

MARYLAND GENERAL SERVICE- AREA 29, PANEL 74

CONFIDENTIAL

The Maryland General Service Area Committee Meeting met in a hybrid format on July 13th, 2024. The meeting was held at St. John's Lutheran Church, 8808 Harford Road, Parkville MD 21234, hosted by District 10. The room opened at 8:00 a.m. and the virtual doors opened at 8:45 a.m. for fellowship. Chairperson Frank M. opened the meeting at 9:02 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer with **35 (21 voting)** members in attendance in the physical room and **10 (8 voting)** members in the virtual room.

Area Chair Opening Remarks: Frank M welcomed everyone to the meeting and went over who is eligible to vote at Area Committee Meetings. Frank invited any new DCMs, Alt DCMs, or GSR to introduce themselves of which there were 3.

Secretary's Report: Joe R. provided a summary of the February 17, 2024, Area Committee Meeting Minutes. **MOTION to accept the Secretary's Report was made by Craig T. and seconded by Scott H.**

Treasurer's Report: Brigitte F. reported on account balances as of 6/30/24:

Operating Account: \$23,311, Special Savings for International Convention: \$4,732, Savings Account: \$20,085.68

Additional Assets: Grapevine: \$4,180, Literature: \$5,489

Revenue: Group Contributions thru 6/30/24: \$21,733.82, Individual Contributions: \$178, 7th Tradition basket: \$523, Lunch donations: \$541, Other contributions: \$261, Interest income = \$24.80

Total Revenue = **\$23,281.12 or 43% of estimated income for the year.** (Shortfall is in Lunch Donations.)

Expenses: Through 6/30/24, we paid out a total of **\$33,348** of our budgeted expenses, or 50% of the estimated total for the year. The gap has closed significantly between revenue and expenses over the past month.

MOTION to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Scott H. and seconded by Kathi K.

Alternate Delegate's Report: Lori McP. Reported on her recent activities including planning and attending the CARC Reconvene meetings. She will be starting a virtual monthly GSR orientation session starting in September. The CARC process for the 75th GSC will begin in October.

She gave a brief overview of the PAI Submission process and on-line form.

Delegate's Report: Terry P. reported on his recent and upcoming activities, provided his "Delegate's Report" on news and events at the General Service Office and A.A. around our Area, and fielded questions afterwards.

General Service Highlights:

- AAWS Publishing Department - AAWS Board increased prices on all pamphlets by 10% from above their break even point.
- Box 4-5-9 - No longer available in Print format. Subscribe to online version at aa.org/box-459.
- Trustees Corrections Committee – Created a Service Piece on Facilitating Online Meetings in Correctional Settings.

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- Trustee Vacancies – There are two Class A, Non- Alcoholic Vacancies and one Class B, Trustee-at-Large vacancy. These vacancies are to be filled by the 75th General Service Conference.

Quarterly Contribution Reporting Error:

- Seventh Tradition group contributions made online from a member's account have been reported as "individual" rather than "group" contributions.

MGS Adopt-A-District Initiative:

- Our Delegate reported that the initiative is going well with only two Districts, 14 and 17, left to be "adopted" by an active district.

Presentation- The Seventh Tradition: A Spiritual Perspective: Brigitte F. gave a presentation about the paradox of spiritual principles and money in AA and the principle of corporate poverty.

Presentation- Budgets: Craig T. gave a presentation on the MGS, Inc. 2025 Budget process and the purposes, duties, and responsibilities of the Finance Committee.

Break 10:27am Meeting Resumed 10:40am

New Business-

Budget Revision: Newsletter: Kristin B

Motion from Kristin B.- **That the Newsletter Committee requests to increase its 2024 budget from \$1,025 to \$3,511 to accommodate expenses associated with travel costs for its chair, as well as costs to produce and print the recently revived MGS newsletter, *Our Common Welfare*. Seconded by Don B.**
The background for the motion was presented and the floor was open for discussion with many members complimenting the new newsletter and asking about distribution methods.

The vote passed- 27-0

Budget Revision: PI: Kathi K.

Motion from Kathi K.- **That the Public Information Committee requests to increase its 2024 budget in the amount of \$2,250.00 to accommodate expenses associated with attending at two significant public information events, plus travel, presentation, and literature costs. Seconded by Tim H.**
The background for the motion was presented and the floor was open for discussion with members generally speaking in favor of the motion but with concerns about affiliation with other 12-Step programs and the nature of a donation from the Nursing World Conference being appropriate.

The vote passed- 26-2

Budget Revision: CPC: Jessica W.

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Motion from Jessica W.- That The CPC Committee budget be increased by \$500 for the current fiscal year. These funds will cover necessary expenses for printing, mailing, and distributing materials to professionals as part of our outreach efforts. Additionally, the funds will be used for preparing and distributing materials for the "Talk to a Doc" program, as outlined in the Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) CPC Kit Handbook, to be presented at the August Assembly. Seconded by Craig T.

The background for the motion was presented and the floor was open for discussion.

The vote passed- 27-0

Lunch break at 11:45am. Meeting resumed at 12:30

Committee Reports were given:

Archives- Diane F., Co-Chair, reported that the committee will visit the 857 Club on 8/1/24 to wrap up inventory of all archival materials. They will also attend the National AA Archives Workshop September 26-29, 2024 in Des Moines, IA and have written an article for Summer edition of Our Common Welfare.

Accessibilities- Brandi T., Chair,. Reports that the committee has been giving mini-presentations on an Accessibilities overview, sharing resources available, and talking about some of the exciting accessibility topics happening in Area 29 and in the fellowship as a whole at local districts and intergroups.

Area Host- Beverly, Chair, reported that Don B. has joined the committee as co-chair and that they have added several new members. They are working on planning upcoming Area Assemblies and the 2025 budget.

Area Newsletter., Kristin B, Chair reported that the newly revised newsletter is looking for article submissions for the fall newsletter. They have submitted a motion to increase the committee's budget for 2024.

Area Registrar- Ashtin P., Co-Chair, reports that 35 people attended today's meeting in person and 10 attended virtually.

Audio-Steve S, Chair, reported that the Audio Committee continues to work with the Technology Committee to make the hybrid meeting process more efficient.

Finance- Craig T., Chair, reported that the Committee has updated the information on the MGS website. The committee has worked closely with the Newsletter Committee, PI Committee, and CPC Committee to form motions to request increases to their budgets for 2024. The committee has assigned mentors to the 5 Area Officers (Panel) and 18 Area committee to start the 2025 Budget process.

IGLC-Rex, Chair, reported that the IGLC is meeting regularly and is inviting Area Officers and Committee Chairs to speak at its meeting. They are encouraging communications among all the intergroups in Area

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29 and serving as a resource between Area 29 and the General Service Office. They will be hosting a panel of Maryland IG members with Corrections/IG experience at the Corrections Committee "Day of Sharing".

Literature-Jean B, Chair, reported that the committee is writing an article for the Area Newsletter. They will be participating in the Corrections Committee "Day of Sharing".

CPC-Jessica W., Chair, reported that with its increased activity the committee has put forward a motion to increase its annual budget. They have been attending events and gathering contact information of professionals in the healthcare community.

Policy and Procedure- Mark S., Chair, reported that Tim H. is now the Policy & Procedures Co-Chair. The committee is anticipating MGS Handbook changes to include District Map, District List, Bylaws (possibly).and documenting any technology changes.

PI- Kathi K., Chair, reported that the committee has entered a motion to increase its annual budget because of their increased activity. They will be attending several conferences to raise awareness of what AA is and does.

Workshop- Scott B. on behalf of Jeanine W., Chair, reported that the committee is assisting with our Area Corrections Conference Day of Sharing to be held on October 12th and District 28's Sponsorship Forum to be held on October 26th. The Workshop Committee Webpage on our Area website has been updated.

Corrections- Scott B., Chair, reported that the Corrections Committee continues to work on our Corrections Conference Day of Sharing on October 12, 2024. They will be attending the International Corrections Conference in Charolette, NC in November 2024.

DCM Reports were given:

District 1-Brian B., DCM reported that Brandi from Area 29 Accessibility Committee spoke at their last District Meeting. They filled secretary, public information, and treatment chair positions. Still need Grapevine and Accessibility chairpersons.

District 6-Tim H., DCM reported that the district has started holding it's meetings in person and has seen increased attendance as a result.

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District 7- Jerry C., DCM, reported that they are in the process of rebuilding their website. They hosted a report back on the GSC by Area Delegate Terry P. The DCM is committed to visiting every meeting in the district which resulted in the addition of 2 new GSRs. They have “adopted” District 45.

District 9- Kevin F., DCM, reported that attendance at district meetings is strong, between 30-45 members. The district has placed directories and pamphlets in many locations and is sending meetings into rehabs and prisons. They are planning a summer picnic and workshop.

District 10- Shannon R., member, reported that the district is having a picnic on 10/20.

District 19- Anna S., reported that the district is doing well with enthusiastic participation from its members. There will be a picnic on 9/29. They are also planning their NYE alcahthon.

District 20- Karin S., DCM, reported that the district is struggling to get participation from groups in electing GSRs and getting them to come to District meetings. There will be a workshop and picnic on 8/24.

District 22- Beverly M., DCM, reported that participation in district meetings has increased greatly with the introduction of hybrid meetings. 7th Tradition contributions are down, however. There will be a “beach picnic” on 8/4.

District 28- Matt O., Alt DCM reported that they are planning a sponsorship forum in the fall.

District 29- Gil M. DCM reported that the district is working closely with the Hispanic Intergroup to carry the message.

District 41- Mike F., DCM, reports that they are kind of struggling with participation. They are working with District 40 to host a workshop on 9/28.

District 42- Mark S., DCM, reported that they had the pleasure of having the Area Delegate present the report back to the District on the GSC at our June Monthly meeting. They are looking forward to hosting the August 17th Area Assembly in Severna Park. They are looking forward to participating in the CARC II reconvene.

There were two questions in the “Ask it Basket”.

One regarding the possible combination of District 41 and 42. One regarding the inventory value and financial assets of the Literature Committee.

Closing announcements by Frank M. The meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe R.

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Area 29, Panel 74 Secretary