

MARYLAND GENERAL SERVICE – AREA 29, PANEL 70

CONFIDENTIAL

The Maryland General Service Area Committee met virtually on February 6, 2021. The virtual doors opened at 8:45 a.m. for fellowship. Chairperson Lori M. opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer. 46 members were on the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

SESSION ONE

Area Chair Opening Remarks: Lori M. welcomed everyone to the virtual Area 29 Committee & Strategic Planning Meeting. Following no objections, the audio-only of this meeting was being recorded for the Archives and to ensure accuracy of the minutes. Lori M. reviewed the procedures for participation and voting in the electronic polling during the virtual meeting. Jeanine W., the Area 29 Registrar will be monitoring the eligible voters and asked that voting member put a "V" in front of their name. Introductions of new service members to the Area included: Bethany Y., DCM District 10; Ashtin P., DCM District 33; Dwayne B., DCM District 35; and Mike F., DCM District 41.

Chairpersons Report: Lori M reported that she appreciates the opportunity to be of service as the Area Chair as she starts her third year at this role. The Area continues to move forward on items from the inventory process and we will hear information concerning this in some of the Committee reports. Still sending out the "Weekly Updated" to keep members informed, which is well received. Since the December Area Assembly meeting, Lori M. has helped facilitate the WCI Inventory, spoke at IGLC meeting on February 1st, met with members working with CPC/PI Committee on presenting a quarterly virtual session. Towards the end of 2020, Lori referred several items over to the Policies & Procedures Committee for their consideration. She received a report back from the committee and would like to pass the information along to the Area, so they know what the Policies & Procedures Committees responses were. The first item referred was to review potential clarification of the language in MGS Bylaws Article Three, Section 3.03(c) regarding investments in excess of \$1,500.00. The Policies & Procedures Committee agreed *unanimously* that if someone wants to propose a change to the MGS Bylaws, they should pursue through the usual process as outlined within the Bylaws document. The second item referred was to review the process in place in Area 29 for bringing potential Agenda items to the Area Committee and Assembly for them to decide how they wanted to proceed forward for clarification of the process. The Policies & Procedures Committee *agreed unanimously* that the Policies and Procedures Committee cannot dictate how members of Area 29 bring potential Agenda items forward, while attempting to get the broadest scope of input from the Area 29 fellowship with preparation of the Area Delegate foremost in the process. Both items are back at status quo.

Secretary's Report: Craig T. provided a summary of the November 14, 2020 Area Committee Minutes, which were transmitted to the Assembly by email on January 22, 2021 and again on February 6, 2021. ***Frank M. provided a correction on the top of page 6, under "MGS Proposed 2021 Budget", the word "Pole" be changed to "Poll". Motion to accept the amended Minutes was made by Terry P. and seconded by Brigitte F. The Motion carried unanimously.***

Treasurer's Report: Terry P. reported as of February 1, 2021, account balances are: Operating Account: \$27,312.18. Special Savings for International Convention: \$3,532.02. Savings Account: \$10,000.19. We have additional assets of: Literature: \$5,728.73 & Grapevine: \$4,024.29.

Revenue:

Group Contributions as of February 1, are \$950.27. Individual Contributions as of February 1, are \$68.00. Other income (i.e., 7th Tradition's basket, lunch donations, etc.) total \$242.05. Total Revenue \$1260.32 which is 3% of our budgeted revenue for 2021.

Expenses:

Through February 1, we have paid out a total of \$1,492.96, which is 4% of our budgeted expenses this year.

Following Discussion, the Motion to accept the Treasurers Report was made by Debbie F. and seconded by Mike F. The Motion carried unanimously.

Alternate Delegate's Report: Kurt W. reported his activities since the December 12, 2020 Area Assembly meeting.

Mini-Conference 2021 – The planning committee has been meeting regularly.

District Meetings – Attended Districts 41, 15, 36, 7 & 18 meetings to discuss the CARC process.

NERD Meetings – Continue to attend the monthly NERD business meetings, keeping abreast of activities.

NERAD Meetings – Our Northeast Region Alternate Delegates meeting, meets bi-weekly. We share extensively on our experiences in service, current goings on, and much more. The monthly meeting of North American Alternate Delegates (NAAD's) is also ongoing.

Upcoming General Service Conference Preparing for the work to be done once the Agenda and Background are received. Will assign items and the applicable background to the various CARC's.

Correspondence – Gets a lot of emails, text messages and phone calls. Keep them coming.

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Upcoming Scheduled Activities include:

DCM Virtual Meeting – Plan to attending the monthly DCM virtual meeting on Saturday, February 13, 2021 to discuss CARC's and the Mini-Conference.

NERAASA – Plans to attend NERAASA on February 26, 27, & 27, 2021, held virtually.

Intergroup Liaison Meeting – Kurt W. is the guest speaker on March 1, 2021 to discuss CARC's and the Mini-Conference.

NERD – Plan to attend NERD held virtually on March 13, 2021.

2021 Mini-Conference – The Mini-Conference Committee will be meeting again on February 8, 2021.

District and Intergroup Meetings – Plan to continue attending District and Intergroup meetings as his schedules permit.

Delegate's Report: Cynthia T. provided her "Delegate Report" on news and events at the General Service Office and A.A. around our Area. She provided Random Musings of your Delegate reminding everyone that the 71st General Service Conference process has officially begun! She also provided General Service Board and GSO Updates; Financial Updates; A.A Grapevine News; Northeast Region Updates & Nerd Happening; and Conference Agenda Review Committee (CARC) Updates. Cynthia T. finished by taking questions from members on the Committee Meeting. To review details on these topics and the Delegates upcoming virtual travels, please refer to the "Delegate Report". A soft copy of her "Delegate Report" for February 2021 was emailed to the Area and posted on the MGS website.

Break at 10:04 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 10:06 a.m. with 46 members attending the meeting.

SESSION TWO

Committee Reports

Accessibilities: Chair Jessica W. reported the committee is comprised of Co-Chair Jean B., Don B., and new Sara S. who is the Accessibilities Chair for the newly created District 1 Accessibilities Committee. They meet as needed and the last meeting was on February 5th. Their latest outreach was also on Friday 5th for a Deaf member and resources were provided and more are being sought. Jean B. and Jessica W. will meet Wednesday February 10, 2021 with the Mental Health Association of Maryland's Older Adult Project Manager to see what can be done to meet the needs of Seniors and how to get the word out about Alcoholics Anonymous, how we can help and how to find us. The Better with Age virtual meeting for Seniors 55+ but open to everyone that had been created to meet some of those very needs is doing well, averaging 20- 25 in attendance. An article about the group written by our very own Don B. was featured in the December 2020 Grapevine with the tagline- "During the COVID-19 crisis, a past delegate shares about ways AAs are reaching out to our senior members". As groups reopen and for those that are open please check your meeting spaces accessibilities using the ADA compliant guidelines from GSO at AA.org under "AA literature" then under "AA Service Material from the GSO" https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-208_accessibilitieschecklist.pdf and make sure they are properly listed as wheelchair accessible where applicable and any other special accommodations provided. We may be asking Intergroups to post a link to the guidelines on their sites in the future for easy reference.

Jessica is attending the monthly national All Accessibilities Committee meeting on the 2nd Monday of the month from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. EST. All are welcome to attend. Please contact Jessica W. for the login information. She is also attended a Northern California Accessibilities workshop.

CPC/PI: Chair Pat S. reported the CPC Committee would be hosting a virtual Quarterly Symposium. In the past, they have reached out to our professional community face to face. However, during this Pandemic, they find themselves out of touch with our professional community and unaware of their needs. Virtual platforms allow them to reach the most people. At this symposium, they will introduce Alcoholics Anonymous with speakers such as our Delegate, Area Chair, Past Delegates, Past Trustees and GSO Staff members. In addition, there will be video viewing, information about the ins and outs of A.A. meetings, and the many ways Alcoholics Anonymous can be of service and support to those that are suffering with a drinking problem or alcoholism. With such a large and exciting purpose, the CPC Committee would like to offer members the opportunity to fill a unique kind of service position. We are asking for volunteers from our fellowship to join us and help us carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous into our communities.

There will be an informational virtual session on February 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. They will talk about the logistics involved in hosting this symposium. Along with the many ways our volunteers can provide support for these quarterly symposiums. There are many fields that they want to reach out to in Area 29, to include: Doctors, Nursing Staff, Hospital Alcohol Units, Emergency Departments, Psychiatrists, Treatment Facilities, Correctional Institutions, Judges, Lawyers, Court Programs, Schools on many levels, Military Commanding Officers, Chaplains, Military Police, Sheriffs and Police Departments, Parole Officers, Probation Officers, County Health Departments, Veteran Hospitals and Veteran Homes, Senior Centers and Community Centers. This list could go on and on. Volunteers are important to the success of this CPC Project. The virtual login information will be posted on the Area 29 Website, marylandaa.org.

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Corrections: Chair Chuck R. reported that he is not aware of any corrections meeting that are currently happening since they are not allowing in-person meetings. Would like to get Bridging the Gap going in the correctional institutes that are willing to support the program. Putting together a letter to send out to the Intergroups to see about working with Bridging the Gap in the 21 county facilities. Chuck attended the Treatment Workshop and he suggest that the form for signing up for Bridging the Gap, have that a section add for those that are interested in serving on Bridging the Gap for Correctional institutes just like for Treatment and 12 Step List.

Finance: Chair Brigitte F. reported that the Finance Committee will be bringing forward two motions to the body later today. Thanked the members for the opportunity to serve as the Area Finance Chair along with fellow Finance Committee members Jim R., Bob C., and Terry P. Would like to add two or three additional members to the committee. If interested, please reach out to Brigitte F. at finance@marylandaa.org. The Finance Committee had its first meeting of the year on Monday, January 18th. They plan to meet on the third Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. and all are welcome to attend.

Grapevine: Lori M. reported that Meryl T has stepped down as the Grapevine Chair. This position is open for anyone interested in serving for the Remainder of Panel 70.

Host: Chair Shauna K. was present, no report.

Intergroup Liaison: Chair Kathi K. reported that the Intergroup Liaison Committee meets virtually on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Please consider this your platform if you would like to get a particular message out to the Intergroup community. Maryland has 10 intergroup, and we are standing by to see how we can assist the Spanish speaking community start an intergroup in Area 29. We have consistently had 7 or 8 out of 10 intergroup participation and an average of 20 folks at the meetings. This month we had visitors to talk about the beginnings of the new CPC quarterly meeting; we heard from Terry P. about ecommerce solutions and how to attach that to intergroup websites, and some new information from the national Intergroup association ICOAA that invites one login per intergroup where we previously were told that you must be a manager to join. They recently decided to reduce the number of topics at one meeting to allow time for each intergroup to report back on their activities. Kurt W. will be the presenter on March 1, 2021 to discuss the CARC process. Linda J. from Policies and Procedures has been invited to speak at our April meeting. Kathi K. typically sends out an email once a month with informative upcoming events, a reminder of their upcoming meeting, and then sends out the summary of that meeting. All are welcome to attend, but this is geared to the Intergroup community. Normally in non-pandemic times, Kathi K. would have touched base with most intergroups in-person as time allowed. The virtual platform has allowed her to attend all the Intergroup meetings. If you would like to be added to their e-mail list, please contact Kathi K. at intergroupliaison@marylandaa.org.

2021 MD State Convention: Birk S. reported he was grateful to have been asked to serve as the State Convention Committee Co-Chair. The 2021 MD State Convention has been postponed to 2022 considering continued COVID-19 restrictions. The committee is currently reviewing potential dates and venues for 2022. Speakers identified for the original 2020 convention will be offered the opportunity to participate in 2022 once we have solidified the dates.

2021 Mini-Conference: Kurt W. reported that the 2021 Mini-Conference planning is underway. The committee consisting of Kurt W., Frank M., Jessica W., Cynthia T., Mary M., Shauna L., and Linda J. and has been meeting monthly. They may increase the frequency if they feel the need closer to the event. Linda J. has taken the lead regarding obtaining the speaker, Racy J., who sits on the Public Information Desk at GSO. The Mini-Conference will be held virally on April 10, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. The flyer with the virtual login information is being circulated and can be found on the marylandaa.org website. Since this is a virtual event, they have an opportunity to try something a little different. This year they plan on having presentations and discussion grouped by topic (i.e., Literature, Finance, etc.). Therefore, they will be bouncing around between CARC's. But this should make for a smoother flow, with related topics grouped together as opposed to having presentation and discussion grouped by CARCs. The next committee meeting is scheduled virtually for Monday evening, February 8, 2021. If you have ideas, please join the meeting, or send Kurt W. an email. They are also looking for a couple of volunteers, to act as co-hosts and "bouncers".

Policies and Procedures: Chair Linda J. reported the P&P Committee met virtually on January 25th with the committee consisting of one Area Committee Chair, one MGS Officer, one Past Delegate and herself as Chair.

Key Items of Business:

- 1) Requested more specifics from Area Chair regarding question on Financial Internal Control Policy request to review.

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- 2) Following extended discussion regarding MGS Bylaws Article Three Section 3.03(c) regarding investments in excess of \$1,500, the P&P committee agreed unanimously that if someone wants to propose a change to the MGS Bylaws, they should pursue through the usual process as outlined within the Bylaws document.
- 3) Following extended discussion of the process in place in Area 29 for bringing potential Agenda items to the Area Committee & Assembly, the P&P committee agreed unanimously that the P&P Committee cannot dictate how members of Area 29 bring potential Agenda items forward. It was agreed by members of the P&P Committee that agenda items should receive the broadest scope of input from the Area 29 membership with the intent of preparing the Area Delegate being foremost in the process.
- 4) We will be soliciting input from the Area Committee members to assess the need for a new page in the MGS Handbook regarding virtual committee and Area meetings.
- 5) Committee in process of communicating with Panel 70 Officers regarding the Maintenance of Corporate Documents.
- 6) P&P Chair and Area Secretary met outside of regular committee meeting to discuss the format for the continued collection of Area Motions and disposition, and current Practices of MGS, Inc.
- 7) Committee determined a plan for MGS Handbook review for all Area 29 Committees and Officers, with process to begin during the March Assembly.

Technology: Chair Tom H. reported they are fine tuning the emailing list by forming a “Roster” list. Working on the MGS website to streamline the pages and make it more intuitive as suggested during the Area Inventory Assembly.

Treatment: Chair Frank M. reported the Treatment committee last met on January 6, 2020 and invited all those interested and involved in Bridging the Gap in Area 29. 20 people attended from both Treatment and Corrections, and plan to meet again in March. Bridging the Gap, in response to the evaluation of Districts and Intergroups, has been simplified, using the successful Baltimore Intergroup as a model. The 30 documents on the marylandaa.org website have been reduced to four. There have been eight requests for temporary contacts this month, all successfully connected. PowerPoint presentations explaining Bridging the Gap are available on the Maryland General Service Team Site SharePoint for anyone who wishes to use them for meetings. Frank is also available to share them at any District or Intergroup meetings. The committee is working with Intergroups to begin compiling a directory of treatment facilities in Area 29. Frank will be sharing at the District 42 meeting next Tuesday. District 18 is donating Grapevine subscriptions to 4 treatment facilities in Area 29. Let Frank M. know today if you know of a treatment facility in your District might be interested. He will be sending names to them by the end of the day today. They are engaged in a cooperative venture with the PI/CPC Committee to assist them in hosting quarterly presentations to professionals on A.A. topics.

Workshop: Lori M. reported for John H., Workshop Chair who had to leave the meeting. Workshops are running smoothly. There are several up-coming workshops. Check the event page on the MGS website for more information.

Registrar: Jeanine W. reported the new Fellowship Connection is still a work in progress. She has been informed that DCMs will have “Read-Only” access in late February/early March. Once this occurs, Jeanine W. will ask all DCMs to check the group contacts and listed GSRs in their District for accuracy. She has noticed that many groups have several GSRs listed. This occurs when the old GSR information was not removed. Jeanine W. will need to edit the End Term Date for old GSRs. The new default End Term Date setting is now at 2 years. It is her responsibility, with your help, to get these records up to date. Jeanine W. has updated the Area Roster which is store on MGS SharePoint.

Literature: Interim Chair Tyler J. reported that the MGS literature is still safely stored in his warehouse. Had made a sale 3 Big Book CD's to BAIG at their request. Tyler J. disposed of the 2019 MGS Handbooks at the suggestion of Cynthia T., Delegate and pulled out a case of the 2020 MGS Handbooks for Cynthia T. to distribute.

DCM Reports:

District 1: DCM Craig R. reported there is no changes to their meetings. Attendance at District meetings are down with only 12 GSRs in attendance. Sara S. has volunteered to chair the District 1 Accessibilities Committee. Currently hosting 1 man's and 1 women's virtual meeting per week at the jail. Meetings at Avenues Treatment Center are currently suspended. Hosting a virtual workshop April 3, 2021 titled, “Traditions and Relationships” from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The presenters are Cliff G., (A.A.) and Lori G., (AI Anon) from Oklahoma City, OK.

District 3 & 4: No reports.

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District 6: DCM Nancy H. reported they met virtually. Had 2 new GSRs at the last meeting. One of their groups experienced a member testing positive for COVID-19. They shut down for two weeks, contacted the church and all meeting attendees using the contact tracing phone log. Another group is setting up a Venmo account to facilitate individual contributions.

District 7: DCM Mary M. reported they meet virtually and had 13 GSRs at the January meeting. BTG had an increase in activity. The District 7 website had 857 sessions, 404 Unique (never been there before) & 59 second turnaround time. March workshop postponed at this time. Virtual newcomers package presented at other meetings/workshops generated interest and they will be compiling their own version. Kurt W. Alternate Delegate reported on the Mini-Conference and CARC process.

District 9: DCM Mike H. reported they are meeting every other month on the odd months as a Hybrid meeting and briefly explained how that is working. Hosted a successful workshop on January 9th on “Forgiveness”. The District 9 website is being constantly updated to keep the meeting information accurate.

District 10: DCM Bethany Y. reported they meet virtual with good attendance. Groups in the District are constantly revolving from virtual and in-person. They are preparing groups for the CARC and Mini Conference, making sure the information for these events is distributed. Planning a spring workshop.

District 11 & 14: No reports.

District 15: DCM Tyler J. reported they meet virtually with an average of 6-8 groups represented at District Meeting. District 15 currently has 19 of its 22 registered meetings active on virtual meeting. One called FOB is online only, and 3 meetings have been inactive since the COVID-19 shutdowns. They have been working with GSRs to spread the word of events in our Area and region, they send the pdf version of “Area Chairpersons Weekly Updates” out to groups so they can post them in the chat function of virtual meetings. At our January business meeting, we elected a Workshop Committee Chair, Paul T. Planning to get a Venmo Account. The District will continue their “Local Legacies Back to Basics Series” with Steps 5,6, & 7 and plan to conduct it as a panel discussion format. Planning a workshop to discuss Area service is and the role of a GSR to encourage participation. Cynthia T., Area Delegate attended their last meeting.

District 17: No Report.

District 18: DCM Kathleen W. reported that they meet virtually. The District was 2 Hybrid meetings, and the balance is virtual. They had 440 attendees from all over the world for the “Two Way Prayer Virtual Workshop” on January 24th with Father Bill W. An audio recording of this event is available. They have an upcoming virtual workshop titled “Sister of Sober – A History of the Early Woman of Alcoholics Anonymous” with speakers Gail L., Akron, OH - Archivist and Nancy K, Galt, CA - Alt. Archivist, on March 21, 2021 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. They have 4 new GSRs in the past week from groups that were not active. At the last District meeting, they addressed the following issue: how can we reach the newcomer on virtual meetings; purchasing 5 Grapevine subscriptions for local rehabs or ½ way houses; how can we get more GSRs and people involved in service; offering to pay the \$21.00 fee for current or new GRS's or alternates in the District to attend NERAASA; asking for help with articles for the District 18 Newsletter; growing their contact/distribution email list; and they are in the process of adopting District 34 which has been inactive and have added 1 new GSR in this process. Kurt W. attended the February meeting and discussed the CARC process.

District 19: Alternate DCM Doug M. reported they meet virtually with steady attendance of 6-7 GSRs. Discussed the yearly New Year's Eve Alcolthon and how to make improvements. Cynthia T., Area 29 Delegate attended the meeting and provided information about the General Service Conference and the importance of the CARCs. Majority of meetings in District 19 are virtual.

District 20: DCM Dave M. reported they meet in-person. Attendance is typically 7 members which includes 2 GSRs, Secretary, Treasurer, Archivist, 1 visitor and himself. Discussed the upcoming CARC IV process. We have both virtual, in-person and hybrid meetings in the District. Some of the in-person meetings are being suspended since attendance is down.

District 22: DCM Stephanie Z. reported they meet virtually with 2-3 members attending. Considering more outreach to get more GSRs to be involved. Working on a workshop to be announced later.

District 23, 24, 25, & 27: No reports.

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District 28: DCM Jean B. reported they meet virtually. In December they had 6 GSRs and January they had 12 GSRs. In December they invited Frank M, Treatment Chair to talk about the Bridging the Gap program. There was input from GSR's as to their experiences and thoughts on the program. In January we invited CARC II leader, Tyler J. who gave a great presentation on the purpose and process of the CARC. Also in attendance were Delegate Cynthia T. and Co-leader of the CARC Kathleen W. who provided additional information. They have been collecting Grapevines and distributed some to local nonprofit recovery and halfway houses. They discussed co-sponsoring a workshop with District 30. Their outreach committee has been active in visiting groups on virtual platforms. They will also begin visiting groups that are meeting in-person soon. They read Tradition 1 and Concept 1 from the pamphlet and discussed.

District 30, 31 & 32: No reports.

District 33: DCM Ashtin P. reported that she was elected as the new DCM for District 33. The District meetings are virtual. Attendance is low, currently with only 2-3 group represented. Have updated the Area 29 and on the BAIG website with a tentative schedule for the District 33 meetings for the year. Working with the previous DCM to get a District website up and running. Plan to provide information at the next Area meeting on the number and types of meeting that are held in District 33. There are concerns that some in-person meeting are not being compliant with church COVID-19 guidelines.

District 34: No report.

District 35: DCM Dwayne B. reported he was elected as the new DCM for District 35. The 34 registered Groups with 5 represented at their last meeting. The District is in the process of reorganizing. They have all new officers, new District Intergroup Rep, new Grapevine Chair, 2 new Institution & Corrections Chair, and news Communication Chair. They are working with the previous DCM, Jeanine W. to learn intricacies of their new responsibilities.

District 36: DCM Brandi D. reported they meet virtually and have a vote at the end of each meeting to determine whether to meet virtual or in-person the next month. There are 7 to 8 groups represented at their monthly meeting. The currently had 2 groups meeting outside, 7 virtual, 17 closed and 12 are in-person. Had a successfully Alcothon at Christmas put on by the Workshop Committee. Last month, Kurt W. joined the District meeting and talked about the CARC process. QR code was created by the SMIA. Code can be scanned to view the local where and when. Their PI/CPC committee will be posting the QR code flyer in locations around the county where A.A. pamphlet racks. Brandi D. plan do outreach in the District and visit Groups during her second year to meet members and encourage them to get involved in service.

District 37: DCM Jim R. reported he is the new DCM. District 37 meets virtually. Had 4 members on the January meeting. Updating the group list that was sent to him by the Registrar. Has 15 registered groups, 8 which are meeting in some form which makes it tough to contact members to talk about service. Outreach is the goal.

District 38 & 39: No reports

District 40: DCM Debbie P. reported they meet virtually and there were only 3 members at their last meeting out of 40 groups in the District. They elected a new Treasurer and need to do outreach to get members involved at the GSR level. Plan to have an educational workshop on what is a GSR in hopes that my providing more information, members will want to get involved.

District 41: DCM Mike F. reported he is the new DCM. Attendance at the January virtual District meetings was very low with only 1 GSR and a total of 4 in attendance to hear Kurt W. speak on the CARC process. The February virtual meeting had a better turn out. Working with Groups to see why they do not attend meeting. Would like to model the District to be like the WCI which is very active.

District 42: DCM Diane F. reported they have 30 registered groups with about 7-8 attending the virtual District meetings. Survey sent out to our Groups asking where can we assist? Frank M., Treatment Chair to speak at February Meeting. Plan to have other committees to talk at the District meetings so members can learn what they do. They are looking to get setup for online donations.

District 46: No report.

Break for lunch at 11:30 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 11:45 a.m. with 34 members attending the meeting.

There was a breakout room set up for CARC V members comprised of Committee Chairs, Committee Co-Chair during the break to for a brief orientation of what is going on with CARC V lead by Frank M., CARC V Leader.

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Old Business: There was no Old Business.

New Business:

Brigitte F., Area 29 Finance Committee Chair, presented a motion. ***Motion: Request that the Area Assembly approve an incremental increase in the mileage reimbursement rate from \$.35 to \$.40 in the 2021 Area Operating Budget. This incremental increase continues the Finance Committee's effort to align the MGS mileage reimbursement rate with the average rate for nonprofits.*** The Motion comes from the Committee and does not require a second. Bridgette F. provided background information. Brigitte F. explained the background information that was transmitted to the Assembly by email on February 1st. ***Following the opportunity for discussion, there were 29 eligible votes, the motion passed unanimously.***

Brigitte F., Area 29 Finance Committee Chair, presented a motion. ***Motion: Request that the Area Assembly approve moving \$10,000 from the Operating Account to the Prudent Reserve Account, bringing our current Prudent Reserve to \$20,000.*** The Motion comes from a Committee and does not require a second. Terry P., Area 29 Treasurer explained the background information that was transmitted to the Assembly by email on February 1st. ***Following the opportunity for discussion, there were 29 eligible votes, the motion passed unanimously.***

SESSION THREE

2021 Overview CARC Process:

Kurt W. reported the following CARC information:

CARC I - Districts 24, 25, 32, 37, 38, & 46. (Eastern Shore) Leader is Beth O., Mentor is Don B. Meeting with the Delegate and Alternate Delegate on March 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

CARC II – Districts 1, 6, 22, 23, 27, 31, 25, 36, & 36. (Southern Maryland) Leader is Craig R., Mentor is Morgan J. Initial meeting on March 6, 2021, to disperse Agenda items for review. Meeting with Delegate and Alternate Delegate on March 14, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

CARC III – Districts 3, 4, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 19, 28, 30, 33, 34 & 39. (Central & Northeast Maryland) Leader is Tyler J., Mentor is Lori M. Meeting with the Delegate and Alternate Delegate on March 13, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

CARC IV – Districts 7, 9, 17, 20, 40, & 41. (Western Maryland) Leader is Mary M., Mentor is Bob C. Initial meeting on February 21, 2021 to disperse Agenda Items for review. Meeting with Delegate and Alternate Delegate on March 14, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

CARC V – Area Wide. Leader is Frank M., Mentor is Peggy R. Meeting with the Delegate and Alternate Delegate on March 7, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

If CARC Leaders have not yet reached out to you, please reach out to them. It is all our jobs to ensure that Cynthia T is well prepared for the upcoming General Service Conference! Current information has been forwarded to the Area 29 Webmaster for posting on marylandaa.org, on the CARC page.

Motion was made to suspend business by Frank M., seconded Debbie P. and accepted unanimously at 12:11 p.m.

SESSION FOUR – Strategic Planning

The Committee body listened to two presentations for remainder of the day to set the course for the coming year. Cynthia T., Area 29, Panel 70 Delegate shared a brief overview of pieces from the Service Manual and the Twelve Concepts of World Service that are likely to come up over the rest of the year. Lori M., Area 29, Panel 70 Chair talked about leadership within the Area by referencing Bill's essay concerning leadership. The goal was to make sure members are familiar with these basic Concepts and principles as we move through the year. After each presentation, there was time for questions.

The Committee body reconvened and ***a motion to adjourn was made by Cynthia T., seconded by Jean B., and accepted unanimously.*** The meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig T.
Area 29, Panel 70 Secretary