

Minutes of District 7 Meeting - 4/8/2020: On-line Format

Open with Serenity Prayer

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DCM Report: Shane: Spoke about the next Online Area 48 Event Delegates Day 4/11 10a-1pm

<https://aahmbny.org/virtual-delegates-day-april-11-zoom-meeting/>

Where they voted on the Delegates Questionnaire: to view questions go to this link:

<https://aahmbny.org/test/>

Online Meetings Information: Initially when the pandemic started our district had a shared informational website with districts 16 & 15, then it was shifted to our Area's website at www.aahmbny.org where they created an online meeting finder: <https://aahmbny.org/meetings/?tsml-day=any&tsml-distance=100&tsml-mode=me&tsml-type=ONL>

In transferring the information from our district website to the areas website, some information accidentally was deleted and we will do our best in New Business to correct this.

Also in regards to Online Safety for Meetings: here are two informational links to help us safeguard against trolls during our meetings:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206330935-Enabling-and-adding-a-co-host>

<https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2020/02/14/secure-your-meetings-zoom-waiting-rooms/>

Shane also shared the Statement of Meetings In Person from the Area's website during the pandemic:

<https://aahmbny.org/i-am-responsible-we-are-responsible/>

In closing for his report Shane wanted to thank all of the groups that are keeping AA alive and running through this time and to also thank the Area, District and AA as a whole for all of the work that is being done to keep everyone connected.

Alt-DCM Report: Mary: Nothing much to report other than being grateful for the meetings that are continuing to go on through new online and phone platforms.

Secretary's Report: Eileen: If there are any corrections to be made to minutes, please email them to Eileen at district7secretary@aahmbny.org. Accepted as written

Treasurer's Report: Ethan: See Attached Report. Mike reminded Ethan to send payments for the 1st Quarter for the Answering Service and to pay rent that is due to the church. He also volunteered to go to the Post Office and the Bank to help Ethan.

Accessibility Report: Pat: Not in attendance

Records: Andrea: Grateful to Tara in District 16 and Gretchen the Area 48 Registrar for helping with inputting all of the updated information for the new on-line meetings for records for our District. Andrea was overwhelmed by the shift of the on-line format but can easily stay on to work on the printed list and can continue to make any changes for GSRs for their meetings and their contact information updates.

Paid the invoice for the InDesign Program for the layout of the printed meeting lists that we split with Districts 16 & 15 (\$75 per District). Andrea wanted that to be her personal contribution to AA.

There was a motion to have the District to reimburse Andrea for her money and it was decided to table that motion till the following month.

Bridging the Gap: Anne: Waiting to hear about anonymity and zoom meetings during our District Meeting.

Answering Service: Mike: Was able to give six names to Ron at Family of Woodstock for the Answering Service and also has given them information about how to access the new on-line meetings. This same Ron is a contact for both Radio Kingston and WDST and was asking if we want to send him more PSA's or if Melissa our PI Chair has done both stations, because several of us have heard her PSA for Radio Kingston! Shane volunteered to reachout to Melissa about this contact.

Corrections Report: Ted: Nothing to report, but had this thought: that he will reach out to Karl the Area Corrections Chair to see if he has suggestions as how we could help these facilities during this pandemic time.

Treatment: Patty: Treatment Facilities have shifted or closed their doors at this time due to the pandemic. Spoke with Kevin the Area Treatment Chair about how he is trying to help Never Alone to get on-line meetings in there.

Public Information: Melissa: Not in Attendance

Cooperation with the Public Community: Melissa J: Not in Attendance but reached out to let us know that she had nothing new to report

Functions: Liz: Not in Attendance but reached out to let us know that she had nothing new to report.

Grapevine: Tracy: Not in Attendance

NEW BUSINESS: The 7th Tradition in the World of On-line Meetings: exploring options like Paypal vs. Venmo. Sunrisers created a website for their on-line meetings <http://sunriserswoodstock.com/> and they are using Paypal and that is working well for them. There were suggestions to have a contribution button made on the District or Area websites for contributions and then also a suggestion to see what the Area is proposing for donations. **** Please see the attached Area 48 April Newsletter for their latest proposal on 7th Tradition Donations****

GSR Reports:

Craig -Saturday Morning After: Had their business meeting and are sending \$100 to GSO and are paying rent for the next three months and they have moved their meeting to a phone only meeting.

Mary: Alt GSR: Hands of AA: They have not set up an online or phone meeting and they are not meeting in person.

Mike: Fresh Start: Has had three On-line meetings and has had people all over the world attend. At this point they are only doing a Beginners Meeting and are reading out of the 12n12.

Clara: Sobriety First: there is no activity for their meeting at this time. They are looking for an online meeting for their group member Mary to celebrate at the end of the month. Both KO and Just for Today volunteered as places to celebrate, Clara will reach out to Mary to see what she would like to do.

Kurt: Young and Young at Heart: Had an On-line celebration for Patrick S for his 4 years. Good attendance for the on-line format. Raised the question about what we should do about collecting on-line donations?

Kim & Elena: Sunrisers: spoke about how they created their website for their group:

<http://sunriserswoodstock.com/> where they have posted their readings for their specific meetings, a virtual basket through paypal and their links to attend their on-line meetings. They raised the questions: What are groups doing to protect their anonymity in this new format? And has anyone experienced any on-line trolls at their meetings? We then referenced the safety guidelines that are suggested and the links that Shane shared and no one reported that the local meetings have experienced trolling as of that date.

Other Members Suggestions were:

Mike: Have two or more hosts for each meeting to share the responsibility for safety

Tonya: shut off the sharing settings and that she has only experienced trolling in the larger out of town meetings

Ted: wanted to remind us that most meetings of AA are open to anyone who has the desire to stop drinking and that he wanted to bring up these two points from his recent reading of Dr. Bob and the Good Old Timers: about being anonymous when giving our name out to the press and media but then when in AA that to not be so anonymous that other members can not reach you if they need help.

Zac: KYP: is on Zoom on thur @ 730pm and sat @ 9pm weekly. He believes the meetings are posted on the district site. We are password protected in Zoom. We have a co-host to help with trolling. We have not experienced any trolling.

Stone Ridge Men's: Kurt was able to reach out to Dan during the meeting and he said that they have not been meeting in person and may switch to an on-line meeting format.

OLD BUSINESS: the only Old Business was the discussion of having an AA meeting along with the Sober Cruise, we decided to table that issue to a later meeting due to the pandemic and Liz not being in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS Again!: went through our districts meeting list to see who we had to reach out to see if they have been uploaded to the Area On-line Meeting finder properly.

Clara had a suggestion that since the pandemic that she has been going through her contacts in her phone to reach out to them to stay connected to other AAs and to see if they need help getting information for on-line meetings.

There were suggestions about reaching out to our elderly community to see if we can help them? At the bottom of the www.aahmbny.org online meetings page: <https://aahmbny.org/meetings/?tsml-day=1&tsml-distance=25&tsml-mode=location>

Is a Zoom Meeting Tutorial if anyone needs help navigating this new system.

Shane closed again with his gratitude for the members and all of the hard work that everyone has been putting out during these uncertain times.

Meeting closed at 8:00 PM with Responsibility Pledge

***** Please note the following Documents that are attached to this months minutes****

- 1. The March Treasurer's Report**
- 2. The Area 48 March Newsletter**
- 3. The Area 48 April Newsletter**