

**Area 40 - District 72 Business Meeting**

**May 27, 2023**

**4:30pm-6:30pm**

**Hybrid meeting held in person at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman and via Zoom**

1. **Opened with the serenity prayer:** Lenore M.
2. **Read the District 72 Safety Statement:** Lenore M.
3. **Raise your hand if you are a voting member for District 72** (district officers, district committee chairs, GSRs, and Alt GSRs - only if your group's GSR is not here)
  - *Explain quorum process: we need  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the voting members present at the beginning of the meeting still in the room when we get to any voting items on the agenda in order to be able to vote at all.*
  - Attendance: 21, Quorum: 15
4. **Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions:** Bradley G.
5. **Reading of Concept Five:** Lenore M.

*“Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that Minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration”*

6. **Questions about last month's minutes? Can I have a motion to approve the March 2023 minutes? (meeting held 4/29/2023)** Motion 1st & 2nd.

**Motion to accept:** passed

7. **Introductions of GSRs & Visitors:**

Lila H, **Bozeman Young People's Group** (Bozeman) - small but cozy group, have a monthly group event, business meeting 1st Tues. @ 8:15pm.

Bob C, **Belgrade Common Solution** (Belgrade) - really good attendance (15-20), business meeting held 2nd Sunday @ 6:15pm.

Teresa R, **Women's Serenity Group** (Bozeman) - New GSR, meet twice a week, business meeting held 2nd Tuesday @ 11am.

Aimee B, **Third Step Meeting** (Livingston) - meet Saturdays @ 10:30am, business meeting held 1st Sat. after the meeting.

Rebekah P, **Hospital Group** (Bozeman) - Alt. GSR, will be voting at next meeting to move to in-person meetings. Business meeting 1st Sun. after meeting.

Matt S, **Vennis Over The Hill Group** (Ennis) - meet Mon, Wed, & Fri. @ 7:30pm, Sun. 10am in Virginia City. Business meeting held 3rd Mon.

Kristi, **6th Chapter Group** (Bozeman) - consistent attendance, plus 2 new home group members. Business meeting held 1st Sun. @ 9:50pm.

Connie L, **Fellowship Group** (Bozeman) - meet at Grand Ave. Church, 10-20 people, business meeting held on 1st Thurs. after meeting. Will be voting on new positions.

Deborah KR, **Great Fact Group** (Bozeman) - will be meeting at The Dinosaur Park @ 7pm on Thursdays. Business meetings held as needed.

Ben V, **Steps & Traditions Group** (Bozeman) - small group but picking up summer time visitors, business meeting held 1st Wed. after meeting.

Nicki, **Rebellion Dogs** (Bozeman) - meet Sun. - Fri. @ 5:30pm, Sat. 7:30pm, attendance 50-60.

Chelsea Y. will be new GSR, a large group inventory is underway.

Katie M, **Tuesday @ 8pm Group** (Bozeman) - business meeting held 1st Tues. @ 9pm.

Susan H, **H.O.W. Group** (Bozeman) - Greetings District 72! H.O.W. Group hosts 4 meetings p/week – Monday Big Book Study @ 7pm; Thursday Discussion @ 7pm (last Thursday is a Birthday Meeting); Saturday Morning Discussion @ 8:30am; Sunday Speaker @ 7pm. We average between 20-40 alcoholics p/meeting. Talked with the group regarding: Openings still available for Fall Round Up Committee Chairs; Literature Rack Refreshers, encouraged our literature chair to reach out to Amy K (District Lit. Chair) for updating and inventory available for the group; The need for Spanish speaking meetings as requested by Al-Anon- our group didn't see a need for it but were not opposed to the idea if it could help a suffering alcoholic; announced District 72 opening of Special Events chair and the need for someone to serve; Discussed Tech Budget and increase for equipment for hybrid and there was no opposition to the increase.

This will be my last report to District 72 as the H.O.W. Group GSR. I would like to introduce – Tim K. as the incoming GSR for 2023-2024.

Thank you for letting me serve,  
Susan H.

**Visitors:** Erica (Alt GSR), Doreen Mc (Alt GSR), Valarie (Alt GSR), Bobby, Rick H, Cienna

## 8. Introductions and Committee Reports:

*(Reminder to send any reports, flyers or information to [district72.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:district72.secretary@gmail.com))*

**Treasurer:** Meghan R. -

- (see email attachment for May 2023 budget report, or on Area 40 in District Mini Sites)
- The Finance Committee met and completed an audit. One mistake was found, a receipt was overpaid. The error was corrected.

**Answering Service:** Emily Y. - (absent)

- No report given

**Archives:** Gail M. - (absent - Joanne M. read report)

- I'm sorry that I am unable to attend today. There is not much to report. We would like to continue to get interviews with people who have been around AA in District 72 for years to get a full history of the area to add to our archives. Also, the last rotation was able to get histories of groups in our District. We would like to continue with that to add as well. Even if your group is not old, it would be great to have that on record.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Gail M.

District 72 Archives Chair

**CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community):** Karon K. -

- Committee updates – Karon
  - Committee membership: Sue W is not able to continue on the committee; Neil B has never responded to any contacts so I'm assuming he's not interested
  - Meeting with Jeanne C – Al-Anon CPC chair had to be rescheduled due to my COVID; she is not available to meet with us this month but might in coming months to facilitate collaborations with our committee
  - Comments on contact database - Nora's updates
- Other updates?
- We are researching opportunities to speak or provide literature at professional meetings—A few upcoming conferences at Big Sky might pan out—

- Psychiatry and Women’s Health for Primary Care: June 16-18
  - 6th Annual Conference on Challenges in Mental Health Care for the Primary Care Physician: July 19-22
- We’ll be investigating if we can provide literature and staff a literature display. We’re investigating other opportunities as well.
- District 61 Treatment-Corrections Workshop in Helena May 13 – Feedback from CPC chair, Deborah S. This was not a CPC event. Audience was mainly nonprofessionals/members of alcoholic with a few professionals as speakers. It did provide some beneficial “lessons learned” if CPC wishes to host such an event. Deborah and Karon will continue to meet to share resources and ideas for CPC activities

**Grapevine/Structure:** Savannah D. -

- Ordering more GrapeVine for Corrections & Treatment, and the bulletin board at the Hall.
- Encourage GSRs to purchase home group subscription (podcasts included)

**Literature:** Amy K. -

- Typed up a list of pamphlets available for GSRs to take to their group literature chair.
- \$3,000 book order, so we are all stocked up. Order includes 4 cases of soft covered Big Books for corrections (which is paid for out of Pink Can \$)

**PI (Public Information):** Katie M. -

- We ordered 800 schedules this month. They are in the drawer for GSR’s to take.
- The committee delivered schedules to 32 locations. We mailed schedules to 7 groups in our district.
- We have added to the meeting key the term “hybrid”, we believe it is accurate on the June schedules. Can GSR’s please double check if your meeting is hybrid.
- We have started to contact jails + hospitals in the outlying towns in our district to see if they would like us to mail schedules to them. We have 6 contacts in West Yellowstone, Ennis + Virginia City that we are mailing schedules to this month. If you are going to any of these towns and want to help us deliver schedules please contact me, we would love the help!
- Warming Center
  - The meetings are the 1st + 3rd Wednesday of each month at noon.
  - This is not an open meeting. It is a service commitment only.
  - We have made an orientation packet for all volunteers.
  - GSR’s please announce, we need more volunteers
- Posting the paper schedule online – the committee voted to stop doing this.
  - Area 40 policy to not post names + numbers of aa members online
  - During covid we posted the printed schedule so that groups could print them
  - When I took on the position I was unaware of any of this and just following the protocol the last PI chair gave me
  - This was all brought to my attention from an aa member this past month
  - The committee discussed and voted to no longer post the printed schedule
- Next committee meeting is June 24th at 3:15 at the hall or on zoom.
  - GSRs - please announce! The committee is open to everyone!

**Special Events:** No report (vote to fill position on agenda)

**Bridging the Gap:** Tony B. -

- Received one form for the program (female).
- Attended workshop in Shelby MT on 5/5. Workshop on how to talk to folks and introduce them to AA. BTG liaison from Calgary, Canada spoke.
- Connected with Jessica E. from Kalispell, MT. Introduced us to a statewide database which is super helpful to pinpoint BTG Reps.

**Corrections:** Jennifer M. -

- MSP - next orientation is in July.
- GCDC - open and can meet in person. Next orientation is July 13.
- Pink Can funds are greatly appreciated by inmates.
- Had a great committee meeting on May 8, approved to meet at the Hall.

**Treatment:** Chris O. -

- Teaming up with CPC committee member to look at other facilities around Bozeman to take meetings into (Alcohol & Drug Services, will look in Livingstone area, possibly Warm Springs)
- We want to let the Pink Can fund grow so we can buy in bulk and split among facilities.
- Always looking for more volunteers.

**Roundup Chair:** Bruce W. - (absent- Savannah D. emailed notes)

- The theme: We are not saints  
October 27th-29th
- Party: October 20th, Friday night @ 9:00 pm
  - Prompt as a formal or semi-formal occasion. Halloween Masquerade teamed.
  - Costume contest
  - Food contest
  - Mask decoration station
  - Playing games
  - I love my brother, especially my brother, Trivia.
- Call for participation asking for donations for:
  - Prizes for contest,
  - Food for creepy food contest
  - Drinks sodas and water

**Technology:** Bradley G. -

- Thank you everyone for coming up to the microphone, helps with sound quality
- Closed Caption option on Zoom - available in English & Spanish
- Having monthly committee meetings - have 2 advisors and want to do cross training on equipment so more folks can run Zoom. Looking at online resources to inform us as me go, not to recreate the wheel.
- Motion on agenda tonight

**Alt. DCM:** Lenore M. -

- Thank you for speaking at the microphone. We are trying to improve sound quality for Zoom.
- If there is an interest in Spanish speaking meeting, or if any AA members who speak Spanish are willing to help out please feel free to email Jill @ [mtdistrict8@gmail.com](mailto:mtdistrict8@gmail.com)
- I will be gone for the June D72 meeting, Betty M. will fill in.
- Please submit any agenda items 10 days prior to the meeting date of June 24.

**DCM:** Betty M. -

- May was a relatively quiet AA month for me. I attended the Finance Committee meeting on May 9th and the HOW group business meeting on May 11 th. I really appreciated seeing how Robert's Rules of Order were applied at their business meeting. I observed that, like District & Area meetings, the loosely followed rules provide structure & framework for meaningful discussion, and help to ensure that all voices may be heard respectfully. I had planned on attending the Primary Purpose business meeting but couldn't because I wasn't feeling good.
- I would like to attend 2 business meetings a month. And my intent in June is to do Primary Purpose and one other. If there is any group that would appreciate my attending over the Summer, please call or text me @ 406-600-9595. We'll do our best to meet your needs.
- In July our District Meeting is July 29 th, and we are going to make it special. BBQ kinda thing for lunch, an AA speaker, the Delegates report, ice cream bar and District Meeting @ 4:30.
- Lots going on in our Area 40 calendar for the summer:
  - June 3-4, golf outing in Whitefish MT culminating with a BBQ and a gratitude meeting.
  - Founders Day Weekend is June 9-11 and there are campouts galore... To me, they all sound great both for the outdoor opportunity, but the meetings fellowship with people I really don't know. Earl F (Area Archivist) and Kacie N (Area Delegate) are among the presenters coming to the Founders Day event in Black Eagle Park.
  - Weekend of June 23-25, Great Falls is hosting the Unity Campout. And, D72 own HOW Group is co-hosting a workshop on How Relationships Change.
  - Weekend of July 7 th , there are a couple of campouts
  - Regional Forum on the weekend beginning August 25 th in Missoula. Should be pretty cool –members of our US/Canada General Service Board., AA World Services, AA Grapevine meeting with AAs from the West Central Region. There will be a lot of information sharing and, as with any AA event, fun & fellowship as well. Registration is free.
- At a personal level: Phil and I picked up our new puppy Zoe earlier this week, and I am learning a whole new level of learning to practice these principles in all my affairs.

Many thanks for your service, and for allowing me to do mine.

Betty M, DCM, D72

## 9. Immediate Business:

- **Elect a new Special Events Committee Chair** - Lenore M.  
Job description read, open for nominations or volunteers: Valerie K. and Susan H. were nominated. Both gave sobriety their date and service history.  
Valerie K. voted in as new Special Events Committee Chair.
- **Motion from the Technology Committee on a budget increase for the hybrid meeting hardware purchases (we discussed this briefly last month & asked GSRs to get feedback from their home groups so we could vote)** - Bradley G.  
Discussion included where funding would come from, would we need to increase the operating budget? Another funding option on the agenda tonight is to use money from the Accessibility Fund. One group said they would be opposed to the increase if the Accessibility Fund was not used.  
**Motion:** Increase upfront funding approved by District 72 on Feb, 25 2023 to better meet current and longer-term needs of in-person and on-line District Meeting participants. Already approved funds for equipment: \$575. Additional funds requested: \$569. Total: \$1,144  
**Passed: Yes - 21, No - 0**

- **Discuss using \$569.00 from accessibility funds to purchase hardware for the Technology Committee to provide better technology for in person and online meetings-** Melinda W. (absent - Katie M. filled in)

#### AREA 40 AGENDA ITEM PROPOSAL FORM

- (1) Describe the proposal: Use \$569.00 from accessibility funds to purchase hardware for for the Technology Committee to provide better technology for in person and online meetings.
- (2) List the proposal benefits: Money has been set aside to use for accessibility. This expense would qualify as an “accessibility” expense.
- (3) Cost Estimate: The total cost for the hardware is \$1144.00. \$575.00 has already been approved. The additional \$569 that is needed could come from the accessibility fund. That would leave a balance of \$289.32 in the accessibility fund.
- (4) List additional background material(s) included with the proposal: From the tech committee: “The purpose of the hardware is to have the right equipment run by knowledgeable technology resources will ensure we are able to continue to adapt and evolve technically so we can most effectively carry the message of AA throughout our service area.”
- (5) How the proposal originated: My home group suggested this.
- (6) Why the proposal should be considered: This would be an appropriate use of the money in the Accessibility fund.
- (7) Final comments:

Discussion: \$858.83 sitting in the Accessibility Fund for quite some time and is not earmarked for anything. Fund was originally set up to provide ASL interpreters for hearing impaired participants. It was funded by groups setting up a Blue Can fund. Zoom now provides a Closed Caption option so the need is fulfilled. Roughly \$300 would still remain in the fund and can be easily replenished by starting the Blue Can fund again.

**Motion:** Use \$569.00 from accessibility funds to purchase hardware for the Technology Committee to provide better technology for in person and online meetings to make our district meetings more accessible.

**Passed: Yes - 21, No - 0**

- **Discuss having district meetings (for June, July, August OR July, August, and September if we do not have time to discuss this at the May meeting) in towns or locations within our district other than Bozeman. Is there any interest in doing this this year? Are there any volunteers to host?-** Lenore M.

Discussion included keeping the July Special Event in Bozeman. Concerns about Zoom capabilities at alternate locations. Matt S, Venise Over the Hill Group, said they could host the D72 meeting in August.

**Motion:** Have the District 72 meetings for August & September at alternate locations.

**Passed: Yes - 20, No - 0**

## 10. Old Business:

- **Discuss using the format that Area 40 uses for “Agenda Item Proposals” at our district meetings in terms of writing motions** - Lenore M.

I am gathering info from Area and working on a form that might better suit the district's potential needs in terms of tips and things to consider for writing motions and/or agenda items. I would like to table discussion on this until I can gather the information I need, and have a draft to show you all.

## 11. New Business:

- **If no Special Events chair is elected, form an ad hoc committee (with Betty's help) to plan special events until one is elected-** Betty M.

Not needed since Special Events Committee Chair voted in tonight.

Withdraw agenda item - Betty M.

**REQUEST:** *If you have any items you want added to the next month's agenda, please email it to Lenore at [lenore.maunz777@gmail.com](mailto:lenore.maunz777@gmail.com) at least 10 days in advance of next month's meeting date so there is enough time to add it and send the agenda out.*

**Motion to adjourn @ 6:19pm**

## 12. Responsibility Pledge

*“I am responsible.*

*When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.*

*And for that: I am responsible.”*

**Next district meeting Saturday, April 29th @ 4:30pm – 6:30pm**

**at Bozeman Fellowship Hall and on Zoom.**

**See Area website for happenings in our District and the rest of Area 40  
as well as current District information:**

**[AA-Montana.org](http://AA-Montana.org)**