The Maryland General Service Area Committee met virtually on November 14, 2020. The virtual doors opened at 8:45 a.m. for fellowship. Chairperson Lori M. opened the meeting at 9:04 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

**SESSION ONE**

**Area Chair Opening Remarks:** Lori M. welcomed everyone to the virtual Area 29 Committee meeting, and she reviewed the procedures for participation and voting in the electronic polling during the virtual meeting. Jeanine W., the new Area 29 Registrar will be monitoring the eligible voters. Following no objections, the audio only of this meeting was being recorded for the Archives and to ensure accuracy of the minutes. 45 members were on the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

**Chairpersons Report:** Lori M. thanked everyone for their enthusiasm and interest in the discussion last month at the Area 29 Inventory Assembly, which resulted in a great Area 29 Inventory. She will be providing a follow-up on the inventory to the Assembly within the next 10 day. Some of the suggested items are already being implemented such as the weekly update that Lori has been sending out with news from Area 29 and the Region. This is helping to keep members informed and has improved communication between the Area and the Intergroups. If you have an event that is District or Area sponsored, please forward to Lori M. She is also working to make sure these events are anonymity protected prior to posting on the MGS website.

**Secretary’s Report:** Craig T. provided a summary of the September 26, 2020 Area Committee Minutes, which were transmitted to the Assembly by email on November 2, 2020. ***The Motion to accept the Minutes was made by Misty L. and seconded by Jeanine W. The Motion carried unanimously.***

**Treasurer’s Report:** Terry P. reported as of October 31, 2020, Account balances were: Operating Account: $23,678.66.  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 Oct 31 are $21,217.78

Other income (i.e., 7th Tradition’s basket, lunch donations, etc.) total $5,611.34. Total Revenue $26,829.12 which is 46% of our budgeted revenue for 2020. At this time last year MGS had received 92% of the 2019-budgeted revenue.

Expenses:

Through October 31, we have paid out a total of $27,028.23, which is 36% of our budgeted expenses this year.

At this time last year MGS had expended 62% of the 2019 budgeted expenses.

***Following Discussion, the Motion to accept the Treasurers Report was made by Frank M. and seconded by Kathleen W. The Motion carried unanimously.***

**Alternate Delegate’s Report:** Kurt W. reported his activities since September:

NERD Meetings – Continues to attend the monthly NERD business meetings.

Alt Delegate Meetings – The Northeast Region Alternate Delegates meeting, has been changed from weekly to bi-weekly. They share extensively on our experiences in service and current events. The monthly meeting of North American Alternate Delegates (NAAD’s) is also ongoing. With the increase in online meetings, many Areas are struggling with whether and how to register such meetings, and even potentially online Districts.

Budgeting –Participate in budget discussions with the Finance Committee.

Proposed Conference Agenda Items – Participated in the preparation of the proposed Conference Agenda Item concerning a process for appealing a Chair’s ruling during the General Service Conference and reviewed other proposals.

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

Upcoming Scheduled Activities include:

2021 Mini-Conference – The Mini-Conference Committee will be meeting again on November 23, 2020.

District & Intergroup Meetings – Will continue to attend meetings as invited, keeping abreast of activities in our Area Planning to attend the Baltimore Intergroup’s Online Extravaganza, celebrating 80 years of A.A. in Baltimore on November 21, 2020.

**Delegate’s Report:** Cynthia T. provided her “Delegate Report” on news and events at the General Service Office and A.A. around our Area. A soft copy of her “Delegate Report” for November 2020 was emailed to the area and posted on the MGS website. She provided Random Musings of your Delegate; General Service Board and GSO Updates, Financial Updates; A.A Grapevine News, Northeast Region Updates & Nerd Happening; and Conference Agenda Review Committee (CARC) Updates. To review details on these topics and the Delegatesupcoming virtual travels, please refer to the “Delegate Report” attached to the minutes. Cynthia finished by taking questions from members on the Committee Meeting.

**Committee Reports**

**Accessibilities**: Chair Jessica W. reported that she is still attending the National Accessibilities meeting that is meeting the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Area 29 Accessibilities Committee received a gift of old, non-working interpretation equipment for the cost of shipping, from Area 11, Connecticut. Kevin W. was able to repair them, so we have an old interpretation set for 12 people with 2 microphones and headsets. Did an outreach letter to some professional including those that work with the deaf on A.A. and how we are functioning at this time and how to reach us. Assisted a newly legally blind member who is coming back into recovery. The “Better with Age” virtual seniors meeting that is open to all, continues to meet Mondays at 10:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. The upcoming Baltimore 80th Anniversary Extravaganza on Saturday, November 21, 2020 will be ASL and Spanish interpreted. Jessica W. anticipates deaf members in attendance. She plans to use this venue to reach out to Baltimore’s Deaf Addiction Services and Maryland’s School for the Deaf and possibly Gallaudet in Washington D.C. as well.

**Archives**: Lori M., Area Chair reported that a fellow member who has a first edition of the “Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions” contacted her and would like to donate it to the Area Archives.

**CPC & PI**: Chair Pat S. reported that the PI and CPC Committees took part in a conference call with our Area 29 Delegate and Area Chair on November 11, 2020. They discussed an opportunity for the PI and CPC Committees to heighten awareness of “What Alcoholics Anonymous is” to our Professional Community. This committee would like to invite Area 29 Treatment Chair and Intergroup Liaison Chair to join them as one committee. There will be five phases for this committee. Phase I: Identify key members for this committee. Phase II: Establish goals and action plan. Phase III: Create an audience of professionals within our community (i.e. Treatment Facility Staff, Military, Judicial System, Schools, Law Enforcement, and a large variety of Medical Professionals, etc.). Phase IV: Selection of Guest Speakers within the A.A. Organization who will provide many important perspectives of “What AA Is”. Phase V: Logistics for a 90-minute quarterly virtual meeting. Tentatively set for February 2021.

**Finance**: Chair Jim R. reported the committee consist of Brigitte F. - Co-Chair, Cynthia T., Bob C., and Terry P. Meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at 5pm and again on the 1st Monday, as needed. For the past 6 months, they have been compiling the Proposed 2021 MGS Budget. Jim mentioned that he will be rotating from the Finance Committee and Bridgette F. will be rotating in as the New Finance Committee Chair as of January 1, 2021.

**Grapevine:** Chair Meryl T. reported that she appreciates everyone that is taking advantage of the “2020 Grapevine Carry the Message Project”. The gift subscriptions help another alcoholic and GSO. We have been conducting an Area 29 program ‘Extend Your Hand” of collecting old Grapevines and delivering them to members who are not able to attend virtual or conference call meetings. A flyer was emailed out and this program is taking place at the Area, District, and Intergroup levels. If you have old Grapevines, you can send then to the Grapevine Committee or deliver them to members or facilities that can benefit from them.

**Intergroup Liaison**: Chair Kathi K. reported their committee meets virtually on the first Monday of the month.  In November they entertained Jen G. from the Baltimore Intergroup who expounded on her experience with the annual ICOAA seminar, which is a seminar for Intergroups, Central Offices, AAWS, and AAGV. On December 7, 2020, Frank M., Treatment Chair will discuss the GSO's endeavor to inventory how the Areas and Intergroups are adapting during COVID-19 with their Bridging the Gap efforts.  IGLC is grateful to have participated as a vehicle in the Area's group effort to include our Hispanic Community within Area 29.  This work is ongoing, and we continue to be open to their participation and inclusion on our committee. Kathi plans to continue to reach out to Hispanic Community to invite them to be a part of our committee. Because of their interest we have been able to include translation as a part of our pending budget.  The feedback I received because of this was exuberant validation that we recognize the importance of translation enough to include it in our budget.  This effort has long been an Area endeavor and special thanks to Cynthia T., Don B., and Jessica W. our Accessibilities Chair.

The IGLC committee is happy to be included in the PI/CPC endeavor and look forward to how we can mobilize with them. There are several upcoming vacancies on our guest list. Any Area 29 committee that is interested in using this platform to reach our 10 Intergroups in Maryland, please contact Kathi K. She can be reached at [intergroupliaison@marylandaa.org](mailto:intergroupliaison@marylandaa.org). You can also send an email to this address if you would like to receive a copy of their monthly minutes.

**Literature**: Interim Chair Tyler J. reported that the MGS literature is still safely stored in his warehouse.

**2021 Mini-Conference**: Kurt W. reported that the 2021 Mini-Conference planning is underway. The committee, which meets monthy, consists of Frank M., Jessica W., Cynthia T., Mary M., Linda J., and Kurt W. If you are interested in helping, please contact one of these members. The Mini-Conference will be held April 10, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. until midafternoon. At this point, modeling GSO, they plan on it being a virtual event, leaving open the slim possibility of in-person event. Linda J. will be obtaining a speaker from GSO. The next virtual committee meeting is scheduled on Monday evening, November 23, 2020. They are planning to focus on the communication plan, how to get the word out and encourage members to participate. The old method of printing thousands of flyers and distributing them may not be enough these days. Suggestions are welcome.

**Policies and Procedures:** Chair Linda J. had no report.

**Technology:** Chair Tom H. reported they are keeping the website updated with events, maintaining the email lists, and keeping the status quo. They have assisted the IGLC with their virtual interpretation this month, and at one other prior meeting.

**Treatment**: Chair Frank M reported there continue to be challenges with carrying the message into treatment facilities in person because of the pandemic, especially as the metrics worsen. Bridging the Gap is working the best that it can. There has been great cooperation between Areas as folks have both left Area 29 to other states as well as coming into Maryland to get connected. In the next couple weeks, he plans to reach out to the county health departments asking them to help update the treatment facilities in their counties and begin developing a database. GSO is beginning a major study of Bridging the Gap and is looking for our input. Frank emailed an eight-question survey to the DCMs for their input and has received four responses. He is going to be speaking at the IGLC December 1st meeting. After he hear from Intergroups, Frank will be compile the data from that meeting, the survey questions, and the sharing session held on August 15th and send an Area 29's report to New York. Frank will have copies available for the Area at the December Assembly.

**Workshop**: Chair Mike H. reported workshops are going well. Everyone seems to be very accustomed to virtual meetings. Members can attend more workshop in different areas than they the normally would be able to. Upcoming Workshops are listed on the Area 29 event calendar with the flyer attached. We had a good response to our email request last month for member to volunteer to be presenter for workshops.

**Registrar:** Jeanine W. reported she is honored to serve as your Area 29 Registrar and thanked to Ray T., outgoing Registrar for his service and help in acclimating her in this role. AAWS is on track for a December 14, 2020 launch of Release 2.0. Training for Registrars should occur on December 15, 2020. Training will follow this for Alternate Registrars, Delegates and DCMs. Alternate Registrar is a newly created position. The Alternate Registrar will be provided the same capabilities as the Registrar. Please come forward if interested in this position. Delegates and DCMs will be provided "read only" access. Jeanine has been maintaining the Area 29 Database, Area 29 Roster and GSR email contact list located on SharePoint. Currently, there is no way to register a Virtual Only meeting, as a physical location is required.

**District 41**: DCM Grace H. reported the District met on October 7th, and the following items were discussed and/or actions taken. District Elections were conducted with immediate Past Delegate, Don B., proctoring our elections by 3rd Legacy Procedure. The incoming District Officers are DCM: Mike F., Alternate DCM: Miki W., Secretary: Logan A., Treasurer: John W. The District met November 4th, and the following items were discussed and/or actions taken. The 2021 Proposed Budget was approved with the plan for the District to review the Budget line items February 2021. The District will regularly review the line items as group contributions are lessened due to current pandemic conditions. At least 5 meetings are in person and the District will distribute several months of Grapevines to those groups. The District is looking into various platforms to offer groups the option of making contributions electronically. The District has a public information rack program that they are starting up again now that locations are opening. The pull tab flyer the District created, with the support of West Central Intergroup, has been sent out to all GSRs again as it was utilized, and all tabs were pulled at the Mount Airy Public Library.

**Break at 10:22 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 10:32 a.m. with 44 members attending the meeting.**

***SESSION TWO***

**DCM Reports:**

**District 1:** DCM Craig R. reported that District meets virtually. Looking for a place to safely hold in-person meetings. 45 meetings have reported reopened, 11 still closed and 8 meeting online. District using “Reach Out & Help Someone Program”. Using phone contacts to reach people you have not seen in a while to let them know they care about them in this difficult time and if there is anything, they can do to help to help them such as provide virtual meeting info, ride to meeting or just chat with them. Hosting an Anonymity virtual workshop on November 14, 2020 2:00 p.m.

**District 3 & 4:** No reports.

**District 6:**  DCMNancy H. reported that the District meets virtually. Three groups have temporally closed due to COVID-19, three groups meet virtually, and 13 groups meet in-person. Have dealt and resolved issue concerning groups that where meeting in churches and not following COVID-19 protocols which include but not limited to wearing mask.

**District 7: New** DCM Mary M. reported that the District meets virtually. They are hosting their 35th Annual Gratitude Breakfast titled “BYOB - Bring Your Own Breakfast”, on November 28, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. Arnold R is the quest Speaker. Website in one-month Statistics: 901 site sessions of which 442 were unique, first time visitors. 1219-page views with an 80% bounce which positive in A.A. because they are going to the link they were looking for on their site. Had major discussion about Institution work and difficulty in attending virtual meeting for newcomers and discussion on potential solutions on how to reach the newcomer. Alano Club has in-person meetings and some meetings are virtual. The Health Department is monitoring the Club.

**District 9**: No report

**District 10:** Don B., District 10 Events Coordinator reported forDCM Charles L. that District 10 meets virtually. Almost all groups in the District currently meet in some way:  in-person, indoor, outdoors, virtual, videoconference, teleconference, hybrid, simultaneous, concurrent, or just about any combination of those. A monthly district newsletter tries to keep all groups informed, and everyone is encouraged to keep the Baltimore Intergroup notified of any meeting changes.  Since the District could not hold their annual picnic or in-person workshop this year, they contributed $600.00 to the General Service Office rather than hold excess money in our treasury for no stated A.A. purpose.  Since so many of our groups are meeting in-person, we are discussing whether to produce Newcomer Packets again.

**District 11 & 14:** No reports.

**District 15:**  DCMTyler J. reported that the District meets virtually. We hosted a “Local Legacies” workshop on Steps 1,2,3 October 10th with around 35 in attendance. It was successful, and they plan to continue it as a series. They have another “Local Legacies” workshop on Step 4 planned for January 23, 2020. Flyer to come out next month. 2 meetings have closed due to COVID-19, 17 meets virtually and 3 meet in-person outdoors, which is likely to change soon as weather, gets colder. The DCM has finally created a separate email address for the DCM specifically that can be passed on DCM to DCM in future.

**District 17:** No report.

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**District 18**: DCM Kathleen W. reported the District meets virtually. They are starting a bi-monthly newsletter with news from the BAIG, Area 29, and GSO. They are planning a virtual workshop “Making Time for God Thru Service on December 13, 2020 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Have a speaker from Dallas, TX and Miami, FL. Decided to make contributions of $300.00 to GSO and $200.00 to BAIG because they were setting on money that they did not use this year. Checked will Area 29 and they were ok. Working on three workshops for January and February 2021; “Two Way Prayer” 11 step workshop, A.A. Unity/Common Welfare” a Traditions workshop, and a Beginners workshop talking about experience, strength and hope in early sobriety. Planning a virtual Alcathon on Christmas and New Year’s. Talking to Groups about what services they can do to carry the message during COVID-19. Working on get newcomer liaisons started for the virtual meeting.

**District 19:** DCMJenna F. reported the District meets virtually. All registered groups in District 19 are holding meetings virtually except for three meetings, and they are various types of a hybrid format. A singular meeting has been formed, which meets in person, socially distanced, in a city park, however is not registered with the District or the Area as of yet.

District 19 Workshop Committee is actively planning a New Year’s Eve Alcothon. We will host 45-minute A.A. meetings every hour on the hour from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. with the last meeting starting just after we celebrate the New Year at 12;00 midnight.

**District 20:**  DCM David M. reported the District is meeting in-person at Fellowship Hall. District 20 and the HAIG will be hosting a virtual Gratitude Speakers meeting on Saturday, November 21, 2020. The virtual doors will open at 8:30 a.m. and the meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. The guest speaker is Jeff Q. from Denver, CO.

**District 22:** DCMStephanie Z. reported the District is having poor participation. Working with other to try to get things re-started. Beverly GSR for the Red House Group in District 22 stated they are hosting a Alcothon on Thanksgiving Day located at the outside the Heritage Building. Also mentioned that the District has both virtual and in-person meetings.

**Districts 23, 24, 25 & 27:** No reports.

**District 28:** DCM Jean B. reported the District meets virtually. They discussed and approved their budget for 2021. They discussed having a live Alcathon on Christmas day. They have a venue available, but more discussion is on the November meeting agenda as to feasibility and safety. Their Outreach Committee met last week and is working to get a handle on groups in the District and making sure they are represented. Groups are meeting either virtually, live only, live & virtually, or informally. There are virtual meetings that have started up during COVID-19 that they do not have records of.

**District 30, 31 & 32:** No reports.

**District 33:** DCM Misty L. reported that District 33 is a difficult area to try to lite. Have tried various tactics and still getting the same dependable 6 members at the District meetings. They currently have approximately 44 ongoing meetings, most are meeting virtually, 2 are hybrids, 2 are outside, and 11 are held indoor. Will be checking on indoor meetings reminding them to follow the building rules, as well as county and state guidelines. Working to put together a webpage for the District to provide information to groups and members. Misty will be rotating from DCM when her term is over in January 2021.

**District 34:**  No report.

**District 35:** DCM Jeanine W., reported that they did not hold elections in November as no one has stepped forward for position of DCM, Alternate DCM, or Treasurer. The DCM and Treasurer terms are up in January 2021. If no one steps up prior to their December 3rd meeting, District 35 will become an inactive district. Having problem with groups following the local and church’s guidelines. Three groups were closed down because they were not following the church guideline.

They recently reopen and are still in violation.

**District 36:** DCM Brandi reported the District meets virtually. Of their 37 register meetings, 6 are virtual, 13 are in-person, 2 are outside, and 16 remain closed. There are also 3 unregistered meetings that started because of COVIID -19 that are doing well and may register. District 36 is hosting a 24-hour virtual Christmas Alcothon. Having trouble getting into facilities to feel literature racks. Working with the Intergroup webmaster to put QR codes on flyers so people an get a Where & When off the flyers. Looking for a Grapevine Chair. They took the Area 29 inventory questions and modified them to take a District inventory prior to their upcoming Budget vote so they know what resources are needed.

**District 37:** Jim Reed reported that DCM for District 37 is moving and will be stepping down, so they are in the process of electing or appointing a new DCM. Also doing some outreach in neighboring District to see if we can light up other parts of the Mid-Shore.

**District 38 & 39:** No reports.

**District 40:** Craig T. Area Secretary reported for DCM Debbie P that they have a new Outreach Committee to try to engage more GSR participation. After the District 40 meetings, they host a Tradition & Concept study. The next meeting is on November 16, 2020 and Patty S. Florida will share on Tradition 11.

**District 42**: Craig T. Area Secretary reported for Terry Z. due technical issues. that 35 members attend the “Living Sober No Matter What” virtual Workshop on Sat, Nov 7, 2020. Treatment Committee sent out request from Tranquility Woods for temporary contacts within Bridging the Gap. No group changes. Some groups are meeting inside, 9 groups have been approved to meet at SSRC. Webmaster updated the D42 website so members can view the full page for easier reading. Grapevine Committee is working with our groups to get the message out about sharing your grapevines “Extend Your Hand” campaign.

**District 46:** No report.

**Old Business:** There was no Old Business

**New Business:**

**Maryland State Convention 2021:** As part of the Area Committee meeting in September and Area Assembly in October, we took a sense of the Area whether to hold the Maryland State Convention in June of 2021 in-person. We had good discussion and inform poll results. Being in contact with David R., State Convention Chair, it seemed to be a consensus that members were not comfortable proceeding with an in-person convention at this point. The deadline for signing the Clarion Hotel contract was this past Saturday, November 7th and Lori M. did not sign the contract. At this point, Lori M. has asked the State Convention Committee to come back the Area Committee with alternatives. There was no member representing the State Convention on the meeting.

**MGS Proposed 2021 Budget:** ***Motion: To accept the MGS Proposed 2021 Budget, was made by Kurt W. and seconded by Cynthia T.*** Jim R., Finance Chair provided details on the budget procedure. He then screen-shared and reviewed the MGS 2021 Proposed Budget which was transmitted to the Assembly by email on November 4, 2020. ***Following discussion, a voting pole was launched with 25 eligible voters. 23 for, 0 opposed, the Motion carried unanimously.***

**Break at 11:50 a.m. for lunch. Meeting reconvened at 12:15 a.m. with 36 members attending the meeting.**

**SESSION THREE**

**CARC II Recommendations to be added as background material for a few of the Literature Committee Agenda items:**

***Motion made by Kurt W.: The document entitled Literature Advisory Actions 1995 - 2005, previously distributed to the Area Committee, be forwarded to the GSO Conference Coordinator as additional background for the three items listed in the 2021 Literature Recommendations document, also previously distributed to the Area Committee. No second was required since it comes from CARC II Committee.***

Morgan J. explained the information that was transmitted to the Assembly by email on November 11, 2020 and provided a detailed presentation to help members understand the purpose of the motion. ***Following discussion***, ***Kurt W. made a friendly Amendment to the original Motion to send the two additional documents provided by CARC II titled;******2021 Literature Recommendations from CARC II and Literature Items Forwarded to 2021 with CARC II Recommendations, to the Conference Coordinator for inclusion as background information.***

***Literature Committee Agenda Items.***

***The Amended Motion reads*** *T****he documents entitled Literature Advisory Actions 1995 – 2005, 2021 Literature Recommendations from CARC II and Literature Items Forwarded to 2021 with CARC II Recommendations previously distributed to the Area Committee, be forwarded to the GSO Conference Coordinator as additional background for the three items listed in the 2021 Literature Recommendations document, also previously distributed to the Area Committee. The Motion to pass the Amended Motion passed unanimously.***

The floor was re-open for a spirited discussion. Was stated that possibly providing additional background information to the current agenda items already on the floor being forwarded to the 71st GSO is not the proper route to reach the ultimate goal of CARC II. It was suggested they should make motions for several new proposed agenda items, which would get more attention. ***A voting poll was launch with 26 eligible voters. 15 for, 10 opposed, the Motion does not carry with substantial unanimity. There was no Minority Opinion.***

**71st General Service Conference Proposed Agenda Item by Area 29:** Cynthia T., Area 29 Panel 70 Delegate gave the background of why the motion is coming to the floor of the Committee.

***Motion made by Frank M.: That Area 29, Maryland adopt this agenda item to Request that a procedure be drafted to appeal a ruling by the Conference Chair. This procedure may include that the Chair may provide an explanation as to such ruling and the process for challenging a ruling of the Chair as defined in Robert's Rules of Order. Motion was seconded by Cynthia T.***

Frank M reviewed the document “71st General Service Conference Proposed Agenda Item by Area 29” that was transmitted to the Assembly on November 11, 2020. ***Following discussion. a voting poll was launch with 25 eligible voters. 23 for, 1 opposed,*** ***Linda J. provide the Minority Opinion. She voted against this based on process and procedure of Area 29, not having anything to do with the motion. Although the MGS Handbook is not specific, traditionally, items of this kind of business in Area 29 are vetted through the CARC processing. This Motion comes from a committee that was form but not a CARC Committee. Based on the Minority Opinion, a voting poll on a Motion to Reconsider was launched with 25 eligible voters. 12 for and 12 opposed. The Motion to reconsider failed. The original Motion carried.***

**Recommendation to Update Concept XI:**

***Don B., Area 29 Panel 68 Past Delegate made the following Motion:*** ***That Area 29 support the motion approved by the Area Committee of Area 44 (Northern New Jersey) to make changes to Co-founder Bill W.'s essay on Concept XI in The Twelve Concepts for World Service.***

***Kurt W. seconded the Motion. Don provided the background information that was transmitted on November 11,2020 to the Assembly.*** Following the presentation of background information by Don B, the floor was opened for discussion. ***Following discussion, a voting poll was launch with 25 eligible voters 10 for, 15 opposed. No Minority Opinion. Motion does not carry with substantial unanimity***

**Recommendation to Update the Purpose of the Current Conference Charter:**

***Don B., Area 29 Panel 68 Past Delegate made the following motion:*** ***That Area 29 support the motion approved by the Area Committee of Area 44 (Northern New Jersey) Update paragraph 1, the Purpose, of the Current Conference Charter (United States and Canada) to include the Concepts in addition to the Steps and Traditions as the Legacies for which the General Service Conference serves as guardian. The revised text of the Purpose paragraph would read “The General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is the guardian of the world services and of the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts of Alcoholics Anonymous…”***

***Cynthia T. seconded the Motioned. Following discussion, a voting poll was launch with 25 eligible voters 19 for, 4 opposed. Pat S. provided the Minority Opinion by stating that if you change one thing, then you change more and more and then you lose the whole message that has kept people sober Hearing the Minority Opinion, there was no Motion to Reconsider.*** ***Motion carried with substantial unanimity.***

**Break at 2:32 p.m. and reconvened at 2:42 p.m. 32 on the meeting**

**Session Four** possibility of creating a 5th CARC, which wo

**Addition of a 5th CARC:** Kurt W. discussed the possibility of creating a 5TH Conference Agenda Review Committee (CARC) beyond the 4 current CARC”s. that are listed in the MGS Handbook It would be comprised of Area 29 service Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs. The use of online platform removes the geographic restraints that we are limited to with in-person meetings. Typically, in the agenda, there are items that relate to committee processes, workbook reviews or more complex items., and such a CARC may be a good place to review these items. If we proceed, this may be a one-time activity, or we may decide to continue using it in future year if it works well. If so, we would need to update the MGS Handbook. Kurt was looking for a sense of the Committee, particularly the Committee Chair if there is an interest in this suggestion.

***Following discussion. Kurt W. made a Motion: That Area 29 implement on a one-year trial basis, a 5th CARC Meeting to be comprised primarily of Area service Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs which would then review Conference Agenda Item that would be assigned to them. Cynthia T seconded the Motion. There was no discussion. A voting poll was launch with 20 eligible voters, 16 for, 3 opposed. No Minority Opinion. Motion carried with substantial unanimity.***

**2021 Agenda Item: Develop the Fifth Edition Big Book:**

***Motion provided by Morgan J. on behalf of CARC II:* Consider the development of a draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, *bringing a progress report to the 2022 Conference; keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that: "The first 164 pages of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Preface, the Forewords, 'The Doctor's Opinion,' 'Dr. Bob's Nightmare,' and the Appendices remain as is".***

***Coming out of CARC II so it does not require a second. Following discussion, including a friendly amendment to correct the spelling of “Addition:” to “Edition”. A voting poll was launch with 20 eligible voters, 16 for, 3 opposed. No Minority Opinion. Motion carried with substantial unanimity.***

2021 Agenda Item: To add an introduction to the Big Book Alcoholics Anonymous.

***Motion provided by Morgan J. on behalf of CARC II:*** ***To add an introduction to the Big Book Alcoholics Anonymous.***

***Coming out of CARC II so it does not require a second. Following discussion, a voting poll was launch with 19 eligible voters, 11 for, 6 opposed. No Minority Opinion. Motion does not carry with substantial unanimity.***

**Adding stories to “Experience, Strength and Hope”:**

***Motion provided by Morgan J. on behalf of CARC II: Consider adding the stories dropped from the First, Second, Third and Fourth Editions of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous To the publication “Experience Strength and Hope”. (Note: use of any Fourth Edition stories would be contingent on the resolution of the question regarding the possible development of a Fifth Edition.)***

***Coming out of CARC II so it does not require a second. There was no discussion. A voting poll was launch with 19 eligible voters* 15 for, 3 opposed. No Minority Opinion. *Motion carried with substantial unanimity.***

**Virtual ask it Basket:**

Jessica W. asked: At the GSC do they have a parliamentarian.? What resource do they have when a procedural question comes up?

Cynthia T. replied: No, they do not, and it is not a standard practice. There has been incidence where there was a parliamentarian. This is something that is coming as a suggestion for the 71st GSC. Before it was a not an issue but because of the virtual nature of the work that they did last year and will be doing again in 2021, there is a need for a parliamentarian. It is on the table at the recent Board meetings.

Jeanine W. asked: What is the case with a new meeting that is virtual only, with no fixed address, that cannot be registered with GSO, but would like to be represented? Can they have a GSR? They would have no idea the Area or the District that they would be in.

Cynthia T. answered that we are not the only Area that is faced with this. May be possible to create a virtual District. Working on getting information from other Areas on how they are handling this situation. There is currently no policy established at GSO. Linda J. stated that groups could join the New York Online intergroup. Morgan J. voiced the concern of the “two vote syndromes.” that could happen with virtual meetings. Kathi K suggested that maybe we should review the possibility of having a virtual District.

Jessica W. What is District affiliation between District 18 & 34? Kathi K. answered that Catonsville is basically District 18, Arbutus and Brooklyn is District 34. District 34 had some representation but no one to stand for DCM. Since members attend meetings in both District, District 34 was asked to affiliate with District 18 since it was lit so its member would be represented.

***A motion to adjourn was made by Frank M. and seconded by Craig T. The Motion to close carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

Craig T.

Area 29, Panel 70 Secretary