

## Area 82 Active Committees Meeting

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Meeting opened at 6:05 pm NS time

Chaired by Gerry W. Area 82 NS/NL A-GSD

***In attendance.***

***Gerry W. Area 82 AIt-GSD***

***Paul W (District 6) PI Chair***

***Darlene H (District 6) Corrections***

***Clayton (District 1 & 2 PI)***

***Boyd B. (District 15 PI) Area 82 NL PI Co-Chair (report in absentia)***

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

Gerry explained that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of better minutes and asked if anyone had any objections. No-one did.

Gerry referenced the location of the minutes on the Area 82 Website at <https://area82aa.org/area-docs/> but did not review them. (should have, but completely forgot)

- **From Boyd B. (District 15 PI and Area 82 PI Co-Chair) (Report in absentia)**

### **Public Information Committee Report for January 11, 2022**

- Literature distribution in public places – Ongoing (all). Reminder – whenever we are in public places (e.g. hospitals, doctor's offices, pharmacies, supermarkets, etc.) we should all be checking to see what literature (pamphlets, cards, meeting lists, posters, etc.) may be displayed, always keep in mind and update as required. With the easing of co-vid restrictions, we are able to get back into some places, e.g. doctors' offices, etc.
- PSAs , ads, letters to professionals, associations, labour unions, churches, schools, EAP/EFAPs, larger businesses, e.g Bell, that have regular communication with their employees. Question raised as to where we circulate our AA literature and attendee noted he has not seen such literature in some places, e.g. Recovery Centre, psychiatrists' offices, etc. Will work on assembling a list of potential places/contacts where we could place AA written materials and Chair will update our e-mail contact list to see if we can renew and expand efforts to get our message out. Member has a list of principals and guidance counsellors which we can use to circulate a letter to schools.

- Recruitment for PI Committee Required - Recruitment efforts should be ongoing as more participation is needed. "Guest" in attendance who may be joining the committee. Two members have spoken with some previous committee members and one other member, but no commitments to date. Hoping to have further news in the next month.
- Digital advertising (Static Ads) – The XMAS ad campaign with VOCM runs for another week. A proposal will be prepared for a new social media campaign in the next couple of weeks, circulated to committee and we will then discuss at our next meeting. We will also commence a new set of Metrobus ads beginning Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. Chair will contact Metrobus to make the necessary arrangements.

**New Business - Grapevine renewal** – received notice of renewal. We can renew for one or two years. A two year subscription costs \$65.00. It appears we have two subscriptions, but the magazines go directly to HMP and the Clarenville women's facility. We will gather more information/contact the Grapevine and we will discuss/decide at next meeting. Guest attendee indicated he has been collecting old Grapevine issues from various meetings, which allows distribution to places like HMP and the Recovery Centre.

**Social media campaign** – see above (#4) under Business Arising from Minutes

### **Reports**

**Intergroup** – no Intergroup meeting in December

**Treasurer** - Current balance of \$5,020.40, as of Dec. 7/21

### **Institutions Report:**

- HMP – Mondays – 6-7PM – Meetings have been discontinued since we moved to Alert Level 4 and we are awaiting advice from HMP as to when they can resume; One additional member has now been vetted and approved to facilitate meetings and it is hoped a few more members can be approved in the near future
- Recovery Centre – Saturday – 6-7PM
- Recovery Centre – Tuesday, 8-9PM
- Recovery Centre – Wednesday, 8-9PM
- **Note: Recovery Centre meetings suspended pending end of Alert Level 4**
- Eastern Health Drunk Driving Program – Lesley to make contact and get update

Volunteers needed for all meetings.

**Area 82 Committee** – Rep attended last meeting, but nothing to report. One other "semi-active" PI committee in Area 82 in Halifax/Dartmouth

**ATSA (Addiction Treatment Services Assoc) –** last meeting did not proceed due to lack of quorum

### **School presentations**

No current activity due to co-vid restrictions, but hope to get back into schools in the near future. Chair will look for the letter previously circulated to schools with a view to re-engaging with schools in the near future

Meeting ended with the I Am Responsible pledge at 6:38 p.m.

### **Next Meeting**

- Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 6PM, via Zoom. (End of District 15 Report
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### ***Clayton (District 1 & 2 PI)***

Hi, everyone. Good evening. My name is Clayton and I am chair of the District 1 and 2 PI Committee. The public information committee was quiet over Christmas time.

- In early December, we were able to resupply with pamphlets, posters, business cards and other contact information eight shelters for homeless teens in the Halifax area.
- Two of our committee met mid December where we chatted for about half an hour about what we should do next.
- We met again in mid January via Zoom where we talked about doing a public information session. This is scheduled as a Zoom meeting on the 12th of February at 10am. Check out the February edition of the District 1 & 2 Newsletter. We will meet as a committee on the fifth of February, to put together a short presentation about what our committee does.
- We have recently had a member reach out from the Dartmouth area who wants to get involved with PI service. I've been talking up service at the Committee level, especially at my home group. After the meeting is done on the 12th we will stay in the Zoom room and discuss future plans for our committee.
- We are optimistic that we will be able to increase activity in the near future because the COVID numbers are going down and vaccination levels are increasing. Hopefully everything is heading back toward "normal".

### ***Darlene H (District 6) Corrections***

- Hi I'm Darlene and I'm alcoholic. I am looking after meetings at the Nova Institution for Women. We were scheduled to go back into the institution in December of 2021.
- In November, we got a letter from our contact Tammy to make arrangements for training, to have our fingerprinting done and to review the institutions information pamphlet. We also had to fill out background information forms. But then COVID struck again. We are currently on hold awaiting word from Tammy.

- We have about 10 people on our volunteer list of members who are willing and ready to attend meetings at the Nova Institute .
- We have been waiting since March of last year (before they shut down for Covid) for permission for a couple of us to go back into the prison. Committee members had gone and done the fingerprinting and security briefing prior to the COVID shutdown. I emailed Tammy a couple of months ago. I asked that if there was still interest in AA meetings to let us know. She emailed me the other day saying that we have till Friday, December 3, 2021, to get our forms filled out and the process will be started. I've got nine people on the list that are interested in going in and they're from all over Nova Scotia. We have a couple from Halifax way, Sackville, of course a few from over the mountain here, some from Truro, a couple of men. That's all good. We'll have to do some training. Because of the distances some of the members will be travelling, she's going to try to schedule all the training for one day. Most volunteer training can be done online. Our volunteers will have to be double vaccinated, and we will have to show that of course.

***Paul W (District 6) Chair; PI***

- A member told me couple weeks ago, that he has been into the community college and that he didn't see any of our AA information. The pamphlet information was used up so I gave her more pamphlets and she said she would put them on display. I also gave her our little poster with our 24-hour number and our website on it. This receptionist also offered to take a photo of our contact information and include it in their newsletter which is delivered electronically to every student weekly. I asked her if they ever had anybody to come in to speak from AA and she said they used to do it, but she doesn't know when they're going to start doing it again. She gave me a phone number of a lady in administration that I can contact to find out if they're going to start doing it again. At the Community College they do teach courses about addiction counseling, and social work. Before Covid they commonly invite people from 12 Step organizations to present their message.

***Gerry W. Area 82 AIt-GSD***

- Trudy D. (GSD) and I have been busy with the Area 82 website. There is a new interactive map with each District linked. This works well on a PC but we are still working the bugs out of the mobile version. Patience. We too are learning.
- I received a call from an RCMP officer in Makkovik, Labrador, who, although he's not alcoholic, is trying to get an AA meeting going, at the request of local townfolk, in Makkovik. The predominant language is English, but their native language is Inuktitut. I have reached out to the General Service Delegate for Area 90, which is just to the West and North in Quebec. They have some Inuktituk speakers as well as some translated literature which I have requested copies of. The RCMP officer and I have put together a plan where we're going to start off with a Zoom meeting, to be followed up, when feasible, with an in-person meeting. Hopefully some Inuktituk speakers from Quebec will be able to

attend and help welcome and introduce the new attendees to the AA program. I'll be along and we've got some additional indigenous folks, one from Nova Scotia, and a couple from here in Newfoundland, who will sit in on that as well. I also have an email sent to Literature Services at GSO to see if they have any literature in their holdings in Inuktitut.

- The only other piece that I've got to report from the Alternate General Service position is that we have a relatively new contact in Goose Bay, a social worker, who's going to be heading up a new treatment center, starting up there in March. She has touched base with us with the idea that she wants to work with us getting meetings brought into the facility from the outside, either physically or by zoom. I think she wants to start off with Zoom because of the COVID situation.
- Heads Up !! The General Service Board met this past weekend. They will have the GSC agenda items finalized shortly. At that point we (All of Area 82) will start working on getting Trudy (our GSD) ready for the General Service Conference. So that'll be that's going to start taking up a fair bit of my time, we'll still have this meeting, of course, but I'll be heavily involved in getting her ready for the general service conference.

- ***General Discussion***

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- The meeting adjourned at 6:30 NS time with the Responsibility Statement
- Next meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm NS time, 6:30 NL time on February 28<sup>th</sup> , 2022

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88688093457>

Roughly transcribed by

Gerry W.

