

## Area 40 - District 72 Business Meeting

August 28, 2021

5pm-7pm

Hybrid meeting held in person at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman and via Zoom  
14 online attendees, 14 in person attendees

### 1. Opened with the serenity prayer

**Mission:** "District 72 unites AA Groups from the Gallatin, Jefferson, Madison, and Park County areas of Montana. We band together to fulfill our primary purpose – to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the still suffering alcoholic. As an association, it is our responsibility to provide common functions and service activities for AA members. All AA members are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate in monthly District 72 business meetings. We strive, as a district, to work within the spirit of the Twelve Traditions and operate from the Twelve Concepts of Alcoholics Anonymous."-Betty

### 2. Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions- Chrissan

### 3. Reading of Concept Eight: Gerry R. (Past delegate for Area 40)

*"The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.*

### 4. Establish quorum-23 voting members present

5. **Approved July 2021 meeting minutes-** Call for discussion about any additions or corrections. Hearing none, Rick moved to approve, seconded by Pat. Unanimously approved

### 6. Introductions/Attendance:

**Visitors** (attended online): Mary Sue, Susan, Gerry R ,Connie R

(attended in person): Ashley, alternate GSR for Primary Purpose

### GSRs and reports:

**Stephen** (attended online) **Sunday Night Hospital Group** (Bozeman)- Zoom meetings still, no plans to return to the hospital yet, 12-18 people a week, several former Bozemanites as regular attendees

**Gail** (attended online) **Wednesday Noon Group** (Bozeman)- Meets at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman, hybrid meeting, had over 20 people this last week and still had 3 or 4 people on Zoom. Asking people to wear a mask if they are attending in person.

**Pat** (attended in person) **H.O.W. Group** (Bozeman)- Meet 4 times a week, all meetings are both in person and on Zoom (not hybrid), Monday Book Study at 7pm, Thursday discussion meeting at 7pm, Saturday discussion meeting at 8:30am, Sunday speaker meeting at 7:30pm. Moving to live speaker meetings

this Sunday 8/29. Sunday Zoom meeting will switch to a discussion meeting. They have an ad hoc committee working on suggestions for hybrid meeting capabilities. **October 2nd-speaker event at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman, starting at 2:30pm with a workshop, will be hybrid, have a potluck, speaker will speak at 7:30pm.**

**Dennis** (online) **Friday Men's Group** (Bozeman)- Meeting in person, while also providing hybrid services at 1st Baptist Church in downtown Bozeman. Requires masks. Have in excess of 25 men in attendance on a regular basis.

**Aaron** (attended in person) **Primary Purpose** (Bozeman): Monday in person, Wednesday hybrid, 15-20 people. Currently looking a ways to beef up hybrid setup. Starting the process of planning their February speaker event.

**Katie** (attended in person) **Tuesday at 8pm** (Bozeman)-In person, at the **Church of Christ, meeting will be moving back to the small room at the Church (had been meeting in the larger room recently).**

**Karon K.** (attended online) **Women's Pink Cloud Group** (Bozeman)-Doing hybrid meetings since July 7th. Each month they are considering how best to facilitate future meetings. Discussing with another group about using their equipment to help them facilitate those meetings. Largest has been about 17 or 18 in the room and 6-8 online. Hybrid meetings still seem to be in need due to what they are seeing with online attendance.

**Alex** (attended in person) **Bozeman Young People's** (Bozeman)-Sundays at 7pm, Tuesdays at 6:45pm speaker meeting at the Fellowship Hall, recently had their kickball game event which was a lot of fun, meeting attendance is around 15-25. Masks are not required, all in person now.

**Jennifer** (attended in person) **Women's Serenity Group** (Bozeman)- Meet on Tuesday at noon, Friday at noon, birthday meeting last Friday of the month, attendance is variable, sometimes 5 sometimes 12, Zoom usually 2-4 people. Had a group conscience about sharing equipment, ultimately the solution was to cost share and they are looking into the logistics of that.

**Savannah** (attended in person) **Rebellion Dogs** (Bozeman)-20-50 people a day, no masks, speaker meeting every Saturday night at 7:30 last Saturday is a birthday meeting, some events in the works

**Eleanor** (attended online) **6th Chapter** (Bozeman)- 11am Sunday morning, recently made the decision to remain online only through the end of 2021. Really enjoy the variety of people from all over the world with the Zoom format.

**Gianna** (attended online) **Women's Friday Noon Meeting** (Livingston) 10-15 people a week, in person, holding elections next month for new service positions.

**Heather** (attended online) **Early Risers** (Bozeman) hybrid format with 10 or so in person and 5 or 6 online. Anticipate doing it through September but will see how it goes.

**Kietra** (attended online) **There is a Solution** (Bozeman) Has Zoom meetings and in person, 7am everyday of the week. Good attendance.

**Holly** (attended in person) **Friday Beginners** (Bozeman) 6pm Fridays at Fellowship hall in Bozeman. First 15 minutes is a speaker and the rest is general sharing. Averaging 10-20 people.

## 7. Committee Reports

**Treasurer-Leah T.** (attended online)

- Making requested changes to the Treasurer's report from last month's meeting
- Income: \$209.50 Expenses: \$375.42
- Spreadsheet had been miscalculating the operating balance. Should be fixed now and the Treasurer's report accurately reflects current operating balance.

- Received some group contributions this month

#### **Answering Service- Gillian**

- No report.

#### **Archives- Catherine** (attended online)

- Committee meeting tomorrow about what Archives does and the role of a local committee
- Some projects the committee will be working on:
  - Working on finding out how to digitize cassette tapes from the 80s and 90s
  - What did groups do during COVID and try to collect that information
  - Field trip to see the Area 40 archives

#### **Bridging the Gap- Phil** (not in attendance)

- Bridging the gap continues to serve a small number of AA members mostly coming from the Gallatin county detention center and mostly returning home to other large Montana cities like Helena and Billings.
- One person made plans to return to New Jersey. Phil put in a BTG request with her home aa district online but did not receive a reply.

#### **CPC / Cooperation with the Professional Community- Open chair position**

- No report

#### **Corrections- Chris** (attended in person)

- There was an orientation at the prison earlier this month, not sure how many people went through it.
- Jackie K. at Gallatin County Detention Center has been in contact with the volunteers there and they are expecting a good turnout for September based on the number of applications that have been submitted.
- Every second Wednesday there is a Treatment and Corrections committee meeting at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman. Contact Chris with any questions.
- From last month's committee meeting-we have anywhere from 3-10 people at the meetings Saturdays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays at GCDC. Sponsorship at GCDC has to be scheduled through the front desk. Some meetings have been cancelled due to being short staffed at the GCDC, application for GCDC is on the District 72 mini site. <https://www.aa-montana.org/district-sites/dist72/index.php>
- Prison application is on the Area 40 website under the Area Committee tab → Forms and Other Documents → Other Documents  
<https://www.aa-montana.org/committee.php?q=Forms%20and%20Other%20Documents>

#### **Grapevine-Angie** (not in attendance)

- For the month of August, the Carry the Message Grapevine committee ordered an additional 2-year subscription for The Gallatin Valley Detention Center as Jackie K recommended so there will be Grapevines in each of the pods. We also purchased two, 1-year subscriptions for the Hope House here in Bozeman.
- Next month's focus will be to assist programs outside of Bozeman but within District 72.  
**If you have any suggestions on programs to purchase Grapevines for, please contact Angie, Betty M or Joanna K!**
- A reminder, if you do have Grapevines that you or your home group wish to donate there is a donation box at the Fellowship Hall (in a box in the sponsorship room at the hall clearly marked on the shelf) and we will happily continue to provide these to others on the Grapevine bulletin board.
- This month's grand total spent on Grapevine subscriptions is \$104.28

### **Literature- Chrissan** (attended in person)

- \$290.52-sales
- \$1506.11-Inventory Just got an order in, already getting more requests and may have to place another order.
- Another group was wondering if District would be interested in purchasing books for Hope House. This would fall under the purview of the Treatment committee. Chrissan will discuss further with Alex after the meeting.

### **Public Information-Sarah** (not in attendance)

- Not a ton to report but did order 500 new printed schedules for September. Packs of 10 are rubber banded in the Literature Room at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman. GSRs can take them back to their groups.
- If people would like to take some of the extras to distribute around the valley, I would be very grateful for the help!
- Please let Sarah know if you have any questions or would like to add or change anything on the printed schedule by 9/17.

### **Special Events-Savannah** (attended in person)

- Just had the Area 40 Delegate's report today. Went well. Next event is in the works, hoping to be a Halloween function. Suggestions are welcome

### **Treatment-Alex** (attended in person)

- Went to Montana Chemical Dependency Center this last Saturday, 2 women and 2 men, 15 men were there, only had one Big Book so Alex would like to look into getting more books for them, also had questions about how to change the list of acceptable topics (is he allowed to do that as Treatment chair?)
- Needs reimbursement for gas money-he will talk to Leah about that

### **Alt. DCM-Betty** (attended in person)

- Been working with the Grapevine committee on how and who to buy Grapevines for through the end of the year
- Also helped work on the Delegate report event

### **DCM / District Committee Member-Rick** (attended in person)

- West Central Regional Forum will be a virtual forum September 10th-12th. Go to aa.org website, look at forums and register if you are interested.
- Fall Area Assembly will be online only-the in person portion has been cancelled
- Rick made amends to the group for not bringing an informed group conscience to the meeting when they decided whether to move the assembly online.

## **7. Old Business**

- **Nominations for CPC chair**  
No nominations
- **Hybrid meeting**-Mary Sue mentioned that it's very useful to have this capability for distant people, especially for winter etc, Karon agreed with Mary Sue and for people who don't want to be exposed, as well as Catherine, Allows people like Connie to be able to attend from around the state and makes it easier to participate

- Rick made a motion to renegotiate the cost with Bradley for a lower price and commit to set this up for the rest of the year-motion passed. Rick suggested \$75/month and Bradley agreed
- Some discussion about whether we want to consider purchasing our own equipment in the future followed
  - Mary Sue-it becomes very difficult to track the equipment when it's a non profit and leadership is turning over regularly
  - Jennifer-voiced concerns about spontaneous figures were thrown out in this meeting and that we shouldn't put Bradley on the spot to negotiate in a room full of people
  - Bradley has said he is willing to negotiate, he wants to make sure his client is happy with services and it's the same he would do for any other not for profit client

Agreed upon cost was \$75/month for the rest of the year for Bradley's hybrid services at the District 72 Business meeting

- **Area Assembly Scholarship Application considerations**-Didn't receive any scholarship applications. Didn't need them anyway since Area Assembly is all online

## **New Business:**

### **How should the district best discuss District Inventory results?**

- Karon reviewed what's been done so far:
  - Inventory report was conducted at the end of 2020.
  - Presented to the District in December of 2020
  - In January we had a breakout group session that discussed question 1.
  - In March we had another breakout opportunity to talk more about ideas for the needs for workshops within the district, yielded some great ideas.
  - Now what do we do with this information?
- Betty-suggested an ad hoc committee to come up with some ideas to put out to the district ways of implementation
- Catherine thought that was a good idea, even if the ad hoc committee could just review the results for themes
- Karon-Implementation would likely come with the committees we already have, theme that did come out was issues around communication, where there are gaps, also training, perhaps have all committee chairs look for what relevant recommendations apply for their committee?
- Katie- made a motion to make an ad hoc committee to go over the District 72 Inventory, Meghan seconded, Katie M volunteered to be the chair. Vote=6 online, 7 in person all in favor, no opposed. Motion passed
- **Anyone who wants to join the ad hoc committee to review the District inventory and give suggestions on implementation, contact Katie M [kfrancesmalone@gmail.com](mailto:kfrancesmalone@gmail.com)**

### **Treatment and Corrections-do we need a co-chair for these committees?**

- Chris-has had 2 people interested in the co-chair position for Corrections. He wanted to bring it to the District to vote on rather than have him pick. Would like to create the co-chair position, send the info out to the groups, and take nominations next month. Eleanor is thinking this could be done within a committee-it's more complicated when you go to create a position at the district level. Julie-if there is a

co-chair for either of these committees, will they be elected by the committee or by the district, and would they both be voting members?

- Chris-would it be easier to call them alternate chairs if they wouldn't both be voting members?
- Gender neutral? A suggestion for the language: "Looking for an alternate chair for Corrections for the women's side of the prison"
- Julie-So will the alternates be elected by the committee or by the district? Voting members are specified in the guidelines, if we are going to change the voting members then we need to change the guidelines
- **Chris-moved that the Treatment and Corrections get an alternate chair of the opposite gender position created. Savannah seconded.**
- **Betty will draft an updated version of the guidelines to include an alternate chair for those two committees, run that by Alex and Chris and we will vote on it next month.**
- Would we take nominations next month? Need to approve changes to the guidelines then put it out to groups to take nominations (earliest we would take nominations would be October meeting)
- Julie asked-what have past treatment and corrections chairs done over the past decade? What has changed that they need an alternate now? It was discovered last rotation that it worked really well and was recommended by the previous Treatment co-chairs to continue on this way. Do we think it would be easier to elect an alternate chair than find someone in committees to fulfill the responsibility?
- We ran out of time to continue the discussion due to another group needing the room to set up. Tabled this conversation until next month.

#### 9. Closed with Responsibility Pledge

**Next district meeting Saturday, September 25 @ 5:00 – 7:00pm at Fellowship Hall and on Zoom**