

Area 82 Active Committees Meeting

April, 26th, 2021

Meeting opened at 6:05 pm NS time

Chaired by Gerry W. Area 82 NS/NL Alt GSD

In attendance.

Gerry W. Area 82 Alternate GSD

Boyd B Past Delegate, District 15 , CPC-PI Committee

Loyola G. Alt DCM District 12 and Treatment Committee Chair

Mark Z (District 3) PI Chair

Gerry M. District 14

Gerry opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

He then asked for reports in no particular order, simply position on screen.

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Gerry W. spoke briefly of the Pre-Conference Workshop. He thanked all who participated for their hard work and commitment to ensuring our GSD went to the Conference carrying the Group Conscience of Area 82 as best she could. He also thanked the folks who performed double duty by participating in the shorter, follow-up session on April 10th. This one was used to address a couple of Agenda items which were not covered during the March 27th.workshop.

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- **Boyd B. (District 15) Past Delegate, filling in for CPC-PI chair Lesley O.**

Public Information Committee Report for April 13, 2021

April report is essentially a repeat of March

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- **Mark Z. (District 3) Chair PI/CPC (Report in absentia).**

District 3 report

- April report is essentially a repeat of March
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District 12 Treatment Committee

I am Loyola G. I'm the Alternate DCM as well as the Chair of the District 12 Treatment Committee.

- I've talked with the head of Humberwood Treatment facility, Kathy to become familiar with how we can best carry the AA message within their facility. Part of that process is to determine what they expect from us, as far as the number of meetings. This communication has been very helpful.
 - I have also been reading up on the guidelines and literature for Treatment Committees, trying to get, our committee in place, and trying to do up a new schedule.
 - I am really looking forward to April 10th, when we have our Treatment and CPC meeting. I have a number of questions which I hope to be informed on, One of which is "What length of sober time is sufficient for a person to attend or conduct meetings at the Humberwood facility?" The facility administrator seems to think that a year would be best.
 - During follow-up discussion it was pointed out that each District is autonomous but we are guests in the facility and work within the guidelines and policies of those facilities.
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General discussion followed reports.

- **Gerry W. AGSD**

A part of my responsibility as Alternate General Service Delegate is oversight of the Area 82 website. The webmaster and I have got the site as up to date as we can get it.

We have added a page dealing with the COVID-19 protocols for Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador plus a link to the same information on the GSO website.

(Repeat from last month) I am delighted to report that a candidate has put their name forward for the position of Newfoundland and Labrador Archivist. The resume submitted will be considered by the NL DCM's and GSR's at the Spring Zoom Assembly. The individual has long term sobriety and has good organizational skills. It is a pleasure to see somebody finally step forward.

I have received one resume from NS, and one from NL, for the five committee co-chair positions to be elected at the Spring Assembly. The appeal will be repeated at the end of these minutes.

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Question from Boyd B. for Arlene P (Remote Communities)

Some years ago, when the when the Area's Remote Communities committee decided to focus on Labrador in particular there was some concern that Labrador wasn't the only sector within Area 82 with remote communities. One lady had mentioned that there was an indigenous reservation in the center of the province which might have benefited from some attention by the Area 82 Remote Communities Committee. Was there ever any attempt to contact this group?

Answer from Arlene

The Whycomomagh (We'koqma'q) Reservation is Migmaw (Mi'kmaq) They have an active AA group and actually have native members who are involved with alcoholism and addictions outreach. From what I know at the moment, through reading, is that they are helping their own.

The remote communities originally looked to help but the focus was put on Labrador because they had no access and no way of getting the meetings or literature.

We have another reservation at Millbrook, near Truro. They have access to a huge AA community right there in Truro, which is only five minutes away.

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During his report, Loyola G had asked for input on the length of sobriety needed to conduct (or attend) meetings at the Humberwood Treatment Center.

Input from Arlene

In my district, when you go to a treatment facility, you are invited by the Facility authorities. Although Districts one and two have pertinent Guidelines, the Facility administration determines the length of sober time that they require as well as the length of time since the volunteer had been released from the facility. Because we are invited, we must follow what they're comfortable with, rather than what we would like to see.

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Question from Ken B (District 12, PI)

Is there anything regarding a COVID literature plan from the Area? The guidelines and protocols differ from every province, but an AA etiquette document might be helpful

Answer from Gerry W (Alt-GSD)

Neither the executive nor area officers (DCM's) have considered adding anything to the guidelines without instruction from the Area body. We have certainly discussed this in the context of the Fourth Tradition, "each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole".

That is the primary reason why we incorporated a new page into the Area 82 website devoted to COVID protocols and responses from both provincial jurisdictions and GSO.

<http://www.area82aa.org/covid-19-information>

I would suggest that if a Covid 19 etiquette document was brought to the Spring Assembly using the process outlined in our Area 82 Guidelines, it would likely be welcomed by the members.

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Repeat of "Appeal for Resumes"

- Gerry W. "In early January of 2021, I sent out an email calling for resumes to fill the five co-chair positions (five for each province) based on the Motion passed at the October Assembly to elect co-chairs for PI, CPC, Treatment, Corrections, and Grapevine."

"The elected Co-chairs of Committees will assist and work with the Chair (Alt. Delegate) for the abovementioned Committees. The Co-chair, with direction of the Chair, will provide support in districts and groups in engaging in building Committees in their communities passing information from GSO, help set up committees in districts that do not have committees, help facilitate workshops or any other assistance that required by the districts in the province, to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Chair/Alt. Delegate will report on all the committees for both provinces at the service weekend as well as a yearly Area 82 Assembly. "

"We hope to get a full slate for both provinces. A resume will be submitted to document your history in service and your willingness to serve. If the co-chair positions are appropriately distributed over both provinces, we can get as wide a representation as possible in all those committees. The call for resumes will go out in early January, and the positions will be voted upon at our Spring Assembly (May 28th – 30th, 2021"

- The meeting adjourned at 6:40 NS time with “The Responsibility Pledge”
- Next meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm NS time, 6:30 NL time on Monday, April 26th, 2021
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88688093457>

Roughly transcribed by

Gerry W.