

District 61 AA Business Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2024

Opening: The April 4, 2024 District 61 AA Business Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer, followed by roll call and the reading of the Twelve Traditions by Eric. There were 15 GSRs present representing district groups, and 12 committee members/chairs present.

Concept: Concept 4 was read by Keith.

7th Tradition was collected for in person participants and Venmo information was provided for those online.

Calendar: The calendar was reviewed and approved. Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved for the March 2024 meeting.

REPORTS:

Treasurer Report:

Hello District 61 members. Here is the March recap for the District:

Income for last month totaled \$1,020.52. Breakdown is as follows:

7th Tradition \$20.52

Literature Sales \$468.00

Group Contributions \$400.00

PO Box Refund \$132.00

Our expenses totaled \$385.84. Breakdown is:

Literature Store - Power \$63.53

Literature Store - Rent \$185.00

Church Rent \$50.00

Grapevine \$87.31

With these transactions, our checking account balance is \$1,415.16, and our prudent reserve is \$948.67 – for a total of \$2,363.83 in District funds. Pink Can account has \$35.00.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Kim Aiken

district61aatreasurer@gmail.com

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DCM

Heeeeeeeeyyyyyy District!!

Who's ready for a fun weekend in Great Falls? I know I am! Hopefully you all received the preassembly flyer with talking points that I sent out a few weeks ago and had a chance to discuss the items with your groupssince only three GSR's attended the preassembly. Tisk tisk!! It did get me thinking about the pre-assemblies that we used to hold prior to Covid. We rented boulder Hot Springs and would join together with other nearby districts for preassembly... Sharing in food costs, and what not. I wonder if we got back to in person preassembly there would be better attendance and participation. Something to think about!

Anyway.... As far as area assembly is concerned, I sent out a separate email with all the info you will need to access while you're there... That included the final agenda, additional literature background information, and the dashboard login for all agenda items background information.

If you are voting member please sign in as soon as possible to the district sign in on our table. Just a reminder that voting members include DCM and GSR's or alternate GSR's if your GSR is not available. Committee chairs do not get a vote on floor actions, but they do get a vote in Committee meetings.

If Your Group has an interest in a specific agenda item. Make sure you log onto that dashboard and read up on the background information so you can add informed feedback or questions at the Mic! Don't be afraid to get up there talk... Your groups voice is important!

In my opinion, we usually have one of the funniest tables at area! I would like to encourage anyone to bring candy, stickers or silent props of any kind... Let's have fun! I'll organize a district dinner on Saturday night, so when you get there Friday make sure I have your phone number so I can send group message. This has always been a fun tradition, all are welcome!

And finally... Committee members make sure you save receipts for hotel, fuel and food to turn in to Kim for reimbursement. And same thing goes for GSR's to turn into your group treasurer.

Area assembly can be overwhelming... Please don't hesitate to ask me any questions about what's going on!!! You Guys are awesome!!

Love, Krissy

Committee Reports:

Archives:

No report

Bryan S.

Bridging the Gap

No report

Kari

Corrections

Good evening district 61. This is your march corrections report. Lewis And Clark County, jail on the men's and women's side seems to be going well. We have had a bit of difficulty getting in. It seems like a lot of us Have been waiting from a half hour to an hour to get in. Just talk to TJ from the Boulder Jail and he said things are going great down there, but he hasn't had takers for a couple of weeks. I also just talk to Russ. Who does the pre Release, he said things are going great there also. The Townsend jail is doing well To the best of my knowledge, I have not talked to Diane in a couple of weeks. Gary said the prison is going well and they are still slated to have a Mini conference in September. Planning for the mega workshop is going well! We're going to have our last meeting April 29th Monday at the Wilson house at 5:30. Thank you for letting me serve! Jamey C

Jamey

CPC

First, a reminder that the CPC committee is now meeting on the last Tuesday of the month: April 24th. The time remains the same: noon at the library in the community room. Our April agenda includes:

We are meeting with Father Dan, who has agreed to discuss avenues to reach out to clergy and other spiritual leaders in the community.

We have an introductory meeting scheduled with the Director of the Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program at the VA. Ryan shared the materials and information after we met last month, and she seems very interested in learning more.

CPC has a part to play in the Corrections and Treatment workshop on May 4th - more to follow on that!

Finally: I will be attending the Assembly via zoom, as I have whatever flu/cold thing is going around. Darn!.

Deborah

Grapevine:

The big news for the Grapevine is that there is a new book available.

"Our Twelve Steps is a brand-new collection of stories from AA members about the joys and challenges of working the program's Twelve Steps of recovery. Each chapter illuminates a different Step through the experiences of a wide variety of AA members. This volume features all-new, up to date stories from the pages of Grapevine, the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Great for sponsees and AA Step meetings. #GV47 \$13.99". That description was lovingly stolen from the Box 459 newsletter.

In literature news that is not Grapevine, there are two new pieces of literature translated into Haitian Creole. One is "how it works" and the other is the pamphlet "Is AA for you?". I mentioned this because this is a project of our former delegate Libby L. from the Flathead, who, after going to Haiti to help after their hurricane, realize there was no literature. It is so wonderful to see her efforts pay off.

Have you ever considered writing an article or sending in a joke or photo to the Grapevine? The resources for how to do that are available through the app, which you all should have downloaded by now, and the AA grapevine.org website. On the app, just go to menu, and there will be a category for submitting to the Grapevine.

Looking forward to seeing you in Great Falls.

Rebecca

Literature

Sales for March totaled \$468.20, all to groups and individuals.

All service positions are still filled!

Just a reminder that if you are writing a check for books, please make it out to District 61. As always, if you need a case of books, please let me know so I can make sure the store remains stocked for the newcomer. You can reach me at 406-293-1486.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Katelyn S
District 61 Literature Store Chair
kbethshea@gmail.com
406-293-1486

Public Information/Answering Service:

Good evening District 61. I had another 1000 copies of the mtg schedule made and have filled the racks at the jail, library, women's friendship center, alano club, Boyd Andrews, and I also left a big stack at the bookstore. I am going to make sure the store is full so if anyone needs any between these meetings they can reach out to me or pick some up at the store. I have some amazing people helping me to keep the racks full, but I am trying to also get around to all of them so I can get a visual and help out if they get busy and can't get to them. Also, if you need some, please help yourself tonight.

I am now hooked up online, thank you Krissy and Alex. If you have any changes to the mtgs online, I can update those as well.

Looking forward to my first area meeting this weekend. That's all for now. Thank you for letting me be of service.

Dawn

Treatment

Hello District 61! Thank you for presenting this material to your groups as follows. Meetings as listed:

MCDC- Treatment facility in Butte. Held the 1st Saturday of the month. Meeting is at 630pm. Meet at Albertsons at 5pm on Fee street. Please contact Amy N, Tom F., or Jon C to get you on the volunteer list. 1-2 year sob requirement. Please know this time of year warrants winter conditions.

BHU- Weekly meeting on Tuesdays at the BHU in St Peters Helena. Meeting starts at 630 pm. Please contact Anya or Amy N if interested in a Tuesday. 1-2 year sob requirement.

Elkhorn- This is a weekly meeting on Saturdays at 1030 at the women's treatment center in Boulder that our coordinator Jan has asked me to announce. Please contact Amy N or Jan and we will get you on a rotating list. This requires a PREA training prior that Shawn Frederick does on Mondays a 4 at the pre release. (Interesting and well done). 1-2 year sob requirement.

Boyd Andrews- Monthly speaker meeting the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9 and 10am. Share your story to these groups!

Warm Springs Anaconda-(D wing Mondays and Wednesdays) please contact myself if interested in this Area. Butte District 71 has mainly been covering this area but could always use new peeps! Aaron states they also take meetings into WATCH CCP West on Wednesdays. He also states could use people!

*1-2 year sobriety requirement includes actively working with a sponsor and the steps. Also, if someone has 1 year of active sobriety (working with sponsor and steps), they can attend MCDC with someone with longer time.

We are announcing, and I am also asking for help in announcing, the hopes and start of a plan for a meeting out at the VA. This would be a meeting on the VA grounds, giving the veterans easy access to. AA members chairing would need to go through the list of requirements that were outlined in Ryan's proposal. I have had input from one person interested thus far.

Corrections/Treatment workshop with be May 4th . Mark you calendars!

Planning with the Mega meeting is coming along nicely. We have great speakers, as well as professionals from the community attending. Copperline is catering. We now need to work on the printed Agenda and further advising our speakers on their positions. Please spread the word and flyers. The next Mega meeting is April 1st at 530 at the Wilson House.

Fun fact on West Central Regional AA Service Conference: what a wonderful way to facilitate joining with others in our surrounding states. The West central region includes Mt (Area 40), Wy (Area 76), N. Dakota (Area 52), S. Dakota (Area 63), Nebraska (Area 41), N. Minnesota (Area 35), S. Minnesota (Area 36), and Iowa (Area 24). The theme this year was 'Connecting with

Love, Unity and Service'. The purpose of the WCRAAC is to develop greater unity among members, groups and areas of the WCR. To exchange ideas and experiences and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of AA. Recovery, Unity and Service should always be the primary purpose of each conference- the thought of how we can serve better.

I liked the discussion on carrying the message through sponsorship and Homegroups. Homegroups give us voice to AA as a whole. A process that forms the very cornerstone of AAs service structure. The very essence of AA strength has remained through our homegroup. The ultimate responsibility and final authority for world services, resides with the groups, rather than the trustees, the General Service Board or the General Service Office. The entire structure of AA depends upon the participation and conscience of the individual groups, and how each of these groups conducts its affairs has a ripple effect on AA everywhere. As it says in Concept 1: The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for AA world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

Pamphlet: The AA Group. Where it all begins' is a handy informative tool.

WCRAAC 2025 will be Feb 28-March 2 Casper. Wy.

Our annual Pockets of Enthusiasm March 15th and 16th was AMAZING as always. 2 days of bliss and approximately 130 friends in the same room of love and Light. Wow. Big shout out to that committee. My hats off and well done. Especially to the ones in the kitchen! Big job and you handled it in stride. My heros.

I look forward to Spring Assembly April 5-7 in Gt Falls.

I also look forward to attending some jail meetings and being a part of this area. Thank you Claudia for all your work there. Thank you everyone who helps coordinate and come together in so many different areas of Treatment. This truly could not be done without Unity.

I am excited to be part of the planning committee for the next Attitude of Gratitude.

Amy N.

Anya: 406-465-0711 Tom F.: 406-438-1844 Kari: 406-371-6959

Jon C.: 406-603-0953 Jan Z.: 406-459-0970 Dave P.: 415-342-5195

Tech

No report

Workshops

Hello District 61! The Attitude of Gratitude committee had its first meeting on March 25. All of the committees are filled, but there is always room to help!! The event will be at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church again this year on Nov. 23. We are so excited and look forward to having another great conference this year. It won't be as cheap as last year, but still well worth the cost. Save the Date flyers are on the table. Please take some back for your homegroups!! I will be taking a stack of them to Area Assembly as well.

Summer is coming and the workshops calendar is light. Grapefest will be this summer along with the BTG workshop, but more to come on those events as the time gets closer.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you!

Karla I.

Group Reports

Krissy from Shiloh from Wilson House prepared a list of the meetings that are held at the Wilson House. If you have changes, please let me know and I can get them to her.

Laurie C. May 3rd Recovery speak will be a “Fellon’s meeting”.

Karla new meeting Saturday 9 pm meeting at the Wilson House. Going through the stories in the back. Could use support.

Old Business:

Tabling the job description review until next meeting.

New Business:

Karla – proposal for agenda for Fall assembly re: dealing with the cover on the 5th Addition of the Big Book. Looks like the old jacket cover, but it cannot be removed. People concerned with the brightness of the jacketless cover. The old blue cover was more appropriate.

Dave - WATCH is back open and need background check and see Dave. Tickets for sale for the Corrections/Treatment committee. Lastly, needs a contact for someone in Great Falls.
(Received information from people)

Concept 5 volunteer - Brian

The April 4, 2024 District meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement @ 7.04 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Donahoe.