

**AREA 60 OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL SERVICE, INC.**

*www.wpaarea60.org*

MINUTES – 2nd QUARTERLY MEETING

May 15, 2016

COMFORT INN- PENN HILLS, PA

**A.A.'s Declaration of Unity**

*"This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; To keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives; And the lives of those to come."*

**OPEN** with Declaration of Unity @ 10:17, John R.

**READING** by attending member, Susan, Alt DCM 27: Appointed Committee Members

**ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS, Becky C., Rec Sec:** TOTAL SIGN-INS: 72 VOTING MEMBERS: 37\*

**4 Elected Officers:** Delegate, Alt Delegate, Chairperson, Secretary

**10 Service Coordinators, Appointed Officers, & Alts:** Recording Secretary, Registrar, Alt Treasurer, Grapevine, Newsletter, Website, Archivist, Archives, Literature, Alt. CPC/PI

**4 Past Delegates:** Panel 55, Panel 57, Panel 61, Panel 63

**17 DCMs from Districts:** 01, 07, 08, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 27, 28, 51, 52, 61, 70

**8 Alt. DCMs from Districts:** 01, 03, 08, 11, 16, 24, 27, 28

**25 GSRs from Districts:** 01[2], 02[1], 03[1], 10[1], 11[3], 14[3], 17[2], 21[5], 22[1], 24[1], 27[2], 28[2].

**5 Interested Persons from Districts:** 01[2], 14[1], 17[1], 27[1],

\* Some individuals hold more than one position, so numbers may not appear to add up.

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT, John K.:**

- ♦ Attended last State Convention meeting in April. Satellite location set up in State College, saving John K at least 100 miles of driving. Area 60 will have a Service Panel themed "Our Primary Purpose" chaired by Jody K. They requested our Grapevine Coordinator attend the convention. The hope is for Areas 59 & 60 to rotate hosting the convention. Need volunteers. Would like the Alt Chair of the area(s) to chair the state convention. They are encouraging involvement from Area 60.
- ♦ Attended NERD in NH in March. Appreciate the Area sending him to meet & get to know other delegates in the Northeast. Participated in GAW. Panels were wonderful & participation in the committees was "awesome." Commended the work that the committees did on conference items.
- ♦ Doing quite a bit of CPC/PI work. George & John K. will be meeting with Peter Luongo, Class A Trustee & Exec. Director of IRETA to see how AA can cooperate with the organization.
- ♦ Will be visiting D25's meeting at the request of Tim T., DCM. End of June, will be attending D16, Clarion.

**DELEGATE'S REPORT, George K.:**

- ♦ "My feet have returned to earth" after attending the GSC. Will give a report on June 26th at Post-Conf. Assembly.
- ♦ Opening for Non-Trustee Director for AAWS board. Applications due July 1st.
- ♦ Opening for AAWS, Director of Publishing.
- ♦ George talked about trip to Pgh on Wednesday to meet w/Peter L., Class A trustee, to educate on what AA in Area 60 does (and does not do).
- ♦ Birthday Plan - George has envelopes. Idea is to send a donation on your sobriety date. One way that individuals can make a difference apart from home group/dist/area service.
- ♦ Attended NERAASA & NERD. Great workshops & panels. NERF, 2017 - not too early to start thinking about/saving for/planning to attend. Rich P. spoke at Conference about communication between GSO & the Delegates. He suggested "spiritual handshake" - realization that all of us share the love for A.A.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT, John R.:**

- ◆ Thought GAW weekend went well. Lot of positive feedback, a few complaints.
- ◆ Read voting procedure for Quarterly Meetings.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT, Jody K:**

- ◆ Discussed the role of secretary: Mailings to GSRs 3x a year for assemblies. If you provide an email address, you will also get the information for quarterly meetings 4x a year. Update the Confidential List & distribute to Area Committee. Will route inquiries to the right person.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT, Barb D., Alt Treasurer:**

- ◆ Finance Committee settled on budget for 2017, will be sent to OC & Area Committee at the 3rd Q for approval. Barb encouraged participation in the financial committee.

### **APPOINTED OFFICER REPORTS**

#### **Newsletter, Chad U.:**

- ◆ Thanks to D14 for help in distributing the SoS. This issue is 8 pages because of short time. Next issue will be 12 pgs. "Connecting to AA as a Whole" – due July 25, 250-400 words. Ideas, comments, articles can be sent to newsletter@wpaarea60.org.

#### **Registrar, Walter G.:**

- ◆ GIPs sent in December, a few have not come back. Important because it identifies trusted servants in groups. After May 5, GSO spends 3 months proofreading & changes aren't registered until that period ends.
- ◆ Has been calling people w/out listed emails & has the GSR contacts down from 500 postal to about 200. Has been making a lot of phone calls to do this – 840 registered groups, and people change positions often.

#### **Archivist, Al C. :**

- ◆ Attended 3 officers/coordinators meetings. No Days of Sharing or group anniversaries since last meeting.
- ◆ First time in some years that Archives had a committee meeting at GAW, resulting in several districts forming district archives committees (D1, D18, & D61, to name a few).
- ◆ Will be attending Aliquippa Monday Night Group's 74th Anniversary meeting on Monday, May 30th & D16's DoS June 25th in Clarion.
- ◆ Denis is still looking for an alternate.
- ◆ Donation of items from Vaughn H. (1956 Central Office meeting list), John W's family, and four boxes from Mary Margaret G.. Rec'd email from Bret M., GSR of Carnegie Overflow Group concerning some tapes a home group member would like to pass on.

### **SERVICE COORDINATOR REPORTS**

#### **Archives, Denis M.:**

- ◆ Has been collecting group histories & filing them in the binders kept in archives. Looking forward to D16's DoS. Will be setting up archives. Have rec'd AA historical documents. Trying to form an archives committee. Willing to come to District meetings to help districts set up archives.

#### **Grapevine, Tom C.:**

- ◆ GAW was very good. Went over 4 publications in committee. Has had a lot of phone calls since then. Hoping to set up meetings w/Grapevine coordinators in each district.

#### **Literature, Rick O.:**

- ◆ Had an interesting discussion at GAW in committee about changing the BB ("not gonna happen"). Call if you need anything.

#### **Website, Hubert H.:**

- ◆ If you visit the district page on the website & it is in need of corrections, let him know. Hubert saves them up until there are a few changes to be made, as there is a fee each time.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a.) Review of 2016 Area 60 Calendar, John R.: See Agenda Calendar

## NEW BUSINESS:

### **a.) Bid for Days of Sharing 2016:**

- ◆ Steph. P., DCM D17. Working w/D41 to co-host DoS on Oct 22. Do not need seed money. Mount Calvary Church in Johnstown. Turned in flyer to be discussed & approved at next OC meeting.

### **b.) Regional Site Report - None**

### **c.) Special election for Alt. Chair** (GSRs included as per Area 60 guidelines in voting for an elected position). No one stood. Held over for Post Conference Assembly.

### **d.) Bequest of a large sum of money:**

- ◆ **George K.** explained the phone call he rec'd from attorney representing the estate of a deceased A.A. member who left a large sum (+\$85K) of money to GSO & Area 60. GSO will only accept \$5K.
- ◆ **Jean M** Pointed out that an individual can only give \$5k to GSO, but the Area is not bound by this. She stated that it would concern her if the Area found itself with more than \$80k. She stated that the Area can donate the excess of \$5K to GSO.
- ◆ **Genevieve** sees the concern, but is curious if the person donating this knew the limitations. Asked if there was a way to set up a trust of sort to distribute the money over a longer period of time. George K. stated that the attorney would not be interested in setting up another trust.
- ◆ **Charley G.** asked for clarification of Genevieve's comments.
- ◆ **Chad U.** suggested refilling the Area prudent reserve & donate the rest to GSO.
- ◆ **John L.** discussed Rockefeller's donation of \$5K to keep Bob & Bill going. Is in favor of accepting & donating the excess to GSO.
- ◆ **Chuck H.** talked about donating to districts that support the Area 60.
- ◆ **Jan H.** suggested checking with accountant for tax ramifications & limits of what we can earn as a 501(c)(3) without it becoming taxable.
- ◆ **John R.** donations over \$55K are taxable for nonprofit. Under \$250K does not have inheritance tax. In favor of donating excess to GSO.
- ◆ **Yvette N.,** need to prayerfully & spiritually consider this situation. Concerned that districts will stop practicing self-support in donations to Area. Will be having coffee on Tues. w/accountant & will be happy to discuss it.
- ◆ **Terri H.** Keep it simple. Are we voting today or are home groups going to have a say?
- ◆ **Tony P.** - Can't we divide it 4 ways & send to Pgh Central Office, Grapevine, Area 60 & GSO?
- ◆ **Jody K.:** Sending the excess money (beyond \$5K) to GSO is a back door to GSO's guidelines.
- ◆ **Don S.** Looking at this as a problem, not an opportunity. We're talking like we'll screw it up.
- ◆ **Larry R.:** Take what's allowed under GSO guidelines.
- ◆ **Unidentified:** Does this discussion divert us from our Primary Purpose?
- ◆ **Cyndi C.:** Traditions designed to save us from ourselves. Would like to see something in writing that states excess of \$5K be sent to GSO so that we don't find a way to keep the rest.
- ◆ **Jean M:** Was the donor a member? Pointed out the profits from conventions & events donated to GSO well in excess of \$5K. Suggests we need more information to make a decision. George K. stated he could not predict consequences of delaying a decision.
- ◆ **Glen C.** suggested putting it off for a couple of months but if there needs to be a vote today, he makes motion to accept it all, donate over \$5K to GSO.
- ◆ **Terri H.** Asked for clarification of guideline - only \$5K from an individual. Is an estate an individual?
- ◆ **Joe S.** Encouraged delaying vote. Talk about group donations.

- ♦ **Glen C. motion made to accept all of the money available to us, keep \$5,000, pass excess on to GSO. John K. In favor – 25. Against – 12.** Minority: Jan H would like a consult w/accountant before accepting any amount. Jean M. offered friendly amendment to allow Officers & Coordinator to make any additional decision that needs to be made based upon consultation with accountant & the attorney. **Changed votes: 22 for, 15 against. Motion Fails. Sense of the Room: Table until Post Conference Assembly.**
- ♦ **Chuck H.** suggested George talk to GSO to find out if they would accept the excess of \$5K.

#### DCM REPORTS, John R..

- ♦ **D01, Chuck J, DCM:** • Meets 1st Wed. of each month @ St. Johns Reformed Church. 38 groups w/29 represented. All committees are now filled. • Red Door is now open, not closed meeting. • 4th July event, Northshore, Pavilion 6, Tickets \$5.
- ♦ **D07, Cyndi C, DCM:** • 15 groups in Mt. Lebanon. • Need alternates for coordinator positions. 6 GSRs attended GAW. • Will be co-hosting DoS w/ D's 4, 11, 21, 70. Hoping for September. • Updating meeting lists, should be out by June.
- ♦ **D08, Jane R., DCM:** • Meet every Sunday after area meetings @ 3pm, St. John Mark Lutheran Church in Homestead. 27 groups in district, 8-10 participate. • 2 anniversaries last quarter – both w/69 years (Clairton & Homestead) Jefferson Hospital 38th Group Anniversary on 5/25. • Steeltown Group Anniversary on 5/23. • D8 Picnic, Sat. 6/25 @ Renzie Park, McKeesport.
- ♦ **D11, John L., DCM:** • Last Dist. meeting 5/12/16. Meet 2nd Thurs. 12-15 groups represented. • Working on DoS w/Ds 7, 11, 14, 21, 70. • One home group had an ASL interpreter for the hearing impaired. • Continuing to serve alcoholics in 4 rehabs on a weekly basis. • Planning workshop for Tradition 7, will ask Area 60 to be part of it. • Thinking of having an archivist for district.
- ♦ **D14, Glen C., DCM:** • 1/2 of 33 GSRs represented at meeting. • St. Ann's Sat. Night in Waynesburg meeting now @ 7:30pm. • Prosperity Sun Night in Prosperity meeting now @ 7pm. • Literature in magistrates' offices is going good; taking mostly meeting lists. • D14 picnic 8/28/16 @ Sunset Beach Park, Claysburg.
- ♦ **D15, Greg W., DCM:** No report., thanked Area for wonderful time at GAW. Also thanked those who hosted Alkathon.
- ♦ **D16, Marty T., Alt DCM:** • Requesting seed \$ for DoS. • 31 groups in Dist. Meet 2nd Mon. • 2 meetings dropped from list. • DoS committee is formed. 2 of 3 panels filled.
- ♦ **D17, Steph P., DCM:** • Meet bi-monthly at Veterans home in Hollidaysburg. • Wayne S. new Corrections Coordinator. • Handed out several birthday plan envelopes to GSRs for their groups. • Hope to co-host DoS w/D41 in October. Has a committee of 7 people for it.
- ♦ **D18, Charley G., DCM:** • Meet 2nd Wednesday, 8pm @ Pine Grove Community Center. 6 of 13 groups represented. • 17 members went to see the AA historical sites in Akron on 4/23. • Continue to update our website & average 116 visits/wk. • Grove City Tuesday Group began its monthly picnics. • Corrections Chair has received from groups old Grapevines, BBs, & 12&12s to take into Mercer State Prison. • Exploring possibility of hosting Area 60 Q mtg. • Exploring interest in a golf scramble or bowling night.
- ♦ **D19, Erik K., DCM:** • Attendance has been a little low at D meetings, but things are going well. • Taking meetings into jail & hospital. • Doing inventory in District a few items at a time.
- ♦ **D21, Jen A., Secretary:** • Meets Last Monday of every month, 6:30pm @ 1st Unitarian Church, corner of Morewood & Ellsworth in Shadyside. • Working on DoS for 9/24/16 w/Ds 7, 4, 11, 21, 70. Location TBD. Flyer will be ready on 6/12 to be presented at Post Conf. Assembly.
- ♦ **D24, Mike D., DCM:** • Met last 5/5, 6pm @ Central United Methodist Church in Beaver Falls. 10 of 15 groups represented. 2 GSRs have fulfilled 2 year commitment w/one new GSR taking the place of outgoing GSR. • Functions Committee is teaming up with D25 to create a summer picnic in July &

possibly a NYE party. • 2 members have been taking meetings to the Beaver County Jail. • Some members of D24 are organizing a bus trip to Founder's Day on 6/11.

- ♦ **D25, Tim T., DCM:** • 17 of 25 groups represented at district meeting 3rd Thursday, 6:30pm, @ 1st Presbyterian Church in Beaver. 12 new GSRs. • District voted to contribute money to NY. Literature expense, \$600. PI/CPC – group participation. • Corrections/Treatment – Beaver County Jail full participation. • Invited Area committee to 74th Anniversary of Aliquippa Group on 5/30. • Ds 24/25 summer picnic in July, Brady's Run Park.
- ♦ **D27, Susan G., Alt DCM:** • Meets 1st Sunday of month (following week in event of holiday) @ Allegheny Valley Hospital, Room 4C on 3rd Floor. Half or more GSRs & 5 committee chairs participate. Begin meeting w/Serenity Prayer & read a Concept each month. • Hosting picnic 7/17/16 w/Debbi F. chairing the event. • Alt DCM Susan G. led first home group workshop, hosted during meeting time w/topics derived from Ask-It Basket. 2 or 3 speakers present & then open the meeting to discussion. Apollo BB hosted the first workshop on Spirituality.
- ♦ **D28, Don S., DCM:** • Meet 3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm @ Laird Hall, Murrysville. About half of 23 groups represented. • Meetings in Torrance, Gateway, Jail, hospital, Literature in magistrates offices. • Traditions workshop hour before District meeting. • District Picnic in September. • Bus trip/DoS alternating years.
- ♦ **D51, Larry R., DCM:** • Meet 3rd Sunday, 6:30pm @ MMC, Grove St. Conference Room. 7 of 13 groups represented. • All groups in D51 doing good :) • We hold a detox/rehab on Tuesdays @ Stepping Stones, 8pm, & jail meetings. • July 15, Friendship Group Friday Night Annual picnic @ Bi-Centennial Park @ 5pm, speaker @ 7pm. • July 23, D51 Annual Picnic, 11am-5pm.
- ♦ **D52, Joseph S., DCM:** • Meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30pm @ 1st Methodist Church, Sharon, PA. 8 of 17 groups represented. • Covering articles in Box 459, Fall 2010: "Disruptive Members" & AA & the Law" precipitated by a couple of members being threatening & subsequently arrested for charges outside of meetings. • Focusing on 7th Tradition for our groups in an effort to educate them on donations, prudent reserves, what is and is not 12 step work as to finance, financial status for district, Area 60, & GSO. • Mercer Wed. Night anniversary on 5/25. Doors open at 5:30. D52 Picnic 7/23 @ Brandy Springs Community Center, Mercer, 11am-5pm. Mario D on 7th Tradition, Mary Alice of Erie, PA lead, 50/50, Chinese Auction.
- ♦ **D61, Marcia G., DCM:** • Suggested that DCM reports be given earlier in the meeting so that more people are present for them. • D61 covers Lawrence County & small part of Beaver County. • Meets 1st Friday of month, 6pm @ Slippery Rock Presbyterian Church in Ellwood City. 19 meetings w/90-100% representation! • Reviewed inventory process for home groups. • Discussed upcoming vacancies at district level as quite a few trusted servants will be rotating out at end of year. Lit. Coordinator will be stepping down at end of July due to job opportunity. • Finances are in good shape, making quarterly donations to GSO, Area, Central Office. Valentine's Day Dance Fundraiser was a success. • Archives Coordinator and Corrections Coordinators are doing wonderful job. • Having a problem getting clearances for AA members as the one who handles this at Lawrence County Jail is on extended sick leave. • D61 is planning a picnic to celebrate one-year anniversary of answering service on 7/3 from noon-5pm @ Cascade Park, shelters 7 & 8 in New Castle. 50/50 raffle, Chinese auction, Karaoke, DJ, & corn hole. Tickets \$6, children 12 & under free. Benefits answering service & D61. Deserts welcome. • New Castle BB Step Study "Original Recipe Group" celebrating 2nd anniversary 6/13 at New Hope Wesleyan Church, New Castle, PA. • Sunday "Give It a Few More Weeks" meeting hosting picnic 5/22 from 3pm-dusk.
- ♦ **D70, Jon D., DCM:** • Meets 1st Fri., 7pm @ Baldwin Whitehall United Methodist Church w/6 or 7 of 7 groups represented. • PI has had success in getting literature into libraries. H&I takes three meetings/month into Gateway Pleasant Hills Outreach. • Large focus on putting together and distributing beginners packets to district meetings. • Very young district. Average age of attendees is late 20s. D70 workshop, "Safety in AA: Traditions 1 & 5" 7/18 @ Baldwin Whitehall United Methodist Church., 5001 Baptist Rd., Pittsburgh. Doors open @ 6pm, dinner @ 6:30, panel speakers @ 7pm. Free. Call Jon D. for more information.

**OPEN MIKE:**

**Jan H:** Requested that the secretary disseminate a break-down of the money/bequest issue & what was discussed & decided.

**Tim T:** Asked that follow up be done w/accountants & attorney to present clearly the issues w/bequest.

**Yvette:** pointed out that NERF flyers are available.

Closed meeting w/Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jody K.  
Area 60 Secretary