right thing! Our monthly virtual GSR meeting meets the second Wednesday of every month. We have seen a decline of GSR participation sense the pandemic started back in March, but in our last meeting we had a brand new GSR attend her first district meeting and it was awesome! Watching other GSR's share their Experience and talking about the vital role a GSR plays between there group and AA.

Our district committees have been busy through this pandemic on carrying the message of AA, and after we depart from this weekend of Recovery, Unity, and service our Public Information committee will be hosting a virtual workshop called, "Lifting the Curtain on Alcoholics Anonymous" on September 28th, 2020. Then on October 2nd – 4th we have the "Recovery on the River Virtual Jamboree" Go to www.Recoveryontheriver.org for more information.

3 Months ago, I was asked to facilitate our Area 74 Monthly DCM call which is held on the last Tuesday of every month at 7pm Central Time. At first, we had 16-18 DCM's participating in the Zoom Call. Then we had a month or two where only 6-8 DCM's were present. I'm happy to report last month we had 14 DCM's on the zoom call, and we had really good conversations about how Districts are reaching out to the Alcoholic that still suffers, and different types of meetings that are going on during these unprecedented times and what safety measures each group is taking while in person meetings start up. I encourage all DCM's to join us on our monthly zoom call so we can work together for the alcoholic that suffers in and out of our rooms.

In conclusion, let us all come together this weekend with an open mind, and work together for the common good! There is much work to get done but let us not forget why we are here, to work for the Alcoholic that still suffers. May God Bless you and keep you safe in his loving arms!!!!

In Love and Service!!

Shane Speckien Alcoholic

District 6

Not much has happened since our last report 1 month ago. We have had 1 district meeting since my last report.

We are discussing a topic for our 1st workshop as we want to attract the most folks from our groups and alcoholics.

We were approached by the treatment facilities looking for volunteers to be available for bridging the gap as patients are released, we had 6 volunteers. We have had 2 open AA meetings in the facility, and we were notified that they are now opening those 2 meetings back up. We are also looking for a volunteer to bring in a meeting directly to the patients. This meeting was facilitated by our Treatment chair.

We need a new treatment chair, as our current chair has had the death of a spouse, and will probably be moving out of the area. We have had a gentleman just move into the area from Eagle River, and has talked with me about filling that position. We will confirm him in our next meeting.

Our ADCM purchased a web site for us. We unsuccessfully have tried to find a webmaster, so our ADCM, and myself worked on setting up our website. It is not the best looking or most functional website, but it is better than what we had—nothing. As a side note we received a large contribution from one of our groups, and we immediately moved to reimburse our ADCM for the cost of the website.

All of our GSR's are brand new to this type of service, so we spend much of our time in training. Over the next 2 months we will be meeting ½ hour early and putting on a mini new GSR workshop.

All of our folks are very motivated within our district, and I am very proud of the way they have stepped up.

In Love and Service

Jim M DCM District 6

District 7

Greetings from District 07!

I reached out to the Wood County jail about possible zoom meetings. The deputy said she loved the idea but they don't have the capabilities to set anything like that up.

Meetings continue to run as scheduled at the Marshfield Alano Club. Although most members aren't wearing masks, they are adhering to the 10 person room rule. Thank you to the Saturday night group for bringing back the speaker meeting! It has been well attended and is held outside the Club.

Church meetings are still shut down as far as I know, except for the Colby group.

We posted on the Area 74 website a temporary COVID meeting schedule with highlights to any changes. This schedule was also forwarded to the treatment and Family Health/AODA centers which District 07 connects with. We will be keeping it updated with the weather getting cooler, as some of the meetings are outdoors.

District 8

DCM report District 08,

Hello, my name is Steve S., currently serving as Alt. DCM and acting Treasurer for District 08 serving Wausau and surrounding area. We currently do not have a DCM or Treasurer.

We have been holding District 08 GSR's meetings online on the first Tuesday of the month and have decided to purchase a Zoom account to allow our meetings to go uninterrupted unlike using the free account.

We currently have 8 in person meetings being held on a weekly basis, at least 3 of which are doing hybrid meetings to allow members to attend if they are unable to attend in person. On a weekly basis more meeting info is being updated on website as more meetings are opening. My homegroup is holding campfire meetings at a members home

and also sharing on zoom as our Church has yet to open back up. Another Church in town has been open to having more groups start meetings in their facility and I expect to hear of more meeting open up there.

I hope all is well within your Districts and stay safe out there!

Yours in service,

Steve S.

Alt DCM 08

District 9

District 09 has not met for the past few months. We are hoping to finally get together the first Sunday in October. Please keep your fingers crossed!

Have a great meeting on Saturday!! Thank you for all you do. I know Sec. is a busy, busy job, and you are doing a fine job!!!

In service, gloria o--DCM district 09

District 12

My name is Pamela Osborne and I am an alcoholic, serving District 12 currently. During this time, most of our meetings are now in person following social guidelines, but we have two zoom meetings currently to meet other needs. We are receiving calls on our helpline, as well as on our district 12 website for people looking for help with their drinking. We will be holding an election for new Group Service Representatives in the next district meeting which will precede an election of a new DCM as all terms are up. We will continue serving both the still suffering alcoholic, both in the rooms and those in the community.

District 13

District 13 is located in Ashland and Bayfield Counties of North Wisconsin. The District Committee meeting is usually held on the 1st Monday of each month at 5:00 pm.

Meeting Schedule: There are 31 Monday thru Sunday meetings. 1 seasonal meeting that meets in the warm season. Since March most groups and meetings are inactive. Some meetings met by zoom.

Financial: Financial situation is that the district is maintaining a positive financial balance.

Phone "Hot Line" (715) 682-4460: There has calls about what and where meetings are meeting.

Corrections: There has been no meetings at either Ashland or Bayfield County jails.

Bayfield County Jail: The woman's meeting is held on Thursdays. Has been meeting thru November.

The mens meeting was held on Thursdays. Is now inactive meeting. Is needing of men to help with going to the jail and chairing the weekly meeting.

Ashland County Jail: The women's meetings are active. Is in need of women to go to the jail and help get meetings started on an ongoing basis.

The mens meeting is active and held on Wednesdays 3:30pm and is in need of additional men to help with going to the jail and chairing the weekly meeting.

Elections: The District held elections October 2017 and mentions each month about open committee positions. Current filled positions are: District Committee Member, Alternate Committee Member, Treasurer, Secretary and Corrections.

Area 74 AA Organization: The district members advise of the agenda items that occurs and does an overview of the agenda items as needed.

May 2020 Conference: For the Area 74 AA Organizations conference for Friday May 15th thru Sunday 17th 2020 The conference has been cancelled and the District has been reconciling expenses and costs etc, and will provide the balance of seed money to the Area 74 AA Organization.

May 2022 Conference: The District 13 is planning to put a bid in to host that conference.

End of report

District 20

Good Morning, I am Kathy and I am a alcoholic. I am the DCM for District 20 on the beautiful shores of Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula. District 20 covers over 3,000 miles and lots of woods. We hold our District meeting in Gerfask Michigan. It is the middle point for most.

We have finished our first ever Guidelines Handbook in District 20 in August! Rich M (ALT DCM) was the Chair for that committee and he did a great job! We haven't been able to get into the jail in Alger County that holds people from 3 different counties in our district. They are good on Books, but it will be nice to get back in there.

Our District Meetings will be held on Zoom through December as of right now. We have decided as a group that, that is the best decision for everyone. We still have some Positions Open but our main ones are filled. We had our last District meeting on Sept 4th. District 20 also set up a Venmo account for online contributions from groups or individuals.

Not much else to report, I am grateful for the opportunity to be the DCM for District 20.

Kathy Parkkila, DCM District 20

District 21

District 21, encompassing Houghton and Keweenaw Counties in Upper Michigan, has, as Area 74 and the nation as a whole been tremendously affected by the pandemic. Whereas before, we could tout the relatively large number of active meetings for such a diverse rural area, now due to the public safety concerns and Governor's executive orders, many of our meeting spaces have been unavailable.

I'm happy to report that as a district we have met the challenge well. The district website is running well due to a tremendous effort by the tech team to keep it updated, and we are offering a good number of meetings via Zoom. We have been holding our monthly District meetings via zoom also with good attendance. For those members without internet access, call banks have been established, and members call or text one another.

Several meetings have been able to resume following strict health guidelines and for those preferring face to face meetings it has worked well. Those attending have been respectful of the requirements for indoor meetings. We have several newcomers who have reached us through community contacts or friends.

Overall, we are still active and holding steadfast to our common goal.

Respectfully submitted,

Lil Ryckman
DCM District 21

Delegate's Report

Greetings,

My apologies as this report was lost when my computer's Microsoft needed an update.

Members of the General Service Conference meet on Saturday evening August 15, 2020 to hear a presentation from Treasurer Leslie B on the audited 2019 Financials and review the forecasted 2020 budget. Ample time was given for questions and answers. I have put together a few power point slides that show the difference in the final numbers. Included in the power point is the updated 2020 budget and the cost saving measures, including a large saving on mailing cost for the 4th quarter Box 459 give up a recalculated reserve fund of 9.2 months. It is unknown at this time if we will need to make another draw down by the end of the year to see us through the pandemic. Groups contributions are on the rise and literature sales have increased in the past months.

The big take-aways from the meeting included a request from the Delegates for a detailed timeline and accounting of the problems with Netsuite/ERP system. This project has been ongoing and has experienced delays when changing vendors and transferring

data from the old system to the new platform. We also asked for the rate of return on this new system, We have yet to get these answers.

There was request from the trustees' Committee on Corrections for sharing from the Fellowship on "How the message is being carried behind the walls during the COVID-19 pandemic." Deadline for submission is September 11, 2020. Please share your experience. Your shared experience may be invaluable to another committee somewhere.

There have been several retirements from the General Service office, with more to come in October.

Please note one cost-saving measure: Till the end of the year, the newsletters regularly published by GSO, such as Box 4-5-9, About A.A., the GSB Quarterly Report, the LIM bulletin and Sharing From Behind the Walls will be available only on aa.org or will have limited print runs, saving on production and mailing costs.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me. I would be happy to answer the questions.

We have a session scheduled to discuss the General Service Boards Strategic Plan in September and the Conference Literature Committee will also be meeting in September.

Power point slides included detailed 2020 budget with the savings, International convention update, Virtual 70th GSC financial report. The power point was sent to all DCMs for sharing with the fellowship.