

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 September 18, 2016	

Henry C. opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Wendy S. read the Mission Statement. Josh D. read Tradition 9. Bob G. read the 9th 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: 24 GSRs, 4 Alternate GSRs, 3 DCMs, 1 DCMC and 1 Past Delegate and 1 Webmaster. New GSR’s introduced were Nicole K., Principles Before Personalities, Jim R., Monday Night Men’s and Susan S., Desperately Seeking Sobriety. 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

August 2016 Meeting Minutes were presented by Jackie B. There were errors noted on page 1 and twice on page 5 that Bryan L.’s first and last names were misspelled. His first name is spelled “Bryan,” not “Brian.” Also noted on page 5 was that Lauren B. is Chair of the OYPAA Committee and Bryan L. is the Co-Chair. Motion to accept the report was made by Susan S., Desperately Seeking Sobriety and seconded by Jim R., Monday Night Men’s. 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 report for August was presented by Marty C.

Checkbook

Beginning Balance July 31, 2016	\$3,367.61
Income	<u>1,351.85</u>
Total	\$4,719.46
Expenses	<u>2,932.16</u>
Total	\$1,787.30
Checkbook Balance August 31, 2016	\$1,787.30

Prudent Reserve Account

Beginning Balance July 31, 2016	\$3,001.13
Interest	.05
Ending Balance August 31, 2016	\$3,001.18

Mini Conference 2015

Beginning Balance July 31, 2016	\$ 500.00
Income	<u>0.00</u>
Total	\$ 500.00
Expenses	<u>0.00</u>
Ending Balance August 31, 2016	\$ 500.00

2017 Mini-Conference Deposit \$300.00

Motion to accept the report was made by Meladie S., 12 Step Study West and seconded by Sherri S., Reno Beach Sobriety. Motion passed.

**In August, of the 310 registered Groups in Area 55, 24 Groups made contributions this month or 7.74% and Year to Date 75 Groups or 24.19%.
Is your Group Helping Support Area 5 5 General Service?**

COMMITTEE REPORT

ARCHIVES Committee: Patty B.

Archives.chair@area55aa.org

Patty B. was not present. No report.

CPC/PI Committee: John K.

CPC.PI@area55aa.org

There was no committee meeting or events since last report. Two new members joined the committee: Deborah A. and Nick S. We have been invited to attend a DART forum at Springfield High School this coming Tuesday evening (20th) from 5:30 until 8:00pm with Bill F., Deborah A. and Nick S. scheduled to attend. There are other DART forums in the near future that we have been invited to attend, dates to come. Our next meeting is Wednesday, September 21 at 7:00pm at Central Office. On a personal note, John K. is home from the VA and we wish him a speedy recovery. Respectfully submitted, Bill F. for John K.

MULTI-DISTRICT CORRECTIONAL CHAIR: Keith R.

Keith R. was not present. No report.

GRAPEVINE Committee: Veronica N.

Grapevine.chair@area55aa.org

The committee met on August 18th at 6:00pm at Bay Park Hospital. They started with the Serenity Prayer. They talked about upcoming anniversaries, namely Bowling Green Sunday Night on November 6th. They talked about the OYPAA weekend in Sandusky and who would cover it. There are no other anniversaries coming up. We talked about not having enough people to cover the upcoming commitments. We will try to do what we can but we need more help. They ended with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 20th in the Bay Park Community Hospital cafeteria at 6:00pm. Their financial report is as follows:

August Financial Report

Beginning Balance August 1, 2016	\$291.99
Income	15.00
Expenses	0.00
Ending Balance August 31, 2016	\$306.99

Respectfully submitted, Veronica N., Chair

GROUP SERVICES Committee: Steven G.

GroupSer.chair@area55aa.org

The committee meeting was September 15th at 6:00pm at Central Office. They opened with the Serenity Prayer. Steve G. discussed upcoming events. All of their previous commitments were met successfully. They spent the rest of the meeting taking photographs of the committee's equipment and are in the process of making an inventory sheet of all of their equipment. Steve wanted to mention that only one of three of their current active committee members has transportation so sometimes due to circumstances only Steve can be at their commitments. They are also looking for a Co-Chair. Steve is actively recruiting as he was the only one at their last commitment at the Starlight Group. Their next meeting will be on October 20th at 6:00pm at Central Office. They closed with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Steven G., Chair

ACCESSIBILITIES: Jim L.

Meeting was held September 12th at 6:30pm at the Tim Horton's in Oregon. All scheduled commitments were met for the month. They reviewed their Shut-In List and their commitment list. The committee is looking to add sobriety dates to the Shut-In List and to find relocated shut-ins and ask if they wish to be put on the Shut-In List. Andr'e S. will be taking over for Jeff C. as Mailing Secretary due to Jeff's work schedule. Lynn S. resigned due to conflicting schedule and prior commitments. The committee has very much appreciated their service. District Outreach is working on communications with the outlying districts, committee members will be attending the District 14 workshop on Sept. 24th. Their goal is to inform, educate and assist districts meet shut-in commitments through communications from the committee's District Outreach. If your district is interested in participating, please contact Bill W. Committee members agreed to change the time and location of their next meeting due to scheduling conflicts. The committee will meet next on October 10th at 6:30pm at the Frisch's on Navarre Avenue. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. The committee's Treasury Report is as follows:

Beginning Balance on August 1, 2016	(\$ 50.45)
Income—Check from General Service	100.00
Expenses	0.00
Ending Balance on August 31, 2016	\$49.55

Respectfully submitted, Jim L., Chair

INTERGROUP LIAISON: Tim D.

Tim D. was not present. No report.

Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. Wendy S. celebrated 5 years on September 5th. Everyone introduced themselves to Val, our new member, Wendy reviewed the guidelines for Valerie. Henry C. shared praise for the Website, saying it is user friendly. Kenney A. also complimented the Website. Susan S. came as a visitor. She said she is doing a lead at the Crosstown Group this Thursday and would appreciate any support. The Area 55 Newsletter has a questionnaire coming out to see if anyone would prefer receiving the Newsletter via Internet. Ideas on how to collect surveys were: send out a flier, have a link to an online survey, have it free in the Newsletter, members could pass out copies, GSRs could pass it out, have an individual quote, have contact information on survey for us to collect or if we have a link on the Website, to ask people to fill out only one copy. Valerie has skills with graphics and will help design a flier for the survey and can help design a map for the Website. The email to add the Website to the Newsletter is Ginof8500@gmail.com. Email asking for standing slot in the Newsletter is pollynn27@gmail.com. Contact the Cleveland Website for what their needs are. The committee wants to distribute 350 fliers and email the fliers to members. Final Questions for the flier are:

- 1) Have you been to area55aa.org?
- 2) Do you plan to return to area55aa.org? If no, why not?
- 3) What was your purpose in visiting area55aa.org?
- 4) What else would you like to see on area55aa.org?
- 5) Additional Comments

They also want to add a sentence that says “Please do not complete a survey a second time if you have already.”

Respectfully submitted, Josh D., Chair

OYPAA HOST COMMITTEE: Lauren B./Bryan L.

Lauren B. gave their report. They had their conference last weekend and it went very well. She thanked Group Services and our Delegate and Alternate Delegate for their support. She also thanked the members of the body for their support. She said that the Akron OYPAA won the bid to host the next State Conference. She said that our OYPAA will be meeting tonight to reform as NOCYPAA and figure out what they are going to do with their finances. This was her report from their last meeting: The meeting opened with Serenity Prayer. They shared each others anniversaries and leads coming up. Lauren read Tradition 11. Treasurer’s Report: They have a balance of \$6,634.00. Old Business included a discussion about energy drinks, a flier thanking groups for their contributions to hospitality, a folding party and sign making. Committee updates: Special Events had no report. Outreach had no report. Inreach: Derek is looking for pamphlets for the conference. Merchandise: They are working on an inventory of all current merchandise. Have roughly 100+ shirts. Hospitality: They reviewed their menus for Friday and Saturday. Program: Some changes were made to the program to allow time between the panels and the main speaker. Security: Adam shared about the need for. Entertainment: They discussed the details of the various events planned for the conference including dodgeball,

volleyball, karaoke, a rap battle and a drag show. New Business: They discussed security for drinks and nametags. Tony presented a list of groups that had donated to the hospitality room so far and the need to thank them. At Registration they plan to hand out a nametag, lanyard and program. They will encourage people to sign the Big Book and to submit a topic for the marathon meeting. They then outlined their personal goals for the conference. Lauren B. is the Chair of the OYPAA Host Committee and Bryan L. is Co-Chair but the OYPAA Host Committee is now being disbanded since their State Conference is over. NOCYPAA is expected to be re-formed with a new Chair and Co-Chair. Details to be forthcoming. Respectfully submitted, Lauren B.

DCM REPORTS

DCMC

Jim S., DCMC, Area 55, said the DCMs met today. They discussed developing a district meetings list for use on the Website. The DCMs also discussed that they will be assisting with the redistricting of the Area. District 3 reported that they are having a workshop on October 1st and that their next meeting will be on Wednesday, Sept. 21st at 5:30pm. District 5 reported that they will start meeting monthly. District 11 reported that they are having a workshop on October 8th. District 14 reported that they are having a workshop on September 24th from 9am to 10:30am. The DCMs also discussed Gratitude Month and the Area 55 Unity Conference.

District 3

Their last meeting was on August 15th. They started with the Serenity Prayer. Discussion included their upcoming workshop and they made sure it was listed on the calendar. They discussed funding their own workshop and the GSRs are going to take this back to their groups. They finalized plans for their upcoming workshop. Their next meeting will be Wednesday, September 21st at 5:00pm before the Eastside 12x12 meeting (at the same location as this meeting.) Respectfully submitted, Bob O., DCM, District 3

District 4

Tim D., DCM, not present. No report.

District 5

Melanie R., DCM, District 5 said they met on September 17th at Central Office. They opened with the Serenity Prayer. In their review of District 5, they thought that they might split the groups up and district members go and see them. In their discussion of the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" they looked at adopting a specific contribution plan. There were no group reports at this time. The topic of a group having long time membership and how the responsibilities do not seem to rotate among the membership. They also discussed how to get a new person to join and stay at your group. They passed the basket and closed with the Responsibility Statement. Their next meeting will be on Saturday, October 15th at 11:00am at Central Office. Respectfully submitted, Melanie R., DCM, District 5

District 11

Kristen T., DCM, District 11 said the district met on September 15th at St. John's United Church of Christ in Tiffin. The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. GSRs reported that there are no real issues with their groups so far. They discussed and planned their upcoming workshop on October 8th. They can seat approx. 75 people. Panel participants are almost set. Literature has been ordered. GSRs and meeting contacts have collected donations from their groups and other

individual members have contributed. They now have a total of \$177.59 available for the workshop and other expenses. The district has been meeting on the 3rd Thursday of the month and Kristen asked if they could change that to the 2nd or 4th Thursday due to a scheduling conflict. They agreed to change the meeting to the 2nd Thursday of the month starting in October. Next meeting will be October 13th at 7:00pm at St. John's UCC in Tiffin. They closed with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Kristen T., DCM, District 11

District 14

Jean S., DCM, District 14 said they met on September 12th. August meeting minutes read by Amy H. and approved. Treasurer's Report: Opening Balance \$0.05, Ending Balance (\$25.09), Grand Total including \$600.00 prudent reserve= \$574.91. DCM expenses for August \$112.69 for mileage and an ink cartridge. These were approved. DCM report was that Area 55 has an Accessibilities Committee with a Shut-In list and are willing to come to this meeting. Do we want to participate? Area 55 website traffic has increased as have A.A.'s overall literature and Grapevine sales as well as contributions. 2017 Mini-Conference will be at Holiday Inn French Quarter on March 3rd through the 5th, 2017. Jean asked the members to review the "Thank You" letters for group contributions. The group thought the second one was better because it was short but wanted to add a line from the first letter. Group reports were that Sunday Morning Sunshine said their attendance was low. Lima Downtown/Out of the Darkness reported that the Lima Downtown Group has agreed to bring an A.A. meeting to the Alvis House and reports good attendance at the 12:30pm meeting. The Out of the Darkness meeting reports it has three regulars and is still struggling. Friendship Group/St. Rita's reports that their attendance has been steady. The Fellowship Picnic was a huge success with more than 100 people attending. The Grace group said Fridays have picked up with Lima UMADOP. No Summer fling being planned. Committee Reports were: Corrections—Neal M. said that officials want an A.A. meeting there again. On Saturday, Sept, 24th at Family Day at the Worth Center, Neal will attend. Schedules—Pat D. said only 50 left. Motion made to have 200 more printed with changes that there was no website mention and that Out of the Darkness' meeting time was changed from 6:00am to 6:30am. Old Business: Amy H. send a letter with an Out of the Darkness flier and A.A. literature to Ford, Lima Tank Plant and Husky. Suggestion made to send flier to Bev S., Plant Nurse, P&G and to Dana Corporation, Bible Road. Amy H. will do this. Web.com double billing—Jamie T. said the company has 13 billing cycles in a 12 month period. Grapevine copies delivered to Ridgeview. Dist. 14 GSR School will be Saturday, Sept. 24th from 9:00am to 10:30am at Zion Lutheran Church, 1300 Edgewood Drive, Lima. New Business: The group decided to not host a visit from the Area 55 Accessibilities Committee. They felt that it is a tool to reach out to shut-ins. There was a motion made and passed to have GSRs go to groups and circulate a sign-up list for 12th Step calls. There was also a motion made and passed to have Jean or Billy call web.com to find out the cost to maintain our domain name with an eye toward dismantling our website. They felt they could save the \$35.00 a month they pay for it plus they have no webmaster to keep it up and they have other cost-free alternatives. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be October 10th at 5:30pm. Respectfully submitted, Jean S., DCM, District 14

AREA DELEGATE: John C.

Delegate@area55aa.org

John said that Clement has contacted him and said he will be the speaker at our next Mini-Conference. Clement sits on Treatment and Accessibilities. GSO is accepting applications for a staff member. They would like the person to have at least 6 years of sobriety with communication, organizational and computer skills. A.A. service experience as well as the willingness to move to New York City, if needed, will be taken into consideration. Opening will be available January

2017. Revenue: Feasibility Study will explore what it means to communicate with all groups for the express purpose of seeing if they do or do not contribute to GSO and what GSO could do to encourage them to contribute. Expenses: They want to explore the structure of the GSO including holding the General Service Conference outside of New York City proper and reducing the length of the Conference by refiguring the agenda. The idea of holding the Conference outside of New York City proper will not be considered at this time unless the General Service Board hears an expressed desire from the Fellowship. Structure: Explore the combining of back office functions such as finance and information technology, to promote efficiency and cost savings. They state that the General Service Board will definitely not consider this idea unless they hear an expressed desire from the Fellowship. John will be setting up a meeting to start getting organized for next year's Mini-Conference. We also have the Delegates/Past Delegates Conference coming up next February. He said we have three District Workshops coming up—District 14, District 3 and District 11. He was also very pleased with how the OYPAA Conference went. He said there were Delegates from three areas there plus several Past Delegates. He also asked that the GSRs take back to their groups that we have to pay for John to go to New York again next year and to begin getting prepared for that financially.

OLD BUSINESS

We discussed sending out Thank You notes for group contributions to Area 55 General Service. There was a motion made by Ron S. of Fostoria Men's to start sending them out and it was seconded by Jim R. of Monday Night Men's. Motion carried. Fliers for both the 2017 Delegates/Past Delegates Conference and the Area 55 Mini-Conference are out for everyone to have a copy. Nancy M. is chairing the Delegates/Past Delegates Conference so if you or your group are interested in helping out, please see Nancy.

NEW BUSINESS

There will be the final Area 55 Guidelines meeting on Monday, September 19th at Nancy M.'s house. We hope to have these to the body relatively soon. John C. will be scheduling planning meetings for the March 2017 Mini-Conference. It will be on March 3rd, 4th and 5th at the Holiday Inn French Quarter and the rooms are \$109.00 per night. Susan S. of the Newsletter Committee said she wanted to make everyone aware that the committee will set up a display and sell newsletters at a reduced cost at your group's anniversary and she asked that you give them appropriate notice beforehand.

The General Service Assembly Meeting adjourned at 2:26 PM, closing with the Responsibility Statement.

Next GSR Assembly Meeting will be held on October 16, 2016 at 1:00 PM at the Senior Center. Clean up for October is Life's Good. Tradition 10 will be Susan D. of the Downtown Group and Concept 10 will be Meladie S. of the 12 Step Study West Group.

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