

Area 82 Active Committees Meeting

August 29th, 2022

Meeting opened at 7:05 pm NS time

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

In attendance.

Gerry W. Area 82 Alt-GSD

Clayton (District 1 & 2 PI, CPC and Literature)

Boyd B. (District 15 PI) Area 82 NL PI Co-Chair

John W. (District 3) DCM , Area 82 NS Corrections Co-Chair

Wayne P (DCM District 14)

Kathy S-C. Area 82 NS Archivist

Darlene H (District 6) Corrections

Gerry opened the meeting at 7:00 NL time 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 apologized that the the July minutes were not on the Area 82 Website at <https://area82aa.org/area-docs/>. The July and August minutes **WILL** be there before the next meeting.



- Two ad-hoc committees have been formed and are meeting regularly to make recommendations on financial practises and Area 82 Guidelines. They are chaired by Blair A (DCM D2) and John W (DCM D3) respectively.
- Hybrid meeting of Makkovik Group has been going for over five months now. Well attended with five new sober members in the community. This meeting license is covered by Area 82 under Remote Communities.
- I have been attending a monthly North America Alternate Delegates meeting where the Alt GSD's share what works in their areas.
- A page has been created on our Area 82 website to list vacant Area positions and the associated job description. ***(Left in these minutes for reference purposes only)***
- A page dedicated to professionals has been added with an external link to the "For Professionals" page at aa.org ***(Left in these minutes for reference purposes only)***

- A suggestion was made at the Spring Assembly Workshop that we have a speaker who could address some aspect of Service / Committee work to open our monthly Active Area Committees.
Pending
 - We have added a new PSA to our Area 82 Resources page. It was supplied by GSO and is in Inuktitut . It's somewhat grainy and dated but it's better than what we had.
 - We also now have a copy of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions translated into Mi'kmaq on the website.
 - Right now, most of our active area committee co chair positions are open. The Newfoundland and Labrador PI Co chair position is filled. Boyd B is still sitting in that job. The NS Corrections Co chair is being filled by John W. All others are open. A blank resume can be found at <https://area82aa.org/area-82-committee-co-chair-positions/>
 - Two ad hoc committees have been formed and are meeting regularly. One committee is working on recommendations for our Area 82 Guidelines to bring to the Assembly in the fall. The other ad hoc committee is working on recommendations to improve our financial reporting process. A separate account on Zoom has been set up for each of them from the Zoom budget. The two ad-hoc committees are working completely independently, reporting back to the Area 82 executive in time to generate motions for consideration at the Fall Assembly.
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- **Boyd B. (District 15 PI and Area 82 PI Co-Chair)**

- The District 15 CPC-PI committee breaks for the summer months. No update until September. I'm still connected via the Co-Chair of PI position I hold in Area 82. but we haven't had a meeting since July. The next one is a week after tomorrow.
- Despite not meeting the committee remains active.
- Yesterday, another member of the committee. and I, staffed a display at a health and wellness fair at a local hotel. We usually accept invitations to these events depending on the cost involved.

- **John W. (District 3) DCM , Area 82 NS Corrections Co-Chair**

- I'm John, and I'm an alcoholic.
- The ad hoc committee for Area 82 Guidelines , initially met every week online, then every two weeks. We then switched to in person when that became feasible. We have all reviewed assigned individual guidelines. We intend however, to go through them all, and discuss each recommendation each person has as we go through it. I've even gone to a couple other people locally and made notes of their recommendations.
- I also, as you know, am Area 82 Co chair for Corrections in Nova Scotia, and I've done next to nothing there. I did meet with one of the authorities for Corrections in New Glasgow. He came out to the truck, we had a conversation for half an hour talked about things, but nothing actionable yet.
- As you also know Mark Z stepped down as Chair from the District 3 CPC PI committee some months ago. I have decided I'm going to let my name stand for that position in September when we have our district elections.

- Mark suggested that we call November “Alcohol Awareness Month” and distribute our small contact cards to any businesses or public spaces willing to accept them.
 - My work takes me widely through and outside our District.
 - **Q.** I would be willing to distribute our cards outside the District but I’m not sure how that would be perceived in other Districts
 - **A.** Perfect opportunity to further develop relationships across District boundaries and perhaps enhance the Area 82 Corrections Co Chair role as well
- **Wayne P (DCM District 14)**
 - We have historically relied on cooperation between Districts 14 and 15. It would, however, be a courtesy to communicate between DCM’s or active committees before stepping into the Service responsibilities of an adjoining District
 - We have only recently gotten our District committee and meetings up and running again after Covid
 - Our next District meeting will be September 11 meeting on Sunday..
- **Kathy S-C Area 82 NS Archivist**
 - - My name is Kathy, I'm alcoholic.
 - The pandemic really reduced the activity of the Archives Committee
 - In June, we were able to go down to the provincial round up, which felt really, really good. We took a carload of stuff down and it was really good to be able to put up a display and, and meet tons of people.
 - We had a good response to the archives.
 - We've been invited to Sackville days on September the 24th.
 - Most events now appear to be changing to single day events instead of round ups. So anyway, yeah, we're invited to the Sackville days on the 24th We're looking forward to that.
 - Then we travel to Sydney for the Assembly in October.
 - Hopefully will there will be having an election for the new archivist there. In that eventuality I will find out if the Assembly wants me to finish there or if I still have it until January. Gary and I don't mind keeping it in safe storage and keeping it as long as necessary until we can pass it on to someone who will love it as much as we did and enjoy taking it and learning from it.
 - At the recent provincial roundup, I received another box of AA tapes from Jim. We have tons and tons of eight track and cassette tapes. Eventually a decision will have to be made on what we're going to do with all of these tapes. Ideally, we are we going to digitize them, but in the meantime, they need to be logged. I haven't had the time to, to get that done nor the resources nor the money.
 - It's getting time then, that I find the table again down there. I always avoid that like the plague. But when I finally get at it, I can't leave it alone. I have learned so much.
 - Just this afternoon I was watching a documentary on Bill Wilson, that a friend of mine sent me and I got about halfway through that. And now I'll finish that tonight. So, I'm always learning, and always enjoy the history of Alcoholics Anonymous. I'm just so grateful that AA has given me the opportunity to be the archivist and to meet such

fantastic people and to give back to Alcoholics Anonymous in just a small way that I did..

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

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.

I will be reaching out to our contact Tammy to schedule the required volunteer training so that we can return to the facility as soon as Covid 19 restrictions are lifted

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

- About half of our literature inventory order has arrived. Because we had given a lot of stuff away we were quite depleted. One of our committee guys (Mike) was looking to sort the other bit of it.
- We are still working on attendance at a September 14th, Mental health fair directed toward first responders in the area. I will follow up with our contact there.
- Our group would like to do like a media blitz. This would target more than just a local district. So perhaps we can coordinate it at the area level. We would like to set a target for this media blitz (or awareness campaign) sometime in the fall of 2023. This lead time allows time to develop contacts with the media and get it all sorted. One member of our committee (Bill P.) has set out some tentative objectives.
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- **Gerry.** Your committee has a pretty clear idea of what it is you want to do with this. You guys take the lead. I'll help out in any way I can. I can provide access to an Area 82 Zoom license to facilitate meetings.
- **Clayton.** That's awesome. Jerry, that's I'm going to take that to the group when we meet here in early September.
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- **(attached to the bottom of this set of minutes)**

- The meeting adjourned at 7:30 NS time with the Responsibility Statement
- Next meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm NS time, 6:30 NL time on September 26th , 2022

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

Roughly transcribed by

Gerry W.



A.A. Media Blitz
October, 2023

Background: Media often pick a Community organization providing commendable services to the public. For a period of a week or more they will publish or air human interest articles about the organization. It may cover history, the nature of the services and success stories.

Purpose: The purpose of this Media Blitz is to carry the A.A. message to suffering alcoholics; offering optimism for recovery and a fruitful sober life.

Goals:

- 1. To expand the knowledge of the General Public about A.A. - what it does and what it does not;**
- 2. To heighten public sensitivity to problem drinking – its recognition, its damage, and a solution;**
- 3. To bring about heightened awareness on the part of caregivers and service providers of the potential role of A.A. with problem drinkers among their clientele;**
- 4. To touch the suffering alcoholic about the problems with their drinking, a solution, and a new way of life.**

Objectives:

- 1. Conduct a survey of printed media such as newspapers serving the local community, community newsletters, MLA's and MP's constituency mailouts, possible church bulletins, etc.**
- 2. Conduct a survey of local television affiliates and radio stations;**
- 3. Prepare a standard written set of points to use when making contacts with printed and airways media;**
- 4. Obtain buy-in from media to participate in the Media Blitz;**
- 5. Maintain a regular relationship with media contacts;**
- 6. Prepare the message:**
 - a) Get A.A. speakers for interviews**
 - b) Get A.A. People who can become knowledgeable on the organization and have their own powerful stories**

- c) Consult with World Service**
- d) Keep in mind availability of PSA's**
- e) Identify writers within AA**
- f) Prepare articles on different topics**
- g) Research local A.A. history**
- h) Obtain firm knowledge of numbers and kinds of local meetings**
- i) Read the A.A. pamphlets on speaking to non-AA groups**
- j) Prepare to answer questions – religion, mixed addictions, etc.**

7. Be ready to respond to the needs and requests of media;

8. Be prepared and ready for success:

- a) Responding to referrals;**
- b) Responding to new comers;**
- c) Responding to professionals seeking help and advice;**
- d) Responding to PI requests for information or speakers or workshops**