

Minutes for Sunday, March 24, 2024

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

Location: Embassy Suites,

Oklahoma City Downtown/Medical Center

741 North Phillips Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73104

Registration: Combined Districts

Present: Total Attendance per Registration and Roll Call: 209

**Call to Order - Diane W., Area 57 Chair**

Opening: Serenity Prayer

Welcoming

Roll Call - Novie H., Area Secretary

Preview of Day Events - Diane W., Area Chair

- Mock Conference
- Old business has two agenda items
- New business has one agenda item submitted by District 20

**Area Officer Reports**

**Area Chair Report– Diane W.**

- Attended state sponsored workshops
- Attended Founder’s Writing Online Workshop
- Attended Plain Language Sharing Session
- Attended the Archives Open House in January – Great turnout.
- Attended the monthly All Area Chair meetings (93 Areas)
- Attended District 30 Winter Conference
- Mark M., who has served 31 years as the Area 57 Archivist will be stepping down in September and Ken E. will be taking that position.
- Attended District 30 Winter Conference
  - Fun until championship for the cornhole tournament was lost
    - District 40 took the award
- Held District Chair Meetings
  - Being held before each Area Meeting
  - Helpful in promoting better communications among the districts

- Area Inventory
  - Scheduled for August 3 at 12:00 p.m.
  - Will be held at the Western Club
  - In person only (no zoom)
  - Open to everyone
  - Questions will go out June 1
  - Will also be able to answer questions online or mail
  - An ad hoc committee has been formed consisting of past delegates, DCMs, and District Chairs
    - Committee will take answers and discussion from the inventory meeting and present recommendations for change in September
  - Will be facilitating as an unbiased entity
  - Will be no expenses
- Expenses this quarter were \$616.50

#### Alternate Chair Report – Gary K.

- State Sponsored Workshops
  - December 9 held a workshop called, “ Problems Other than Alcohol”.
    - In collaboration with other 12 Step programs
    - In person attendance was over 70 people and on Zoom was around 40
  - District 70 workshop was on “How to Chair a Meeting”.
  - Upcoming Workshops
    - April 13 in Guthrie, OK, on subject Traditions 1,2, and 3, Group structure, and how to chair a meeting
      - Flyers are on aaoklahoma.org
    - Archives Workshop will be in Tulsa, OK
      - Tulsa is celebrating 80 years of Alcoholics Anonymous
    - August 17<sup>th</sup> in Tahlequah, OK
      - Topic hasn’t been set but we will float the river afterwards
    - In December, there is a plan to hold another workshop for “Problems Other than Alcohol”.
- Attended Archives Open House in January
- Attended District 30 Winter Conference
- Spoke at New Haven Group in Tulsa
- Attended the District 10/20 joint service meeting in February
- Attended State Corrections Conference in Claremore, OK
- Expenses this quarter were \$407.01. Receipts and bank statements are available.

## Delegate Report – Ryan F.

- Spoke at the Broken Bottle Group
- Attended the District 30 Winter Conference
- Attended the Quarterly Southwest Regional Delegate Meeting
- Report and Charter Committee
  - Serving as alternate chair
  - New Service Manual
    - Last year this committee put through an advisory action to rewrite chapter 8, 9, and 11
      - When draft was received those chapters had not been rewritten
      - Response from Publishing was it was not needed
- Reviewing 1800 pages of background material in preparation for the conference
  - All these pages are posted on the website under password protected folder
- Held two workshops on the proposed agenda items
- Attended SWARDA conference in OKC
- Attended first sharing session of the Founders Writing. There will be two.
- GSB Financials are on the website
  - Missing the total expenditures (where money is being spent)
    - Reason given was that the new auditing company had not yet cleared the audits
    - Group is sending letters to the Trustees politely demanding that delegates be given audited financials at the conference
- Plain Language book
  - Has gone to committee but it is unknown if it will get out of committee and hit the floor
  - Background material showed a non-disclosure letter of understanding preventing delegates from sharing information in any format. Letter was rescinded so delegates will not be required to sign before viewing the Plain Language book.
  - Delegates not on the Trustees Literature Committee will get two hours to view book before it comes out of committee
- In January there was a drawdown of over a million dollars
  - \$500,000 was allocated to replenish the Grapevine expecting it to make money this year
  - The rest paid off past due accounts
  - That drawdown brought prudent reserve down to 6.2 months
    - Expectant prudent reserve is 9-12 months

- The budget being presented at the coming conference does not include plans to replenish the prudent reserve
- Founder's Writings
  - Information is on our website [aaoklahoma.org](http://aaoklahoma.org), under the delegate tab
  - Have received 128 responses mostly from individual members
    - Encourage everyone to go back to their groups for a group conscience
- Expenses this quarter were \$1,333.09. Most was for plane ticket to the delegate's conference which will be reimbursed
  - Balance remaining is \$311.59

#### Alternate Delegate Report – Bryan T.

- Attended joint service meetings
- Attended the North American Alternate Delegates online monthly meetings
  - Business meeting held to help plan for upcoming SWARZA in October at Dallas
- Expenses this quarter were \$735.12 out of the \$562.50 budget

#### Treasurer Report – Curt L.

- Provided a review of the attached 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report

#### Area Chair, Diane W.: Asked for motion from DCMs to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Treasurer's Report.

- Motion was made and seconded. Motion approved.

#### Area Secretary Report – Novie H.

- Registrar is the only one that can make changes (edit) Fellowship Connection
  - Fellowship Connection is a GSO managed database that consists of registered groups service positions, etc.
    - GSO does not know the Districts as the Area Secretary/Registrar does not know the district zones or clusters
      - New DCMs should ask their District Chairs or fellow DCMs to determine what groups they are to support
- Forms to establish New Groups or make changes at the District or Group
  - Online forms and download forms are located on the [aaoklahoma.org](http://aaoklahoma.org) website.
    - Any service position changes should include name, mailing address, phone number and email address
    - From that information is created the Trusted Servants Listing which feeds the roll call, name tags, email distribution and others
- Secretarial Duties
  - Finished capturing the secretarial duties

- Wasn't detailed but enough that it can be worked upon without going into individual process steps
- Preferably contact me on my personal number at (405)328-0582
- Apologies to District 60
  - Failed to contact them about their turn at the registration tables so they will be asked to attend the registration tables at the next Area Meeting in June.
- Will not be announcing new groups
  - New groups are in a pending status awaiting confirmation
  - If a new group establishes directly with GSO and they do not know their District, the group goes into an unknown status
    - Unknown status is also for groups that have no GSR or contact

Area Chair, Diane W.: Called for motion to approve the December 3, 2023, Area Meeting Minutes.

- Motion was made and seconded. Motion approved.

2024 State Conference Chair Report – Amy T.

- 54 days until conference
- Shout out given to conference committee members and to the districts for their generous contributions
  - Conference would not be possible without the district contributions
- Registrations now are 353 but hoping for at least 100 more
- If you do not plan to go, contributions can be made directly, or you can pay for someone to attend
- Our block of rooms is nearly full and so is the hotel. Call today if you want to get the special rate as that goes up on April 16<sup>th</sup>

2024 Fun in the Fellowship Report – Reba H.

- The committee has been meeting with a focus to build the committee
  - Majority of positions have been filled except for liaisons for District 30, 60, 70, 80 and 90
  - As we get closer will be looking chairpersons for the workshops
  - Also looking for accessibility chair, hospitality chair, volunteer, and greeter chair
- Contact information is on page 4 of the newsletter
- Zoom information on the flyer can be used for the monthly committee meeting so anyone can join in
- Next committee meeting will be on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

OKC Intergroup – Cooperation Report – Jeff (Intergroup Liaison)

- Thank you to all the districts for allowing us to come and speak at your meetings
- In reference to information about different groups that are still meeting or what groups have disappeared, please forward that information onto the Oklahoma City Intergroup Office
  - Helps us maintain the meeting guide with current information
    - If we can have current information on the groups, it helps us to help those calling in to find a meeting
- Workshop – Yesterday conducted a spirituality workshop at Sleepy Hollow Group in Stillwater
  - Would love to bring a workshop to your group
  - Workshops can be provided on a variety of subjects
- Ask that Intergroup contributions continue so services to groups can continue
- Please verify our new address with your groups
- In the process of updating the hotline and the 12 step lists
  - Names who no longer participate have been dropped.
  - Need hotline and 12 step volunteers
- Sooner Sobriety – Want your story
- Monthly Rep Meetings – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month
  - If your group rep cannot attend, Zoom is available

Northeast Central Office – Cooperation Report – Marcy

- Agreed on the need to keep group information up to date
- Great year, great participation
- Chili Cook Off – Great participation
- Parking Lot Party – Coming June 8<sup>th</sup>, the birthday of AA
  - Jesse and Reggie cook off
  - Raffle prizes
- Next Central Service meeting on April 13th

Break (10 minutes)

Area Chair, Diane W.: Reconvened meeting

**Area Mock Conference (count off in 12s)**

Break for Lunch

Area Chair, Diane W.: Reconvened meeting

**Area Service Committee Reports**

Area Accessibilities Chair Report – Maria E. (Report unavailable)

### Area Archives Chair Report – Gabe S.

- District 30-40 Archive Workshop
  - Saturday, 4/27 – Tulsa, OK
  - 3 panels
  - Focus on AA history in Tulsa
  - Should have flyers available to handout
- State Conference
  - Preparing for Archives Display Room
- Inventory Project/Digitizing Archives
  - Printer/Scanner Issues – need to get resolved
  - In progress (scanning using personal equipment)
    - Minutes of previous meetings (80% complete)
    - Area 57 Bulletins (90% complete)
    - Purpose? Preserving Area 57 history and making information accessible to the Fellowship (indexed/searchable)
- State (Area) Office Open House
  - Hosted by the Archives Committee
  - Held on Saturday, January 13th
    - Cold but good attendance
    - Want to continue yearly
- Long-timer interviews and group oral histories
  - Progress on a district level
  - Finalized an Oral History Release Form
    - Need to get on the Archives page of the website
- Submitting items for the Newsletter
- Will begin to work on updating the Archives Committee Mission Statement – aligning with current responsibilities and P&P
- Continuing to meet monthly, good attendance
- This quarter expenses were \$369.86 that was spent on Archive boxes

### Area Bridge-the-Gap Chair – Julie S.

- Bridge the Gap cards were created and are on the website
- Cards are available here today
- Expenses this quarter were approximately \$125.00

### Area Cooperation with Professional Community Chair – Marina T.

- Held Online workshop
  - Groups attended wanting to start projects

- GSO made three contacts this quarter asking for CPC literature to be supplied to individuals and to someone wanting to start a meeting in a church
- Presentations
  - Gave a presentation at Turning Point AA meeting in Durant, OK
    - Provided literature to help them when they speak to Law Enforcement about starting a meeting in the county jail
  - Will be giving a presentation at the Oklahoma City University to the Doctorate Physical Therapy Program
    - Will be providing a panel of volunteer medical providers experienced with making an approach to alcoholics in their care
- Chickasaw Health Fairs
  - Joint endeavor with Area PI Chair and Al-Anon representatives
  - Will be held in Thackerville, Norman, and Ada
- Expenses this quarter were \$124.20

Area Corrections Chair Report – Tony P.

- Oklahoma Corrections Conference
  - 73 people in attendance
  - Scott S. told his story on Zoom from Allen Oakwood Correctional Facility in Lima, Ohio
  - Duncan L. told his story from Pocket our Pride Group at John Lilley Correctional Center in Boley, OK
  - Panelists consisted of Reba H., Shauna C, Callie H., Bradley S., Bill B, Peter T., and Josh A.
  - Thomas F. share about Coins for Corrections and our new QR code for cash app contributions
  - Norm L. shared about the National Corrections Conference. Josh T. shared about getting introduced to AA on the inside and now he is out and plugged in
  - Thank you to Gary K. for facilitating Zoom, Reggie, and Jessie's cooking crew and all the Corrections Committee for making this a great event
- Shauna D. from District 40 will be leading a committee effort to participate at DOC reentry resource fairs
- New District 60 Corrections Chair – Kenneth D.
- Need a District 20 Corrections Chair
- Upcoming Workshops (will be joining efforts with Treatment Committee)
  - District 60, July 20
  - District 70, August 25
  - District 80, July 27



- District 30/40, looking for dates
- Coins for Corrections
  - Balance \$609.37
    - District 30 voted to contribute \$100.00 quarterly
  - Asking groups to consider contributing directly as a group
  - Books go straight to inmates in jail and correctional facilities
- Shauna C. from District 10 is looking for those interested in carrying the message to juvenile facilities
- Shauna D. from District 40 will be leading a committee effort
- This quarter - Did not spend any of Corrections Budget

#### Area Grapevine Chair – Scott Brown

- Attended the North American Grapevine zoom call
  - Discussion was held concerning the long term (five year) plan coming out of the red
- Download the Grapevine or Lavina app onto your phone or go to AA Grapevine.org
  - App is free
    - Receive a daily quote, information about U-tube channel, etc.
- If planning to subscribe or renew your subscription, do so before April 15<sup>th</sup> as cost is going up
  - Subscription renewals will receive a free book, Happy, Joyous and Free.
- Three new District Grapevine Chairs
  - District 30, Dianna G.
  - District 60, Lew F.
  - Will be in contact with District 70

#### Area Gratitude Chair – Joann D.

- OK Gratitude Envelopes are here
  - Ordered first 1000 for \$325.00 using last quarter's money
  - Ordered additional 5000 for \$795.30
    - Cost had gone up significantly so to order in larger quantity was a savings
- GSO Envelopes are available
- New Gratitude chairs please contact me

#### Area Newsletter Chair - Mary Beth H. (provided by Cassandra)

- Thanks to all who participated in this quarterly Area 57 Newsletter
- Printed 110 newsletters at the cost of \$514.28
- Thanks to Laura T. for posting newsletters on website aaoklahoma.org
- Feel free to print additional copies for your groups

- Next newsletter deadline is June 9

#### Area Policy and Procedures (P&P) Chair – Sharon S.

- QR Code for P&P
- Policy changes coming
- Visited Elk City
- Visited District 90
  - Provided information about Policy and Procedures at the Area level
  - Discussed non-traditional groups

#### Area Public Information Chair – April W.

- Area 57 State Sponsored workshop in Tulsa on December 9
  - It was called Problems Other than Alcohol
  - Provided public information literature
- Attended District 90 meeting
  - Their Public Information Committee meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm in their District Office.
  - Expressed a desire to host an Area 57 workshop to include some other committees
    - Will be working on this the next quarter
- Chickasaw Nation Health Fair
  - Will have tables with AA conference approved literature and contact information
  - The tribe has asked that we reach out to Al-Anon asking for their presence and they have agreed to join us
  - Scheduled locations, dates, and times
    - Daily from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
    - April 2 at the Windstar Casino in Thackerville
    - April 4 at the Riverwind Casino in Norman
    - April 5 at the Carl Albert Service Center in Ada
- Request for pamphlets
  - Two schools in the metro area
  - Two treatment facilities
  - Delaware Nation
  - Caddo Nation
  - Indian Health Center in Anadarko
- Spent \$157.67 for 2500 wallet cards
  - Waiting on back-order for some
- Have distributed pamphlets, pamphlet holders, wallet cards and wallet card holders to the District Public Information Chairs

- Links to the following can be found on <http://aaoklahoma.org> under Committees and then Public Information
  - Information Handbook
  - Public Information Workbook
  - PI Public Service Announcements
  - Pamphlets
- Ask your public library to shelve conference approved AA materials
  - Ask if your group can contribute a book
- Also meeting cards can be placed at hotels, motels, and B&Bs

Area Technologies Chair – Josh L. (not present-no report)

Area Treatment Chair – Josh A. (not present-presented by Mike B.)

- Scheduled Workshops
  - District 60 in McAlester on July 20.
  - District 80 at Chickasha on July 27
  - District 70 at the Foss State Park on August 25
- In Planning Workshops
  - District 30/40 in Tulsa
  - District 90
- Expenses this quarter were \$64.19

### **District/DCM Service Reports**

*Please note: The District Chairs and DCMs reports are not included within the main body, however, all audio and written reports are kept on file as part of the Area Meeting Minutes.*

### **Unfinished Business**

- DCMs voted on the motion for Policy and Procedure Change to C-2a Operating and C-3a Savings Accounts
  - Motion passed 32-1
- DCMs voted on the motion for Area to support Area meetings to be held on Saturday or Sunday except in September due to Fun in the Fellowship.
  - Motion did not pass 17-17

(All Motions with content and results are attached)

### **New Business**

- Motion made and seconded to submit a Proposed Agenda Item to the 75<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference to add District Chairs and Area Chairs to
- Fellowship Connection.
  - Motion passed 28-4

(Motion with content and results are attached)

### **Open Mic/Announcements**

#### **Meeting adjourned - Diane W., Area 57 Chair**

Closing: The Lord's Prayer

Attachments:

1. Approved Treasurer Report
2. Approved Area Meeting Minutes
3. District Chairs and DCM Reports
4. Unfinished Business Motions
5. New Business Motions