

District 28 Meeting Minutes

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DRAFT

Date: September 16, 2020

Attendance—Virtual Meeting:

Officers (2): DCM, Secretary

GSR or Alt GSR (7): Any Lengths, Bel Air Women's Big Book (GSR and Alt both in attendance), Bel Air Women's Group, Good News Group, Morning Group (also GSR for Sunday Reflections), Sobriety on Friday, Sunday Reflections (also GSR for Morning Group)
Other (2): Emmorton Group (non-GSR counted as secretary), Intergroup Chair (By the Book group), Came to Believe member

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

Secretary's report / previous month's minutes:

- **August minutes:** Motion to accept as revised. Second. Accepted unanimously.

GSR reports:

Sunday Reflections: Holding separate virtual meeting as well as an in-person meeting at American Legion Hall on Hickory Ave.

Morning Group: Virtual meeting only. Attendance is good.

Good News Group: Virtual meetings only: two meetings. Meetings will remain virtual indefinitely until churches are open for more meetings. Most home group members with anniversaries have chosen to celebrate. GSR is celebrating 11 years on September 27.

Any Lengths: Meeting virtually and in-person at a pavilion at the same time. Good attendance.

By the Book: Meeting in-person at Harford Community Church. Tent outside with lights. Fairly good at social distancing; take temperature and stuff like that. Large group with 60-65 people there regularly.

Emmorton Group: Home group members met together this week and discussed what returning to in-person meetings. The requirements in place for facility use are too much for the small number of group members and the small attendance. Group will not return to in-person any time soon and are unsure of when they will do so.

Bel Air Women's Big Book: Closed women's meeting; virtual only. Good attendance of 20-25 women; most of the time 1 newcomer at each meeting and people willing to sponsor volunteer contact information in the chat. Those with anniversaries have been celebrating. GSR celebrating 4 years on October 3. Holding a group conscience tomorrow to discuss whether to return to the church or stay on zoom.

Sobriety on Friday: Meeting in person in pavilion behind insurance company combined with audio-only virtual. In-person meeting attendance is 80; with 1-5 people attending virtually. Holding a group conscience meeting tomorrow to discuss meeting in a new church, Strong Tower Church, 2510 Sandy Hook Rd, Forest Hill.

Bel Air Women's Group: Closed women's group. Meeting in-person combined with virtual attendance. Meeting outside in a pavilion. About 30-40 attending in-person; virtual attendance unknown. Individuals have been celebrating in person. Now have lights and a bathroom but it is still outside. They have people sign in; masks requirements; generally sit six feet apart.

Came to Believe: Virtual meeting. Unknown whether there is any plan at this time to change that or when they might start meeting in person.

DCM report

Weekly **concept Concepts** study happening; information on NEMDAA site and flyer to come out with the minutes. DCM attended workshop yesterday; Concept workshop is really good; have two speakers to cover two concepts.

I am Responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

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~~Series on the AA Service Manual hosted by Area 28 in Maine. Workshop is Every every~~
Tuesday through October 16, 630 p.m.

Area 28 (Maine) and DCMs for Area 29 are discussing having a workshop on the Service Manual in January 2021.

Treasurer's report

Motion to accept as read. Second. Accepted unanimously.

Committee reports

Intergroup Liaison: Office manager in 3 days per week; assistant manager in 2 days per week. Friday hours are extended to 5 p.m. from the previous 3 p.m. Individuals can visit the office for purchases or choose curbside pickup. Intergroup purchased a new computer and IT committee assisting in getting it set up. The topic of having AI Anon materials in the office came up and under the chair's guidance that was set aside for later discussion while Intergroup focuses on more immediate office priorities. Intergroup is looking for volunteers interested in working in the office. Also the Intergroup Council voted to extend Friday office hours to 5 p.m, rather than 3p.m. Additional materials have been purchased for the office, including Spanish-language materials, *Drop the Rock*, and *Drop the Rock: The Ripple Effect*.

The DCM asked if there is a list of all the materials available from the intergroup? Per the chair, no such list is available on the website. Also, looking forward, the chair will be getting a group together to conduct a strategic review of the entirety of Intergroup—physical space, services, etc.

Outreach: Committee chair received information on the groups, and plans to get together with committee volunteers after returning from vacation to discuss and plan going to virtual meetings for outreach.

Workshops: DCM returned to previous meeting discussion about doing the Christmas alcathon and also the speaker jam this year. DCM stated both would be virtual, and that at least until the end of the year, nothing is going to happen live. The last two years, the alcathon was live and attendance was an average of 25 people per meeting. Little discussion regarding a virtual alcathon other than at least one District member feels it isn't necessary because of the number of virtual meetings already available. Several GSRs are in favor of holding an in-person alcathon if it can be done. The main issue is finding a location. One concern is whether the venues will be willing to shoulder the responsibility of in-person gatherings; they may require the District to have insurance. Also, the venue needs to be large enough for keeping 6 feet apart. Sobriety on Friday GSR will talk to Strong Tower church about the possibility; Sunday Reflections GSR will talk to American Legion.

Facility is needed 9 a.m. to at least 9 p.m. allowing time for setup and cleanup: the first meeting will begin at 10 a.m., and the last meeting at 8 p.m.

Old Business

Purchase of two 2-year *La Viña* subscriptions confirmed. Accounted for on treasurer's report. DCM presented preliminary budget and pointed out changes due to all activities being virtual thus expenses being minimal. The suggested budget leaves rollover capital of \$196. Prudent reserve remains the same because things will change over the year. DCM asked GSR to review the budget and discuss it with their groups for discussion so District can discuss it next month.

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District PayPal account: mgsdistrict28@gmail.com

New business

As agreed at the August meeting, rather than review a Tradition and Concept each month, District will review the materials in the General Service Office's GSR packet. The GSRs then read through and discussed the pamphlet *G.S.R.: General Service Representative*.

Motion to adjourn. Seconded. Meeting ended at 8:16 p.m. and closed with the Responsibility Statement.

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