

DISTRICT 16 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2010

ROLL CALL BY SIGN-IN SHEET

Members Present:

Anthony G. –GSR, Barbara D. –GVR, Michael B. –Schedules Chair,
Kelley S. –Treasurer/GSR, Brian J. –Website Chair, Wayne T. –CO Liaison,
Kelly K. – GSR, Bob W. –GSR, Eric N. –GSR, Marla S. –LDCMA,
Carrie H. –Alt. GSR, Gayle W. –GSR, Adam L. –GSR, Peter S. –CTF/GSR,
Mitch S. –DCM, Shaun P. –GSR, Craig C. –LDCMB, Jim S. –GSR, Matt V. –GSR,
Tina O. –PI/CPC, Mike S. –GSR, Andy L. –GSR, Jason E. –CCF/GSR,
Ian C. –Secretary, Linda P. –PI/CPC Co-Chair, Leah S. –Telephones Chair,
John R. –GSR

Open meeting with Serenity Prayer: Mitch S.

Reading of the 12 Traditions: Tina O. **Reading of the 3rd Concept:** Carrie H.

Reading and approval of last month's meeting minutes:

Motion to accept presented by Andy L., Seconded by Craig C. Motion Approved

Treasurer's Report: Kelley S.

These are the activities for the period of 2/16/10 through 3/17/10. The total income for District 16 was **\$355.63**. The total expenses were **\$652.29**. This leaves us with a net income of **-\$296.66** for the month. District 16's checking balance as of 3/17/10 was **\$2,042.32**. When we subtract our \$1,250 prudent reserve, the district is left with a working balance of **\$792.32**

Motion to Accept presented by Craig C., Seconded by Andy L. Motion Approved

New GSR'S:

None

Announcements: See pg. 2

Committee Reports:

Access Committee (AC): This position is available. If interested in this position or any of the other available positions, please contact Mitch S. at colinsdad03@yahoo.com

Archives: This position is available.

Public Information (PI) / Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC): Tina O. (Chair) and Linda P. (Co-Chair)

Tina has been in touch with Carrie, the DCM from District 7 (Grants Pass), regarding a collaborative PI/CPC workshop. Earlier talks led Tina to believe that District 7 was interested in participating in the proposed event, though most of the work was to fall upon the shoulders of District 16. The more Tina has had time to think about it, she has come to the conclusion that there needs to be more discussion between the districts.

Cooperation with Correctional Facilities (CCF): Jason E.

Jason has sent out the AA "care package" to the Jackson County Chaplain, and if more material is needed the Chaplain will contact Jason. Jason has also been in the process of reaching out to the Talent Work Center and the local Juvenile Facilities. Upon browsing the Internet, Jason came across the **Bridging the Gap Program**. This program coordinates the work of individual AA members and groups who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in treatment facilities, and to set up means of "bridging the gap" from the facility to an AA group in the individuals community. Jason is very interested in this program and plans to contact Oregon Area AA to find out further details.

Cooperation with Treatment Facilities (CTF): Peter S.

Peter has been in contact with Vidas, Eculpia and On-Track and has been drained dry of meeting schedules. Peter would like to allocate a certain number of schedules for these day treatment facilities in the future. Peter is planning on contacting Phoenix Counseling next month. Kelley S. volunteered to drop off schedules to the Arc.

Telephones: Leah S.

There were 70 calls made to the answering service this past month. 47 calls were regarding meeting times and locations (25 men, 22 women). 11 calls were 12-Step calls (5 men and 6 women). 2 calls, both from women, were for information about Central Office. 10 calls were miscellaneous.

Schedules: Michael B.

Michael had brought a schedule proof to the meeting that he passed around the room. This allowed the present members to make changes that they were aware of to the current schedule. And in response to what Peter S. had shared, Michael reported that he has recently dropped off schedules to Phoenix Counseling.

Web Site: Brian J.

Brian has recently added meeting lengths to the on-line schedule found on the District 16 website. In April he plans on bringing in a list of meetings that he is unsure of in regards to meeting length, that he would like to get confirmed and then updated on the website. He hasn't heard anything about the gmail accounts that he had recently set up for the District committee members. Brian also asked the body if it was true that the night meetings at the Alano Club had been changed back to 8:00 pm, running until 9:30, and still with a smoke break. His hunches were confirmed.

Grapevine: Barbara D.

Barbara has recently been pricing out merchandise on the Grapevine Website (her goal is to purchase one of everything and put together a display). She also informed the body that aside from the actual Grapevine magazine there are also Grapevine Archives, audio recordings, GV post cards and calendars available for purchase. Barbara also reported that according to information shared at the last assembly, the General Service Office (GSO) is attempting to become self supporting without having to rely upon it's literature sales to keep them operating in the black. The Grapevine is 100% profit for GSO, and any money made from GV sales goes directly into the GSO reserves. She suggested that if we as members are interested in helping GSO achieve their goal, we could purchase Grapevine subscriptions. Kelley S. asked the body if we as a district were still considering purchasing Grapevine subscriptions for the various correctional facilities in the county. Mitch S. said he would contact these facilities to find out if the subscriptions would be welcomed.

District 16 Liaison to Central Office: Wayne T.

Wayne brought more flyers for the upcoming Central Office Breakfast, as well as 25 copies of the CO newsletter "On the Rogue Again". He wondered if the Central Office could be added to the District 16 contact sheet, which Mitch agreed would happen (their address is already on there, but there phone number and web address will be added). Both Wayne and Kelley S. have breakfast tickets for sale. The cost for adults is \$8.00 and children are \$5.00.

Al-Anon Liaison: Gayle J.

Gayle has brought more Al Anon schedules for the district. She also invited anyone interested to attend the Al Anon Assembly coming up this weekend at the Phoenix High School. The following Saturday at the Talent Community Center, Al Anon will be hosting a bingo night. Marla S. shared that there are rumors of an Alateen meeting being started in Talent, and wondered if there were any others in the area. Gayle shared that there is one meeting in Josephine County, but none in Jackson County.

DCM: Mitch S.

Wow a lot has been happening in A.A. in the Valley and as a whole. At the February Assembly District 16 was assigned to the panel for Agenda, we had a break out session with Districts 7 & 24 and were very lucky to have a past Delegate in the room with us. I can personally say that I found it very informative on how the General Service Conference operates and who and what are involved. I plan on conducting the District Presentation in the same manner done at the assembly. Hopefully it functions as smoothly here as it did there. There were some very interesting ideas on how to help G.S.O. be more self supporting, one of which was to get the message out that Grapevine/ La vina has always put 100% of its sales into the G.S.O. reserves. We all know that the Big Book price increase was something G.S.O. had to do in order to be able to conduct business as usual. This happened because they are working hard to get the message of recovery out to more Alcoholics. Part of the problem here is that Hazelton the company that purchases Big Books for the treatment centers bought a 2 years supply so there is going to be a larger deficit in G.S.O.s' funds as a result. There was a figure thrown out that if every known member of A.A. made a \$7 and some change donation to G.S.O. we would be able to once again purchase the Big Books at cost, which is \$2.50. There has been a practice in A.A. that on your sobriety birthday some of our members have donated the same amount of \$ as they have years to G.S.O. maybe if you like this idea either do it yourself or bring it up at your group to see if this is something your group would support and plug in the beginning of the meeting or during the 7th tradition. Also AA.org is going to be making it easier to donate funds here in the future with a link on their page to make personal or group donations online. There will be a box to check if you are a member of A.A. or not, if you are not there will be a window that opens and states the long form of the 7th tradition, as well as block you from making a donation. Now who's to say that you can't log off, re log on and say that you are and make your donation? (but hey that's between you and God right)

PRAASA report: Wow first off thank you so much that was an awesome experience a lot of what I gathered as far as information was included in the DCMC report, but I have 9 pages of notes tightly written so more like 12 pages normally. I got a newfound respect for the way that Oregon Area 58 conducts business, and how inclusive we always try to be with our G.S.R.'s and groups conscious. There were so many presentations on the how and why of General Service work which always seemed to come full circle back to the simplicity of, "it gets me out of myself", or "giving back what was so freely given." There was a whole panel about the process of selecting the agenda for the General Service Conference, which I was very excited about especially since our district has been assigned to this particular committee. There were panels about the struggles with anonymity in the digital age i.e. Facebook, Myspace, and other social networking sites. I also attended panels on how or what to do if a district has no G.S.R. participation (Thankfully we don't have this problem so I'm going to shut up now so that you will keep coming back!) But you might want to know that out of the \$550 I was sent with I have returned \$270 because of splitting the cost 4 ways between the others that went with me and family buying Saturdays' meals. Thank you so much for allowing me to represent you as your trusted servant- Mitch S. District 16 DCMC

Local DCM's:

A: Marla S.

Besides the fact that this upcoming week is spring break for Marla, which allows her the opportunity to visit new meetings, she had nothing new to report.

Group Report for area A: None

B: Craig C.

Craig shared that the Monday Night Medford Hole in the Wall meeting, which currently meets at 1101 W. Main St at the Probation Office at 7:00 pm, is in danger of losing it's home and will be holding and emergency business meeting on Monday March 22, after the meeting, to discuss it's options. Anyone is welcome to attend. Craig has lost contact with the member who had approached him regarding starting a new meeting at Providence Hospital. Brian J. volunteered to look through his records in hopes of finding the contact information for that member.

Group Reports for area B: None

C: Absent

Marla S. shared with the group that Rick B. will probably need to step down from his position due to a new employment opportunity.

Group Reports for area C:

Peter S. shared that April 7th marks the beginning of Step 4 for the Jacksonville Book Study, which meets Wednesday Nights at the Jacksonville Library located at 340 W. C St. The meeting is held in the Community Room of the library. The first speaker will be A.W. and he will share his experience, strength and hope in the context of Step 4. Peter also shares that the Ruch 9:03 is still at 9:03.

Assembly Chair: Absent

Though Tanea was absent, she had emailed her report to Mitch to be read at District. The Host committee for the November 2010 Area Assembly is keeping busy with internal "to do lists" to complete. Mitch should be reading this report for me, as I am unable to attend the district meeting this month due to birthing classes. Holy crap I am having a BABY!!!! The committee is looking into having the HOME GROUP CROSS DRESSING BEAUTY PAGEANT at the same location as before, Kids Unlimited/Main One. The rates are a little bit higher than two years ago but it is to be expected. We have not secured anything yet so if you have another location in mind, please email me at the district web page: dist16ghost@gmail.com I have had NO ACTION at that email address in some time ☹ (Mitch, please say frownY face). We would all like to thank you for your continued support and will be looking to all of the home groups in District 16 for decoration ideas for the assembly that go with our theme of page 89 in our Big Book "to see a fellowship grow up about you" Thank you all for your service, Tanea B

Old Business: None

New Business:

The first item of business was a tabled motion from the February Assembly. For anyone wanting to read the motion in it's entirety, please visit www.aa-oregon.org. Barbara shared that the motion involves changing a phrase in the 12 Steps and 12 traditions book. She feels that in the forward section of that book it provides us with an answer. This passage shares that, as a fellowship there is a strong sentiment to keep the original writings of our founders intact as is.

At this point Mitch S. shared that if the motion is read carefully all they are asking for is the ability to submit a request to GSO for a change, and that for a change to be made to either the Big Book or the 12 and 12, 75% of the whole worldwide fellowship has to be in favor of it. At this point Mitch asked the body if there was any more discussion and with no response we moved on.

The second item of new business was the tentative date to discuss the agenda items Mitch had brought back from the assembly. Mitch had already been in contact with the Medford Alano Club and had two dates to choose from: Either Saturday, March 20th or Saturday, March 27th from eleven in the morning to one in the afternoon. Mitch was in favor of the 27th just for the fact of having more time to spread the word to the groups in the district. Gayle W. asked Mitch for more clarification on what was going to be happening. Mitch explained that at the last assembly the various districts had been assigned to specific committees, and these committees were going to be discussing specific items pertaining to the General Service Conference. District 16 had been assigned to the Agenda committee along with Grants Pass and Portland. There they discussed the proposed agenda for the 2011 General Service Conference. With the information gathered at this roundtable, it is Mitch's duty as DCM to host an opportunity for the groups in District 16 to meet and discuss these same topics. Once a group conscience has been reached on the discussed topics, Mitch is going to email the information to the Alternate Delegate who will pass it along to the Delegate to review on their way to the conference in April. At this point, with no more discussion, Matt V. made a motion to accept March 27th as the date to meet. This was seconded by Peter S. and passed with a unanimous vote. John R. asked Mitch if this was open to the public. Mitch clarified, not to the public, but it is open to any interested member of AA.

At this point Tina O. brought up the subject of the Medford Hole in the Wall group having to move. She asked anybody who knew what might be discussed at the emergency business meeting. Matt V., the GSR for the Hole in the Wall Group, shared that the Probation Office, where the meeting currently resides, has said the meeting is more than welcome to continue meeting there, it just will not be allowed to store it's belongings there after April 30th. This poses a problem for a meeting that typically has over a hundred members attending every week. So the group is going to meet to discuss their options.

Eric N. asked the body about the concept presentations that used to be part of the meeting. Mitch shared that it had been a long while since anybody had volunteered to give one, so it just faded away. Eric then made a motion to resurrect the 12 Concepts presentations. Barbara D. quickly seconded this. At this point the motion was open for discussion. Carrie H. shared that in her old district, the group used to read one concept at every meeting and then discuss it. Brian J. asked for more explanation. Eric clarified that these were presentations, and not just a reading of the concept out of the service manual. The presentations are similar to what book reports used to be like in grade school. The volunteer would read and research the concept and share, in an easy to understand way, the main points or essence of the Concept. The body then voted, and with an easy two-thirds majority, Eric's motion passed. In April, Eric will give a presentation on Concept 4.

Before we adjourned, Mike S. asked Mitch if there was a written outline that the district could provide to meetings that need help creating more order in their group business meetings. Mitch was more than happy to offer him a district agenda, which at least would give the group a starting point. Barbara D. suggested maybe putting something out on the district website.

Motion to adjourn: Matt V. Seconded by Mike S.

Meeting adjourned: 8:30