

District 33 February 2024 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: (10) Jen P, Steve P, Jennifer N, Jay K, George “Stu” S, Brent F, Steve H, John Q, Mike L, Jeff B

Open with Serenity Prayer

Tradition 2: Stu

Concept 2: Jay K

Secretary Report: Secretary Report emailed and printed and reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer Report: Jay K - Checking account balance is \$2,043.83 which with \$65.00 petty cash = \$2,108.83. With \$600.00 prudent reserve, our operating balance is \$1,508.83. We still have 2 outstanding checks yet to be cashed related to the joint workshop from the Fall for \$223.69 and \$27.06. Our functional operating balance with those considered is \$1,258.08. Report reviewed and accepted.

DCM Report: Jen P

- Jen forwarded the email from the Delegate with the final agenda items for the 74th General Service Conference.
- The Area 59 Alternate Delegate has resigned. Jen forwarded this information the prior month. There has not been an Area meeting since that happened but Jen has since talked to the Delegate and he is going to be distributing the responsibilities of the Alternative Delegate equally among all the officers on this current panel to make sure everything gets taken care of through the end of the panel.
- Jen also forwarded an email where they are looking for story submissions for the “Do You Think You’re Different” pamphlet.
- Jen also forwarded the final program for 2024 NERAASA. It is also available online.
- The Grapevine book Prayer and Meditation has been released on audio book. It is available on aagrapevine.org.
- Jen included in her DCM report email an email from World Services with some highlights.
- Reminder: Review the 74th GSC agenda items with your group. It is lengthy. The background info should be released the weekend of NERAASA. Jen will forward when she gets it. Because there is a lot on there, Jen suggests going through and picking items important to you and encourage your group members to do that same. Then discuss just the ones your group feels most important.
- Jen also listed some upcoming events from Area 59’s website which are also available there.

Intergroup report: Mike L

- Before the next February RBI meeting and starting at 5:30 they are having an orientation / training session for new Intergroup reps. They are also starting a mentor program with that for the new reps to be paired with existing reps.
- All commitments were filled again.
- Hotline needs female volunteers that speak Spanish.
- The Archives position is open.
- Unity held the Alcathon and it went well although slightly over-budget. But they also reported taking in 7th Tradition contributions that seems to more than cover the amount they were over-budget. Unity also proposed to pay less for rent than had been agreed to in the beginning. That motion was not passed. It was decided to pay the original amount agreed upon and not accept any special treatment just because we are AA.
- Prisons doing well.
- Bridging the Gap has 2 calls this months but they were not able to connect with the candidates who asked for assistance.
- Visitations visited 6 groups in December.
- The General Fund is still negative after the prudent reserve (i.e. there’s money but it goes into the prudent reserve). The Activities Fund is also low due to just having the Alcathon and its related costs.
- Steve mentioned few points. The forms for volunteers for the prison commitments are new for 2024. There are no longer separate forms for the men and women. They also no longer go through the prison chairperson; they have to go directly to

the prison. Also, Clare of Assisi has closed. There is also a QR code to access a real time listing of available commitments and where you can sign up for commitments for your group.

Workshop: Mike L

- We discussed re-scheduling our District Inventory that was canceled due to weather back in January. We tentatively decided to hold it April 27th. Jen will check with the church. Same time, 11 AM to 2 PM.

PI / CPC: Jen P

- The committee is trying to pair with all the districts in Berks County to do outreach to the schools. District 33 already has a very active PI committee with Mike Y's work. We have been to all the District Justices in D33 and have put Big Books and 12 and 12s in the libraries in our territory. The other 2 districts are not quite as active.
- The RBI PI / CPC committee is looking for help from the Districts with going into the schools – high schools and colleges. Jen handed out a plan for the schools in D33. To show the importance of this work, Jen also passed out a tally of the Estimated Worldwide A.A. Individual and Group memberships. Membership has consistently fallen over the past 2 decades from a high of ~2,200,000 in 2001. The PI goal is to reach the still suffering alcoholics with education about what alcoholism is, what it is not, and how to find us following the principal of attraction vs. promotion.
- The schools in D33 are Brandywine H.S., Fleetwood H.S., Hamburg H.S., Schuylkill Valley H.S., Muhlenberg H.S., Reading – Muhlenberg Vo-Tech, and Kutztown University.
- The plan is to offer the schools a Big Book for their libraries, some pamphlets, and some info cards. RBI already has a stock of displays for the pamphlets and info cards we can use and they are going to use some free flyers the GSO already has out there.
- The estimate cost per school is \$25.50 but this can be reduced if we team with the other districts and order the needed literature in bulk.
- The list of schools is tentative based on what they could determine is in D33. Jennifer N. pointed out Kutztown H.S. was missed. Mike L. brought up Berks Career and Tech. Center, East and West Campuses but they are not in D33. One is in 66 and the other in 67. (There are some really undefined lines between the districts.)
- The total cost for D33 would be \$204 (note revised amount from Jen's hand out to include Kutztown H.S.).
- Steve P pointed out while the main goal is to reach students, we will also reach faculty and guidance counselors. Again, the main goal is education, not promotion.
- Brent F also added they we might want to address the schools' Student Assistant Program, SAP. That is the group within the schools that would be most in-line with handling these issues.
- Please take this info back to your groups and reach out to Mike or Jen with questions or if you want them to come to your group.

Grapevine:

GROUP REPORTS

The Bottom of the Barrel Group:

Come as You Are: Jay K – Sundays at 7 PM. They are doing good and get about 18 people in person, 3 to 4 on Zoom. One person is especially thankful they still provide Zoom as she cannot see well enough to drive at night. They did pretty good Super Bowl Sunday which was surprising. Their Winter Soirée on Jan. 28th had a great turn out and was also District Night Out. Jay thanked the District.

End of the Line:

Glenside:

Hamburg Thursday Night BB:

Kutztown Group: Brent F – Thursdays and Fridays at 7 PM. They are holding steady with their attendance and meetings.

Kutztown Sober Living: Steve H – Mondays at 7 PM. Their numbers do not fluctuate too much. They are usually between 15 and 20 at every meeting. They are moving along slowly with changing some of the format of their meeting. They have a new treasurer. They are going to hold an Inventory.

Leesport Group: John Q – Saturdays at 9:30 PM. They are holding their own and pretty steady. They were having their Start Your Day Over with Pancakes the Saturday following the District Meeting.

Mustard Seed:

New Life: Chris H – Fridays at 8 PM.

Live and Let Live:

Shoey Group:

Spirit of Recovery: Mike R – Mondays at 7 PM.

Sunday Morning Speaker: Stu – Sundays at 11AM. Our attendance has gotten back up since the holidays and the weather events the first 2 Sundays of January; approx. 30-35 attendance.

Time to Start Living: Eric D – Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:30 PM.

Topton: Jeff B – Tuesdays at 7 PM. They are doing pretty good. During COVID they were down to just 2 people, sometimes just 1 or none. They have 7 active home group members that are regularly attending. Their attendance otherwise is usually 12 to 15. They attract a lot of visitors from the Lehigh Valley area. They used to be 8 PM before changing to 7 based on group conscious. With that they lost 3 regulars but picked up 1. So they are considering changing to 7:30 PM to compromise. This year will be their 30th Anniversary and they are looking at April 2nd for a celebration event, times yet to be determined. The group's founding members are still with us (one in Pittsburgh and one in Whitehall) and they are being invited to share the group's history and their experience.

Underground Garage: Jennifer N – Wednesdays and Sundays at 7 PM. Their attendance has been steady, slightly lower on Sundays with football and Super Bowl Sunday was bad but looking good now with football season over.

Old Business:

- We deferred discussion on the prior approved motion to donate \$50 to the PI / CPC committee.
- We discussed the Grapevine subscriptions to the prisons. Steve will follow up with Mike Y to see if he can pass the info along to Nikki P to renew those.

New Business:

District Night Out: We attended the Come As You Are Group's Winter Soirée on January 28th. Great turnout with lots of really good food. Nikki P was the speaker. D33 had 6 in attendance (Steve P, Jennifer N, Stu, Charlie T, Jay K, and Nikki P). Thank you for attending!

Date: 2/15/2024

Next District Night Out: We will be attending The Bottom of the Barrel Group on Tuesday March 12th. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM and the location is Maiden creek Church at 261 Main Street in Blandon.

Next Month's Tradition (3): Brent F

Next Month's Concept (3): Stu

End with the Responsibility pledge

DMC: Jen P **ADCM:** Steve P **Secretary:** George "Stu" S **Treasurer:** Jay K **Grapevine:** Nikki P

Workshop Coordinator: Mike L **Intergroup Liaison:** Mike L **Officer at Large:** Mike Y **PI/CPC:** Mike Y

