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NORTHERN AREA GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

NORTHERN AREA 42 GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MINUTES June 1, 2008 Tahoe Douglas Senior Center

885 Highway 50

Zephyr Cove, NV.

CONFIDENTIAL A.A. DOCUMENT

12:10 p.m. NAGSC Standing Committee meeting:

Meeting opened with the serenity prayer. Ray thanked everyone for showing up and asked for any additions to today's agenda. Ray went over the agenda for the meeting. No one had any items to add. Paul asked if we would hear the delegates report; Jason and Mike will both be reporting today. Ray thanked Kevin and Jeanette B. and district 6 for the lovely luncheon. Guidelines changes and finance committee report and guidelines changes will be discussed. Ed suggested an ad hoc committee to review and suggest the guidelines changes. Ray suggested that we appoint a committee today, after the discussions during the NAGSC meeting. Ed will make the suggestion. Ray asked for feedback about the adjusted meeting schedule. "Relief," "missed the April meeting," "allows for adjustments to the preconference meeting to discuss agenda item", were some of the comments.

Susan B. brought purple flyers to be distributed to meetings, about special needs meetings.

Ed deP. shared about the MONEY MATTERS panel coming up on June 28th at the Triangle Club, and invited all present to spread the word to group treasurers and secretaries to attend. Requests for panels in remote areas were made, and he said that can be done as well. He also made the point that at the Triangle Club, half the money in the basket goes to the club, not the 7th tradition. (Many do not know that.) Any support for the workshop would be appreciated. Ray asked if anyone had an idea how to ask for more donations at meetings; it was suggested that secretaries ask for the "price of a beer."

Sophie shared that in another area it was successful to have an outside speaker come in to discuss the need for more than the one dollar donation. She also wanted to know if any districts are having DCM elections before the next NAGSC meeting in August. None were planning to; Sophie thought that the area officers could assist with supporting the districts if anyone wants, and she would be happy to go anywhere needed. Carol B. asked for a show of hands for DCMs who need a successor. 18 and 10A were the only ones. Ray offered to go with Sophie to provide additional support. Ray suggested that those who want to stand for positions at the next Area Assembly, have their resumes ready by August. It was suggested that the resumes be posted in the newsletter, but some thought it may seem like campaigning or advertising. So a better idea might be to post a link to the resume site. Or the Northern and Southern Area Chairs could exchange the resumes, and avoid the newsletter altogether. Ray clarified that anyone wishing to be Northern Area chair needs to stand for Alternate Area Chair. Sam H. suggested that we close our meetings with the declaration of unity. 12:40p.m. Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed. Meeting closed with the unity prayer and adjourned for lunch. 1:05 p.m. NAGSC general meeting opens with Serenity Prayer and AA 4th Concept read by Patty P. Service Preamble read by Phil W. Motion to approve minutes as submitted; motion seconded and carried. Minutes were approved as submitted. Secretary Report: Carol H. Reminder: secretary requests written reports to be turned in after your presentation. If you can email them that's even better, then I can copy and paste for the minutes. The sign in sheet and roster were passed around for updates and new attendee's information. Introductions; 4 new attendees identified themselves and were recognized by the group, and regular attendees identified themselves and their positions. Ray again asked for updates to himself or the secretary on the roster. Treasurer Report: Annie W. Total contributions: \$3657.85 Total YTD expenses: \$5393.98 Current balance in checking: \$4587.56 We are averaging \$700.00 month in contributions. That amount will help to cover DCMs and GSRs to attend Tonopah in September. At the August meeting Annie will ask GSRs and DCMS for projected funding needs for September Area Assembly. Ray reminded all that the primary responsibility for funding GSRs and DCMs to Tonopah resides with the groups first, then the districts. This year it will be tight to fund. Carol read from the quidelines that the requests should be made in

June at NAGSC and distributed at Tonopah. The amount typically given to assist GSRs is \$50.00, depending on how many attend. Sam moved that we fund GSRs and DCMs to the maximum of \$50 to the September 2008 Area Assembly if funds are available. Motion passed.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report as submitted; seconded and passed.

Delegate Report: Mike D.

Mike shared a summary of his experience at the 2008 Conference. He described the AA videos for young people project, and asked for submissions to the Trustees Committee. Contact him for more information on this. Mike brought a few Box 459s with summaries of the conference report, and will distribute more at a later date. Mike particularly liked the Sunday night banquet followed by a speaker meeting in which he participated. Page 3 in Box 459 summarized a few of the advisory actions and additional considerations, and Mike will provide the full conference report at Tonopah.

He said the conference was a different experience this year. It was a "threat that got my attention." He met the regents, followed by the opening session and roll call. Then conference committee meetings took place. Mike was on the CPC committee. Assignment to committees is done by the conference organizers. Trustees and delegates meet to share information and discuss items and recommendations to make to the Trustees for final voting. His committee looked at public service announcements and discussed changes to them. Two were approved and one discarded.

Mike described the agenda of the Conference, how it is conducted, and what he did and participated in throughout the week; for example, PRAASA and Forums locations and dates were determined.

Eight hours was spent discussing Public Information items, which was tiring.

Mike described the conference this year as "verbose." By the end of the conference on Friday, all business is supposed to be done. This year 15 additional floor actions had to be dealt with until 1:15 Saturday morning. Saturday was the closing brunch but Mike left early and went to Stepping Stones instead.

Mike noted that on Monday thru Friday there is a registered AA meeting at 7:30 am. that only meets at the Conferences. The full conference report will be available at the next Area Assembly in September 2008.

Alt. Del. Report: Jason C.

Jason read the results of the 9 agenda items discussed in

roundtable formats. Jason asked Sophie to explain the various options; at the conference, each agenda item results in either, an advisory action, a recommendation not resulting in an advisory action, or additional committee consideration. At the conference, over 100 items were discussed, and again, the full conference report will be distributed at Tonopah. Jason provided a brief summary of the results for items we had covered at Area roundtables: 1) IV. Finance: Discuss request that a Finance Kit be developed Result: Additional Consideration: -Updating/reformatting the Self-Support Packet to include the Finance Guidelines -Adding the information that is included in the Self-support Packet to the GSO AA website -Send the Self-Support Packet to incoming area treasurers -Add the self-support packet to the conference-approved literature catalog. 2. V. Grapevine: Consider publishing two CDs of stories from La Vina on Traditions 1-12. Result: Additional Consideration: It was agreed to forward to the AA Grapevine board the suggestion that the AA Grapevine produce in the year 2009 or later two CDs of stories from the La Vina on Traditions 1 - 12. 3. VIII. Public Information: Agenda Item B, PSAs: "Consider approving the proposed 2008 PSA "I Thought-" developed by the trustees' Committee on Public Information Result: Advisory Actions: -The PSA "I Thought" be developed by the trustee's PI Committee, be approved and that reference to newspapers be added to the tag line -that it be centrally distributed, tracked and evaluated at a cost not to exceed \$35,000, in addition to the work of local PI committees -that the conference committee on PI annually review current television public service announcements for relevance and usefulness, retiring a PSA only when it is no longer useful or relevant to the fellowship. 4. Agenda Item F, PSAs: consider request that a wall poster with info about AA be created for placement in school counselors offices

Result: Advisory Action: A wall poster for young people with info about AA will be developed and brought back to the 2009 Conference Committee on Public Information. 5. XI. Trustees F. Discuss request to revisit the 2007 General Service Conference Advisory Action to consider all eligible Class A and Class B Trustees when selecting the Chairperson of the General Service Board. Result: Additional Consideration: Discussed and took no action. 6. IV Finance B. consider request to "discuss the benefits and liabilities, both spiritual and practical of funding the GSO solely by the voluntary contributions of AA members and AA groups, that profits from literature sales no longer be used to fund GSO. Further, consider a procedure for gathering input from the fellowship as a whole and prepare a report on these discussions for the 2009 Conference." Result: Advisory Action: recommended to gather input from the Fellowship on the benefits and liabilities and that this information be forwarded to the 2009 Conference committee on Finance. 7. VI Literature C. Consider a request the change the title of the pamphlet "44 Questions" to "FAQ" subtitled "Frequently asked Questions about AA." Result: Recommendation not resulting in an advisory action: the committee recommended that the pamphlet be re-titled "Questions and Answers about the AA program of Recovery from Alcoholism." D. Consider a request to reinstate the pamphlet "Letter to an Alcoholic Woman." Result: Considered the request and took no action. 8. VIII Public Information Agenda Item D. Consider proposed text for a new section on posthumous anonymity in the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity." Result: Recommendation not resulting in an advisory action: the committee recommended that the following section be added, with additional questions and answers, on page 9 before the "anonymity at the media level" section:

Posthumous Anonymity: Q. In general what is the feeling of the Fellowship in regards to posthumous anonymity? A. In 1988 the General Service conference recommended that "the 1971 Conference Advisory Action be reaffirmed: "AA members generally think it unwise to break the anonymity of a member even after his death, but in each situation the final decision must rest with the family." Q. Why do obituaries sometimes state that the deceased was a member of AA? A. There are many reasons why this could occur. Family members and funeral directors sometimes write the obituaries and are not aware of AA's Traditions. On the other hand, the deceased person's AA membership may have been revealed due to a conscious decision made beforehand by the AA member, or it may have been a conscious decision made by the family. AA members may wish to make their personal wishes on this matter known to their families ahead of time Q. What about posthumous anonymity in regard to our cofounders? A. Co-founder Bill W.'s obituary, with photography appeared on the front page of the New York Times on January 26, 1971. Following are excerpts: Mr. Wilson gave permission to break his anonymity upon his death in a signed statement in 1966. The role of Dr. Robert Holbrook Smith as the other founder of the worldwide fellowship was disclosed publicly when the Akron, Ohio surgeon died of cancer in 1950 after 15 years of uninterrupted sobriety. In fathering the doctrine that members should not reveal their AA affiliation at the public level, Bill W. had explained that anonymity isn't just something to save us from alcoholic shame and stigma; it's deeper purpose is to keep those fool egos of ours from running hog wild after money and fame at A.A.'s expense. 9. VIIII. Report and Charter Note: A1 and A2 will be combined for roundtable number four. A. The AA Service Manual, 20007-2008 Edition: 1. Consider paragraph titled "District Information" for inclusion in Chapter Three. Result: Advisory Action: The following new section and an illustration of the District Information Change Form (F43) will be added to Chapter Three of the AA Service Manual, after the section on redistricting: "District Information It is important that the district send information to the

area, GSO and to the local intergroup/central office, if applicable. While local, area and national offices communicate regularly, they have different purposes and different mailing lists. There may be one person in the area, frequently the area secretary or the area registrar, who is responsible for transmitting district contact information changes to GSO. One simple form has been developed to facilitate this, the District Information Change Form (F-43) shown on the following page. The form is used whenever a district elects a new DCM, DCMC or alternate DCM, or when any contact information for the DCM, DCMC or alternate DCM changes. When filling out the form, it is important to fill the sections in for the old information and for the new information, and to note at the top of the form the area and date when the new information will become effective." A. The AA Service Manual, 2007-2008 Edition: 2. Consider a suggestion to place a glossary of terms used in the AA Service Manual and the Twelve Concepts for World Service after the text of the AA Service Manual and directly preceding the index. Result: Additional Consideration: The committee considered the suggestion and took no action. Area 42 Registrar Report: Kevin B. 6 groups have registered or requested to be a listed group. 4 groups and 1 DCM updated their information for district 14 and 1 group for district 6. Still learning ... Thanks for letting me be of service.

Finance Committee Report: John D.

The finance committee (FC) has been working on the NAGSC guidelines and has proposed changes which are under a separate business item. We had written several other proposed changes but complexity got the better of clarity and we decided not to present them in their present form. While some existing paragraphs in the funding section of the NAGSC guidelines are poorly written, they are not impossible to comply with. We are also preparing a "NAGSC Treasurers' Survival Guide" with at least the following chapters: Overview of AA finance structure Interrelation of AA financial operations (Groups/Districts/NAGSC/Area42/GSO) How to record/maintain database Database format How to estimate expenses

How to estimate income Interaction with NAGSC officers Dealing with funding requests Recognizing danger points Preparing for the annual audit We intend to draw on existing AA documents for many parts of the survival guide, being constitutionally opposed to wheel reinvention.

One item which surfaced during the early work by the FC was a lack of consistency in recording and maintaining financial data. The treasurers' reports for the years 2004 through 2007 were all in one software program (excel) but in four different formats! Direct comparison of those years' finances was laborious and time-consuming. We intend to address this problem in detail over the ensuing months. Submitted in loving service, John D.

Area 42 Chair: Sophie K.

Sopie asked the attendees to please read the Area 42 Newsletter that will cover items to take to your groups, and be prepared with your group conscience and for q and a. Sophie explained the process for standing for a position and encouraged all to prepare resumes for August

Archivist Report: Roger R.

no report

Area 42 Webmaster Report: JD B.

no report

Chairperson Report: Ray G.

Ray reminded all present that the Northern Area Chair will be elected by the Assembly. Thanked his "team." Reminded the attendees to suggest participation at the MONEY MATTERS panel.

Old Business:

1. Discuss guidelines changes: Bay would like to set in motion the

Ray would like to set in motion the final corrections to be done. Ed deP. made a suggestion to appoint an ad hoc committee to review and recommend the changes to then be presented to the NAGSC body. The sense of the body was in favor of this suggestion. Ray asked for 5 volunteers to sit on the committee and elect a chair. Volunteers for the committee are Paul E., Kevin B., Patty P., John D., and Ed deP. They will meet with Ray after meeting.

2. Appoint the Grapevine Chair, or offer the position to any others interest. Jeannette B. offered to take the position. Ray will contact Scott B. and see if he is still interested, and make a decision. It is an appointed position.

New Business:

1. Feedback on the NAGSC and the Area Assembly roundtables. Sophie got feedback that report-backs should include reports from the northern and southern roundtable presenters, as well as from a roundtable recorder. Ed got feedback that was largely positive. Over the last assemblies there were items that confused some as to why we were discussing these. He suggested choosing the items more carefully to include items on which there might be an action taken. Patty couldn't hear well at the Tonopah roundtables because it was noisy in the room. The logistics made seating and hearing difficult. Paul agreed that roundtables are very informative. He liked the interaction between the participants. Sophie asked if we would prefer to have fewer, but "meatier" topics, or to get more information on a wider variety of topics. Most present agreed that roundtables are better served by "meatier topics". Lonnie asked that we be given roundtable topics from the south ahead of time to take to our groups. It was clarified that all this info is available on the website, in the newsletter. 2. Election procedures described by Sophie: Past or standing Trustees conduct the elections. 3_{rd} Legacy procedure, for each position all eligible give resumes and a 2 minute talk. First ballot, all candidates are voted on. The ballots are counted, if one candidate has 2/3 of the majority, they are elected. If not, go to the 2_{nd} ballot and repeat. If no candidate gets 2/3, all candidates getting less than 1/5 drop out. On the 3_{rd} ballot any candidate with less than 1/3 drops out. Then they motion to go to the hat, and whoever is picked is the elected officer. This is described on page s21 in the Service Manual, and on pages 9-10 of our Area guidelines. Voting members are GSRs, DCMs and area officers; each group has only one vote. Elected positions from the North will be: Delegate Alt. Area chair Treasurer Alt. secretary Registrar Archivist CPC Paul E. Northern Area 42 General Service **Cooperation with the Professional Community**

I attended the Area pre-conference assembly in Tonopah on April 4th, 5th, & 6th. There I found the round tables very informative and I look forward to hearing the Delegates report from Mike D. I went to Yerington on April 10th and did a presentation

for some high school students, parents, and some members of A.A. This seemed well received, I was able to talk with the vice-principal and give him some literature a Big Book and a 12 X 12 for the high school. Since then I have talked with Karen M who set up the meeting and introduced her to some of the members of ANNYPAA, to try and have some of them come down and do a panel presentation.

I went by Parole and Probation Dept. in Reno and checked and filled the literature rack there.

If a District would like me to come do a presentation please let me know so I can set up a date and time. Thank you for allowing me to serve Paul E.

*Ed asked how CPC at NAGSC differs from Northern Nevada Intergroup CPC. Paul described how Intergroup CPC meets with the medschool students, nursing students and doctors, and judicial conference members within Reno. Paul deals with all other CPC issues in our NAGSC areas. Paul suggests that NAGSC chairs meet with intergroup committee representatives to work cooperatively and avoid duplication of services. Corrections Sam H.

I recently received a letter from GSO along with a copy of a reply she had sent to an inmate at High Desert State Prison, asking that people be made aware that there are no meetings held in that facility and that they would welcome outside members to attend. They also are asking for literature to b e provided. I have asked some people to get the clearance forms. The procedure for clearance there is very involved. I have told them that when they were cleared I would get them the literature. We are still taking meetings into CCC which is next door, and to the Federal prison and camp at Herlong and also providing literature for them. (I am not allowed to attend the meetings at the Federal Prison) *The question was asked "where does the literature funding come from for district 20, which is in California"; Sam was told by Central Office in Reno that the pink cans only provide literature for Nevada, so Sam gets literature from Northern California C and T.

He also said that California H&I is the largest single buyer of literature from Alcoholics Anonymous. Grapevine,La Vina Chair No report

GSR Survival North Ed deP.

No new training done since Tonopah Assembly but District 20 has contacted me regarding a GSR class for their district sometime this summer and before the Fall Assembly. Support the Money Matters Panel; Reno June 28 1:30pm-3:30pm at the Triangle Club

GSR Survival South Dave M.

Not much to report. I have been asked to participate in a couple of things. First, being a co-speaker along with Roberta L. at the District 6 Founders Day Picnic June 15. I had heard they are a pretty tough crowd. So I'm really looking forward to it. 2nd, I've been asked to participate in a service workshop in Bishop July 20, along with Jason. I am really excited about the opportunity and look forward to the road trip and fellowship. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

NNIG Liason Steve Van W.

No report

PI Jackie A.

No report

Special Needs Susan B.

I have been busy in service and attended the Spring Festival held at the Circus Circus Casino in Reno on 4/01/08. During which I served coffee, sold mugs, read the 12 Traditions and was honored to share the stage with Bob H., guest speaker from Huntley Montana. I attended the May speaker meeting at the Grand Sierra Resort, where I distributed flyers promoting the special needs website that were created for Fall Assembly. I have been restocking the AA pamphlets and special needs flyers to all of my Reno area contact businesses that support special needs. We at District 16 have arranged our annual Christmas Affair Dinner Part-Raffle to be held on December 7th from 10am -8:30pm at 98 Richards Way, Sparks. Hope to see you all there. Yours in service-Susan

Treatment Facilities Mike G.

Not much to report. I have been in contact with Shirley, the intake coordinator at Northern Nevada Med Center and a workshop was agreed on. However a date has not been set. I have also done some secretarial work for GSO finding phone numbers for SAGS officers. As always thank you for allowing me to be of service. And thank you to everyone who has helped me in trying to set up workshops.

*there followed a discussion of the need for VA hospital meetings; it was suggested to call intergroup/central office for the sunshine committee to take meetings there. Newsletter Mike L.

June 23_{rd} is the last day for all area proposals to be in to

Sophie. June will be the next newsletter with information for the next Area Assembly. Information on lodging for the September Area Assembly will be in the next newsletter. As always we need service related articles.

*Mike asked for articles even though they are past the deadline for this issue

DCM Reports

* Please update your DCM info for the Chairperson*

2 Mark T.

No report

4 John D.

District 4 has changed its meeting schedule from monthly to "after NAGSC" meetings. We have been advised by a district 4 GSR that an AA member of a gay/lesbian group had been asked not to share at a "straight" meeting. The GSR gave no further details and has not attended a district 4 meeting since. We will pursue this matter as we know more. Aside from the foregoing, district 4 is self-supporting and has an active alternate DCM who will stand for DCM in the Fall. Submitted in loving service, John D.

6 Kevin B.

District 6 is doing well. Dist 6 is working on the district inventory-groups were asked to review questions and prioritize. The inventory is scheduled for July 13_{th} . The distr. is hosting a Founders Day Picnic on June 15_{th} in Genoa at the partk. There will be two speakers on the history of district 6 and AA. Dist. 6 will be sending the DCM to the Forum in August. Distr. 6 will be doing a service workshop during the Lake Tahoe Fall Festival in October.

8 Phil W.

Hi, in Dist 8 we have been working on creating a CPC-PI committee that will be working in the dist doing panels for schools, medical workers and also carrying the message to people who are referring people to AA.

Our group in Bridgeport has a new GSR, Laura P. I and a few others were really happy to celebrate her sober birthday last week. The group continues to meet on Wed. evening at 7 pm in the senior center in Bridgeport.

June Lake has a meeting at 6 pm every Wed. evening in the Community center. Dist 8 will be hosting a Service Workshop July 20th in Bishop at the community center at Highlands Mobil Home Park; the main topic will be 'Being of Service in your Home Group'. David M.GSR trainer and Jason C. Alt. Delegate will help out, with Jason giving a report from GSC, and Dave explaining how Home Groups benefit from General Service.

The High Sierra Group will play host to Bishop's White elephant, potluck speaker meeting the last Sat evening of July at Saint Timothy's, call or write for directions. The Mammoth Lakes Group will be hosting the High Sierra campout Aug.22-24th go to "mammoth lakes aa.com" or call Phil W.

Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to be of service Phil W.

10a Gene L.

Elko Group will be having it's campout in Aug this year, the 15th-17th.Sat. speaker will be Frank A from Sacramento and Sunday morning will be Maggie A. both from Sacramento. See me or contact me for more info.

10b Lizz T.

No report

12 Kathy S.

Fallon AA Campout @ Lahonton State Park on June 13-14. Sat. night. Speaker Mike D will come to give us a delegates report on June 10. I will be in Tonopah and told the GSRs at their last business meeting that anyone can stand for a position and that they should encourage all members to get into service. I was told that the Juvenile Probation office are not allowing minors to attend "adult" AA meetings as they feel that it is too dangerous for the kids. They are trying to start an AA meeting at the high school. Several members went to Yerington to give high school students a presentation. 20-30 kids attended.

14 Lonnie M.

Hi, I am the new acting DCM and Michael Y. is the new acting alternate DCM. We will review our guidelines before the end of the year. Starting to reach out to meetings in the outlying areas. Thinking about taking a district meeting to Sierraville. Thank you, Lonnie

16 Patty P.

We are still looking for A Christmas Affair Chairperson. It will be held at 98 Richards Way in Sparks on Sunday December 7. Anyone interested should come to the next district meeting at central office on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. We are also looking for a new place to meet, if you have a suggestion please contact me. Attendance at our meetings has been 6-9 people. I have contacted other groups and many of them said they didn't have anyone who would like to be a GSR. How do I get them to participate? 18 Susan S.

Nothing new to report. Last district meeting was cancelled due to "no shows" from other groups. Hopefully we will have participation next meeting which will be at the annual Topaz Lake (TRE) picnic on July 13. Another upcoming event is the first Sagebrush Group (Hawthorne) picnic/bbq. This will be held at Lions Park, Hawthorne, at 10:00am until whenever, on Sunday June 29. All are very welcome.

20 Lyle C.

District 20 meeting was in Susanville was in Susanville 5/17 with 12 attending. Update by members on outreach within the area to encourage participation. Altunas, Bieber, Chester, Greenville and Susanville had a good showing.

District 20's Campout is back. 7/11-13 at Camp Conery Lake Almanor.

GSR survival workshop with Ed D. is scheduled in Susanville. We had a request from inmates at High Desert to restart AA meetings. There is some interest from members of distr. 20. Working meetings out with High Desert is next. Teleservice has been updated with meeting lists and new 12 step lists from distr. 20.

22 Mariano

No report

Other business/concerns/comments:

Carol B. read from the Northern Area guidelines 5.3 a.

AA related Announcements:

Paul E. announced that:

June 3 at the Triangle Club, Intergroup is holding its elections at 7:00 pm June 14 Intergroup 98 Richards Way 11:00 am Annual Founders Day Picnic June 14 Grand Sierra Resort Annual Longtimers Speakers Meeting 7:00 pm Motion to adjourn, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 3:50 Area Website: http://www.nevadaarea42.org NEXT MEETING: August 3 695 D St. Hawthorne, NV Minutes Submitted by Carol H. NAGSC Secretary