

# District 28 Meeting Minutes

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DRAFT

**Date:** August 19, 2020

## **Attendance—Virtual Meeting:**

Officers (3): DCM, Secretary, Treasurer

GSR or Alt GSR (9): Any Lengths, Bel Air Big Book, Bel Air Women's Big Book, Bel Air Women's Group, Good News Group, Morning Group (1 GSR for Morning Group and Sunday Reflections), Never Too Early, New Beginnings, Rule 62 Group (counted as treasurer), Sobriety on Friday, Sunday Reflections

Other (1): Emmorton Group (non-GSR counted as secretary), Intergroup Chair

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

## **Secretary's report / previous month's minutes:**

- **June minutes:** Discussed removing business' name from GSR report in the minutes. Motion to amend to "meeting at a new location." Second. None opposed. Motion to accept minutes as amended. Second. None opposed.
- **July minutes:** Motion to accept as presented. Second. None opposed.

## **GSR reports:**

**Bel Air Big Book:** Meeting outside. Attendance is 35–50 people. Doing contact tracing; no reported outbreaks. Group makes a decision at 6 pm each Monday whether to meet in person or virtually if weather will be an issue. Group contacts Georgia to post virtual-meeting information so individuals can still attend.

**Bel Air Women's Group:** Now meeting outside with hybrid style. Virtual attendees only listen but get a chance to speak at the end of the meeting. Attendance is 35. Doing contact tracing list (ask attendees to sign in); hand sanitizer available; ask all to try to be 6 feet apart. All has worked out well. Not sure what the group will do as it gets darker earlier and including the weather situation; so far weather has held out.

**Sunday Reflections:** Meeting virtually. Attendance is 15–20. Group is looking into an outside venue and is still working on contractual issues with the location owners. Meeting is going to be one or the other (in person or virtual) rather than hybrid. Once group goes to in person, plans to stay in person.

**Morning Group:** Meeting virtually. Attendance is 25–30 people every morning; the church is supposed to get back to the group today or tomorrow about how it wants to move forward reopening.

**Any Lengths:** Hybrid meeting right now.

**Emmorton Group:** Not meeting either virtually or in person.

**Sobriety on Friday:** Hybrid virtual and in-person. Meeting outside in the pavilion behind the insurance company next to the regular meeting space. Last group conscience elected to remain hybrid. Attendance is 3–7 virtual and 40–50 in person. **lights in pavilion-Pavilion** has lights; people bring their own chairs. Have been doing contact tracing and have had some issues with individual resistant to giving information for the tracing list. Group has made the list creation a service position so someone walks around gathering names and phone numbers.

**Bel Air Women's Big Book:** So far exclusively virtual. Church has not decided for themselves whether they will allow use of the facilities even outside as yet. Attendance is 25. Seem to get one newcomer a week; group members volunteer to be sponsors to any newcomers.

**Intergroup Chair:** New intergroup chair; attending to get acquainted.

**Never Too Early:** No changes to how they've been doing it—hybrid; in-person meeting at a member's place of business. Attendance is 5-6 in person and 1–2 virtual. Group was not registered with the General Service Office, but is now a registered group and received its group number.

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**New Beginnings:** Only a virtual meeting now. Group has held one or two group consciences to discuss having a live meeting. So far, no decision made. Speaker getter is still getting mostly out-of-area speakers. Virtual attendance is around 30; before the pandemic, it was a lot larger meeting.

**Good News Group:** Two meetings ~~at 7pm in one: 7pm. One is a~~ beginners 1-4 Step meeting and the other regular discussion meeting. Both meetings are virtual with separate virtual meeting spaces. Group conscience is to postpone reopening and be virtual indefinitely. Group plans to return to meeting in person, but don't know when yet. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, the group contributed about 1/4 of what they would normally pay to the church in order to continue supporting the church—they want the church to be there when they return. Group continues to support Intergroup but have suspended contributions to Maryland General Service, District 28, and GSO because of the district's support of GSO. Group membership is flat but steady—none gained none lost.

**Rule 62 Group:** Meeting in outside courtyard. Changed time to 7 pm from its pre-COVID time of 8 pm. When weather is not good, group meets in upper room of church: keeping 6 feet apart and mandatory masks.

### DCM report

Sent multiple items out before the meeting. Two items were about the conference report. One had to do with finances. GSO had an audit so items in the new financial report that have changed are marked in red. ~~Email Delegate@maryland.aa.org to request physical report; it will be mailed if requested.~~

Conference reports are available. A digital copy of the report as well as the financial report was included items sent out before the meeting. To receive a physical copy, email Delegate@marylandaa.org and provide your mailing address.

The Virtual International Convention extended thru August.

Discussion ensued about how those groups meeting in person are handling “passing the basket”: two groups put out a basket toward the front and simply ask those willing/interested to place money in at the end of the meeting; one group is going to possibly set out several bowls around the meeting space as contribution baskets.

### Treasurer's report

**July report:** Expenses of GSO contribution approved in July, PO box, and rent to BAUMC. Question if we have talked to the church? Motion to accept July report as presented. Second. None opposed.

**August report:** No contributions, no expenses. Motion to accept as presented. Second. None opposed.

**Discussion** ensued about cutting District's BAUMC contribution since we are not meeting there. Cut to 1/2 or 1/3 of the cost so that we hold our space. Treasurer paid rent for the next 6 months in July. Rent is \$25 per month and we are in good financial standing. General consensus to discuss again the next time we due to pay rent.

**Online contributions:** District has a PayPal account for online contributions. The PayPal address is [MGSdistrict28@gmail.com](mailto:MGSdistrict28@gmail.com).

### Committee reports:

**Intergroup Liaison (DCM in July):** New chairperson is Rex P. The new office Manager is Joanne P. The office is open Tuesday–Friday from 10 am to 3 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. The Perry Point Picnic is canceled due to no-visitor policy. Anyone interested in volunteering at the office can call 410-272-4150 or email [office@nemdaa.org](mailto:office@nemdaa.org).

Intergroup Chair shared that Rachel is asst manager working Friday and Saturday. Chair is sorry to see that many of the social events the previous council worked so hard to get going

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have been stalled. Intergroup is following the state and CDC guidance and just trying to keep everyone safe.

**Outreach (Kathy T):** Nothing to report. No visits to groups since prior to COVID. Secretary will send as recent a list as available of groups in District 28. It is possible to go to groups holding virtual meetings. After secretary shares the list, DCM and outreach chair will talk.

**Workshops: Discussion.** District has both an alcathon and a speaker jam budgeted. How would anyone like to do these or should we? Possible to do the December alcathon virtually. It may be possible to hold an in-person event. There was one recommendation to not hold the event at all, and there was one recommendation to not hold it virtually. Discussion ensued about an in-person if the churches are open to allowing it: one GSR thinks it's worth doing and noted we're talking about December, so things may be different then. Second GSR is also open to an in-person event.

### Old Business

Contribution was made to GSO for \$1,000.

*La Viña* subscription for Harford County Detention Center renewed for 2 years (cost of \$39.60).

### New Business

**2021 Budget Prep:** DCM reviewed budget-to-actual for 2020. No assemblies etc. so no costs; no expenses to speak of except PO box and rent. There will be no assemblies live through rest of the year and no District workshops. Realistically District will have no expenses through the rest of the year. If the District do end up having an alcathon, a live event could be done at a much lesser cost than previous years. District has received \$175 in contribution this year to date. At the beginning of the next year, District will probably not be doing much. The Northeast Regional AA Service Assembly (NERAASA) will be done virtually; there will be no cost to attendees except a \$25 registration. District is financially fine this year but need to think budget-wise as we will be proposing and voting on a budget for 2021 toward the end of 2020.

**Traditions and Concepts Study:** Group agreed to discuss the pamphlets included in the GSR kit in lieu of the Traditions and Concepts

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

### Traditions /Concepts study

- **Tradition 8 - Principle of Service**  
Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
- **Concept 8 - Principle of Consistency**  
The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

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