

GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY
Area 55, Panel 66 NW Ohio & Monroe Michigan
P.O. Box 401 Toledo, OH 43697-0401 www.area55aa.org

Delegate: John C.

419-340-9646

Alt. Delegate/Area Chair: Henry C.

419-472-1091

Meeting Minutes For April 17, 2016

Henry C. opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Katy K. read the Mission Statement, James K. read the 3rd Tradition and Hazel S. read the 3rd Concept. Ron L. was to read the 4th Tradition but he was not in attendance. Ron S. read the 4th Concept. Area 55 Panel 66 officers were introduced: Chris C. – Mailing Secretary, Jackie B.– Recording Secretary, Rachel W.– Registrar, Marty C.—Treasurer and John C.– Delegate. Signed In were: 2 DCMs, 1 DCMC, 27 GSRs, 3 Alt GSRs, 2 Past Delegates, 1 Webmaster and 4 Guests. New GSRs introduced themselves as follows: Neal M., Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday Night Friendship (Lima), Chris D., Goodwill Group (Toledo), Richard M., North End Group (Toledo), Bill F., Wayne Group (Toledo) and Kathleen K., Sober Women’s Big Book (Toledo.) Only GSRs, DCMs or their alternates may make motions or vote, although everyone has the right to be heard. We will from now on be using everyone’s first and last names at the meeting and in the minutes.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Jackie B.

Recording.secretary@area55aa.org

February 2016 Meeting Minutes were presented by Jackie B. No errors were noted. Motion to accept was made by Tim D., Came To Believe and seconded by Sherry S., Reno Beach Sobriety. Motion carried. **Please note: Committee meeting minutes may also be submitted electronically by e-mail to Recording.Secretary@area55aa.org. Reports need to be submitted the day of the Area Assembly for the mailing to be completed on time. Thank You!**

TREASURER: Marty C.

Treasurer@area55aa.org

The reports for February, March and the Mini-Conference were presented by Marty C.

Beginning Balance January 31, 2016	\$1,444.81
Income	<u>1,148.28</u>
Total	\$2,593.09
Expenses	<u>1,758.18</u>
Total	\$ 834.91
Checkbook Balance February 29, 2016	\$ 834.91
Prudent Reserve Account	
Beginning Balance January 31, 2016	\$3,000.78
Interest	.05
Ending Balance February 29, 2016	\$3,000.83
 Mini Conference 2015	
Beginning Balance January 31, 2016	\$ 615.00
Income	1,035.90
Total	\$1,650.90
Expenses	<u>0.00</u>
Ending Balance February 29, 2016	\$1,650.90

Motion to accept the February report was made by Amy S., Downtown Group and seconded by Chip P., Findlay Thursday Night Open Lead. Motion passed.

Beginning Balance February 29, 2016	\$ 834.91
Income	<u>1,899.67</u>
Total	\$2,734.58
Expenses	<u>1,329.23</u>
Checkbook Balance March 31, 2016	\$1,405.35
Prudent Reserve Account	
Beginning Balance February 29, 2016	\$3,000.83
Interest	.05
Ending Balance March 31,2016	\$3,000.88

Motion to accept the March report was made by Amy S., Downtown Group and seconded by James K., Missions for Traditions. Motion passed.

2016 Mini Conference Final Report	
Checkbook Balance December 31, 2015	\$ 515.00
Income	<u>5,826.70</u>
Total	\$6,341.70
Expenses	<u>4,690.48</u>
Ending Balance March 31, 2016	\$1,651.22

\$300.00 Deposit has been made out of the Mini Conference account for the March 2017 Mini Conference to the Holiday Inn, Perrysburg.

Marty asked for a motion to deposit all but \$500.00 of the Mini Conference account balance to the General Service account. This would be a total of \$1,151.22 (which includes the deposit of \$300.00 already made to the Holiday Inn Perrysburg as noted above.) Motion to do this was made by Tim D., Came to Believe and seconded by Sherry S., Reno Beach Sobriety. Motion carried.

In March, of the 310 registered Groups in Area 55, 19 Groups made contributions this month or 6.12% and Year to Date 47 Groups or 15.16%.

Is your Group Helping Support Area 55 General Service?

COMMITTEE REPORT

ARCHIVES Committee: Patty B.

Archives.chair@area55aa.org
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Archives was displayed at the Mini-Conference in March. They had a panel which was great. Scott M. gave report. Patty met with Nancy M. at Central Office on 3/22/16 and she met with Deborah A. at Central Office on 3/29/16. Archives was displayed at the Oregon Happy Hour Anniversary on 4/3/16. Whitehouse's Anniversary on 4/29/16 is the next commitment. Sober Women's Big Book has asked Archives to display for their Anniversary on May 4th and Came To Believe has asked Archives to display at their Anniversary on June 5th, 2016. Patty purchased a shredder at Costco and has taken a box of paper home to shred. The cost of the shredder was \$49.99 plus tax for a total of \$57.24. She gave her receipt to Marty C. Respectfully submitted, Patty B., Chair

They did not have a meeting in March due to the Mini-Conference. The committee met on April 13th, 2016. On April 5th, the committee met with the support staff at Lakes by Common Gardens VA housing. They answered questions and left some literature for the residents there. On April 11th, the committee attended the Neighborhood Awareness Meeting at the Eleanor Kahle Senior Center. They answered questions and met with DART Officers. They were asked by Scott Sylak, Executive Director of the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County, if the committee can meet with him and his staff soon to talk about AA recovery. He stated that awareness was great but wanted to know where people can go to get started in recovery. Tentative date to meet with Scott is April 19th. On April 14th, the committee set up a display for the Hope, Health and Healing Awareness meeting at St. Catherine's Parish. Upcoming commitment is at the Harbor Behavioral Health and Wellness Fair on May 19th. The committee was asked by the two new Drug Court Judges English and Cook for a meeting to discuss AA awareness in our community and about any past experiences, good and bad, with the Drug Court program. Next meeting is Wednesday, April 20th at Central Office at 7:00pm. Respectfully submitted, John K., Chair

MULTI-DISTRICT CORRECTIONAL CHAIR: Keith R.

The committee met on March 21st, 2016. Present were: Keith R., Jim S., Eric H., Dale S. and Nicole K. They opened with the Serenity Prayer. Updates on commitments as follows: Tuesday night Work Release—being covered by Keith R. and Steve S. This commitment needs help. They are covering it weekly with one long-standing committee member and covering the other week as they can. Toledo Prison—being covered by Dale S. and Joe S. is going well at this time. They are not having trouble getting people to lead there. Lucas County Jail—Men—is being covered by Keith R. Not currently doing a Thursday night meeting as the jail is not cooperating in a couple different ways. The meeting on Friday, which is run on the “Sober Living” floor, is going well and John R. is helping out when he can. Work Release Friday Night—being covered by Jim S. and Nicole K. Jim and Nicole alternate Friday nights. Meetings run smoothly when boundaries are established. Nicole has been introducing some traditions into the open discussion and Jim brings in a lead every other week to share their experience, strength and hope. Lucas County Jail Women's—covered by Kim. S. No update at time of committee meeting. Holland Driver Intervention—covered by Deb S. and Nick S. No update. Rossford Driver Intervention—Eric H. No update. Zepf Driver Intervention—Jim S. and Eric H. Both Jim and Eric established that they needed to get there early. At the meeting they went to prior to the committee meeting, it looked dark like no one was there. The attendees came to the meeting one minute prior to its start. This should be remedied already. New Business: The committee needs new members who are willing to make a commitment. The committee is trying to outreach to as many meetings as it can. Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be Monday, April 18th at Central Office at 5:30pm and after that at Central Office on May 16th as 5:30pm. Respectfully submitted, Keith R., Chair

GRAPEVINE Committee: Veronica N.Grapevine.chair@area55aa.org

Veronica N. gave their Financial Report for February and March as follows:

February	Beg Balance	\$428.46
	Income	<u>267.31</u>
	Total	\$695.77
	Expenses	<u>586.00</u>
	Ending Balance 2/29/16	\$109.77
March	Beg Balance	\$109.77
	Income	<u>310.55</u>
	Total	\$420.32
	Expenses	<u>0.00</u>
	Ending Balance 3/31/16	\$420.32

In March, the committee met at Bay Park Hospital. In attendance were: Patty, Michelle M., Jim B., Bob S., Jim, Lynn S. and Veronica N. They opened with the Serenity Prayer. They talked about upcoming anniversaries in March and beyond. They discussed when and where the committee will meet next and decided on April 14 at 6:00pm at Bay Park Hospital. They discussed changing where they meet but decided to remain at Bay Park Hospital until further notice. They closed with the Serenity Prayer. In April, Veronica spoke with all the committee members and they decided not to have a meeting because there was nothing new. They had no new commitments for April and only one coming up in May. They decided to have their next meeting on May 26th at 6:00pm at Bay Park Hospital. Respectfully submitted, Veronica N., Chair

GROUP SERVICES Committee: Steven G.GroupSer.chair@area55aa.org

In March, the committee met at the Navarre Park Shelter House on 3/14/16 at 7:30pm. Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. Present were: Steve G., Larnie P., Jeff K. and Ryan L. All commitments were met and they discussed upcoming commitments for April. They closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:45pm. In April, they met on April 12th at the Navarre Park Shelter House at 7:20pm. They opened with the Serenity Prayer. Present were: Steve G., David G., Larnie P., Jeff K. and Ryan L. They discussed upcoming commitments including the Women's Friday 12x12 Anniversary on 4/15/16 at 10:00am. They closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:40pm. Their next meeting will be at the Navarre Park Shelter House on May 9th, 2016 at 7:15pm. Respectfully submitted, Steven G., Chair

SPECIAL NEEDS: Jim L.

No Committee members present, no report.

INTERGROUP LIAISON: Derek L.

Reported from the Intergroup Meeting on 2/27/16. This year's Intergroup Anniversary Dinner Dance will be on Friday, October 21st, 2016 at the Parkway Plaza Main Room in Maumee. The Central Office committee reported that group contributions are down this year. Children's Christmas Party will be held on Dec. 11th at Reformation Lutheran Church. The Entertainment Committee needs members and will meet next on Thursday, 4/21/16, at 7:00pm at Central Office. Finance Committee reported that the annual Pig Roast will be held on July 16th at St. Lukes Lutheran Church at 20 S. Yondota Road in Curtice, OH. Prices are \$10 in advance, \$12 at

the door and Children age 10 and under are \$6. Hospital and Institutions committee will meet on April 12th at 6:30pm at Central Office. Newsletter committee said that articles for the next newsletter are due April 10th and the committee will meet on April 13th at 5:30 at Central Office. Intergroup's next meeting will be on Saturday, April 23rd. Dinner is being sponsored by Women's Slice of Serenity and will be served from 4:30pm until 6:30pm with the Intergroup Meeting to follow. Respectfully submitted, Derek L., Intergroup Liaison

WEB COMMITTEE: Josh D.

web.comm.chair@area55aa.org

Web Committee Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2016. The meeting opened at 11:30am with the Serenity Prayer. They opened the meeting with a discussion of the presentation of the Web Committee Guidelines. They then heard from Jim S. and discussed plans for putting the Area/District map on the Website. The committee decided to upload the current version of the map onto the area site. Web traffic is up. In the past 30 days, there have been 1,138 visits with 990 new users. The calendar remains lacking. If you are hosting an event, please email a flyer to web.comm.chair@area55aa.org. This could be a central access point but not without additional support. The committee has approached the Archives Committee about the digital archives and is looking forward to proceeding with them. Respectfully submitted, Josh D., Chair

OYPAA HOST: Bryan L./Lauren B.

Matt G. gave a report of their recent activities. Their meeting report is as follows: They had a Decade Dance last night (April 16, 2016) and want thank everyone who came out and supported them. Since the formation of the OYPAA Host Committee they have averaged about \$1500.00 profit for each one of their events and they are trying to host an event at least once a month in order to fund their upcoming State Conference in September of this year. In between all their activities and donations, they currently have an account balance right around \$6,500.00. They just want to thank, again, everyone in the Area who has supported them. At their meeting, Lauren B. opened with the Serenity Prayer. Introductions were made and anniversaries acknowledged. Josh explained what OYPAA is all about. Matt Gross spoke on Tradition 10 and Tony M. will be speaking on Tradition 11. Lindsey gave the Secretary's Report. Tony M. gave a detailed Treasurer's Report (as mentioned above.) Old Business: Kevin discussed some details as far as how the operation goes at the Kalahari Resort—walkie talkies, insurance policies, etc. Matt G. discussed the necessity for a sub-committee meeting for the Area 54 Panel. Ally also discussed and gave out flyers for their upcoming event which is a Summer Kick-Off Bonfire to be held May 21st. Flyers are being made available to us here today and to the groups. It's going to be like a volleyball, games, and barbeque type of event. Matt mentioned that the In-Reach and Out-Reach activities of their committee have been phenomenal. They have people going to different Areas almost every weekend. They are trying to do as much In-Reach as possible to raise awareness and share their experience, strength and hope. Adam also discussed doing advertising for their State Convention in other Areas' Newsletters to get the word out in other to other Areas. They approved doing this by majority vote. Merchandise sales are off and running and Shut-In needs and Web Site needs were also discussed. Respectfully submitted, Bryan L./Lauren B., Co-Chairs

AREA DELEGATE: John C.

Delegate@area55aa.org

There was no Delegate's Report today as John C. is at the annual General Service Conference in New York City.

DCM REPORTS

DCMC

Jim S., DCMC, Area 55, said the DCMs met today and discussed what is going on in their districts as of now. They displayed today a map of the Districts in our Area. Jim referred to this and asked everyone to take a look at it. Jim said they had a questionnaire at the Mini-Conference for all GSR's to fill out and he said about 70% knew what District they were in and about 50% knew who their DCM was. He said that he and the DCMs will be re-districting the Area because the map is not perfectly correct and they want to get the District map on the Web Site. They will have their next meeting at 11:30am here at the Senior Center before the next General Assembly. Jim said they are also thinking about meeting before the workshops they present at the workshops' locations and are sticking to a monthly meeting schedule for right now.

District 3

Their meeting was on March 30th at the Eastside 12x12 meeting. Had sixteen people attend their meeting. They started at 5:30pm and opened with the Serenity Prayer. Most of the meeting was spent discussing their upcoming District 3 Workshop. Also confirmed that the Genoa Big Book and Blackberry Sobriety meetings are in District 3. Concerns were brought up about drugs being talked about in meetings as well as meetings where the moderator has indicated that you don't need a sponsor or a home group. The meeting ended at 6:12pm with the Lord's Prayer. Their next meeting will be on April 20th at 5:30pm at the Eastside 12x12 meeting. Respectfully submitted, Bob O., DCM, District 3

District 5

Melanie R., DCM, District 5 said that the District 5 meeting was held Saturday, April 16th at Central Office. There was no one in attendance. Their next meeting will be Saturday, May 14th at Central Office. It will be an Open Forum meeting. Respectfully submitted, Melanie R., DCM, District 5

District 11

They met on March 24th at The Tiffin-Seneca Public Library and opened with the Serenity Prayer at 7:05pm. Kristen T., DCM, thanked everyone for coming. She passed out a packet of information including "GSR, General Service Representative" and "The AA Group" among other things. She provided everyone with an AA Service Manual and maps of District 11 and Area 55. They reviewed the DCM and GSR positions and where the AA group fits into the structure of AA as a whole. The question was asked as to what types of issues the GSR would be asked to vote on and Kristen gave an explanation of and an example from the Area 55 Mini Conference. It was explained that they would be updating contact information for the groups in District 11. They looked at copies of the New Group Form and the Group Information Change Form. Kristen said she would be available to come to groups to help them in the process of selecting a GSR if they don't have one. Some of the attendees were not from District 11 and wanted to know what district they were in and if they could attend District 11's meetings until they could find their own districts. Kristen said she will help to find which districts they are in and that it would be a good idea for them to attend District 11's meetings. There was a question as to why some groups donate to the North Central Intergroup Office in Sandusky instead of the Area 55 Intergroup Office in Toledo. Kristen said that groups being autonomous, they can choose which Intergroup Office they wish to support. Kristen suggested they have a session on Intergroups and Central Office to better educate members as well as the topics of the 7th

Tradition and group donations. An attempt to cover these topics will be made at the April and May District 11 meetings. They have not decided when and where their next District 11 meeting will be held and Kristen said she would inform all attendees at a later date. Kristen will keep everyone informed of District 11 and General Service activities and be available to answer any questions the groups may have. She gave all attendees her contact information and encouraged them to contact her with any questions. The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Kristen T., DCM, District 11

District 14

Jean S., DCM, District 14 said they met on April 11, 2016. DCM Report—Rick in Wapak passed along contact information from a woman asking for a weekly meeting at the men's halfway house called Alvis House. Group Reports: Grace Group—Don T. said they are steady in attendance and have an Annual Summer Fling coming up in August. SOP—Neal M. reported for SOP and said attendance is good. Hope Group—Shane H. said attendance was "somewhat slow." LDG—Chrissy M. said they haven't been getting the crowds they had been getting. Don T. said that last Saturday, 42 people showed up. Morning Meeting—Rick Z. said core group is attending and they are doing well for a start-up. Tuesday Night Peace Group—Steve Bl. Said attendance is up and down. Sunday Morning Wake-Up—Steve B. said their attendance is steady. They still don't have a lot of heat so dress warmly. St. Rita's—Neal M. said that he is officially their GSR, not "acting" GSR. Sunday night meetings going great, great speakers, full room, very strong. Wednesdays getting 10-12 compared to formerly 4-6. Saturday nights are light. Women's Meeting—Chrissy M. said girls not moved in yet. Maybe May. Attendance is 2-4 people. Steve B. said the Open Gate is looking for women with 5+ years of sobriety to work all shifts. Old Business: Alcathon Chairperson Responsibilities—Jean S. distributed re-typed list. District Sharing Session: Most GSRs said their groups had nothing to add to the topics listed. New Business: Jean S. said their P.O. Box is in Brian R.'s name and needs to be changed. Shane H. said he would reach out to Brian on Facebook. Motion made to put DCM, Secretary and Treasurer's names on P.O. account, Motion passed. They discussed brainstorming ideas being proposed for discussion at the General Service Conference. They will pass on their thoughts to John C., Delegate. Their ideas were: 1) We can't force people to give more. Need to reduce expenses. 2) 80% of donations given by 20% of the groups, as always. Need to put first things first, ie. What is happening in our District? 3) Need to put Grapevine and La Vina in digital format. Need to keep pamphlets. 4) NYC office costs are high. District can't comment on the operations of GSO. 5) Grapevine needs to be leaner. Can't understand how a magazine that costs \$30 a year cannot support itself. 6) Has GSO ever considered moving out of NYC to reduce costs? 7) Perhaps make the Grapevine a quarterly rather than monthly publication. Money is always an issue in AA. Stems from lack of education surrounding the 7th Tradition.

OLD BUSINESS

Henry C. thanked everyone who volunteered at and attended the Mini Conference. It was a great success. He said that Area 55 had the most attendance at our Mini Conference than all of the Areas in Ohio. Area 53 (Columbus) had 111, Area 54 (Cleveland) had 117, Area 56 (Cincinnati) had 86 and here in Area 55 we had 223. So good job to everyone.

Josh D., Web Committee Chair, entertained a motion to pass the Area 55 Website Guidelines. Jim S., Reno Beach Sobriety, made a motion to accept them as written and this was seconded by Amy S. of the Downtown Group. Motion passed. If you did not receive a copy of these, you may obtain a copy from Josh.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim S., DCMC, said he would like to form a committee to take a look at determining the District Map of Area 55. Tim D., Came to Believe made a motion to form such a committee and it was seconded by Danielle G., Life's Good. Motion passed. Bob S. said that there was no need to make a motion as all we need to do is inform John C., Delegate, of the need for an Ad Hoc Committee on this and he would form a committee and appoint a Chairperson.

Henry C. said there is a State Conference Planning Committee meeting in Columbus on May 7th. If you are interested in attending, please see Henry as we will set up a caravan of vehicles to go.

The General Service Assembly Meeting adjourned at 2:30PM, closing with the Responsibility Statement. Motion to close made by Chip P., Findlay Thursday Night Open Lead and seconded by Amy S., Downtown Group. Motion carried.

Next GSR Assembly Meeting will be held on May 15, 2016 at 1:00 PM at the Senior Center. Clean up for May is OYPAA Host. Tradition Five is Katy K., Sober Women's Big Book and Concept Five is Bob S., Walbridge Park.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacqueline B., Recording Secretary Area 55, Panel 66, NW Ohio