

Area 40 - District 72 Business Meeting

July 30, 2022

4:30pm-6:30pm

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

1. Opened with the serenity prayer

2. **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."- Angie S.

3. Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions- Maurice

4. Reading of Concept 7: Rick shared on this

5. Establish quorum - 5 online, 16 in person - 21 total

6. Approved June 2022 meeting minutes- Cassidy made a motion, unsure who seconded, voted (unanimous?), passed

7. Introductions/Attendance:

Visitors (attended online): None

(attended in person): Dennis

GSRs and reports:

Pat (attended online) **H.O.W. Group** (Bozeman) - Live meetings and Zoom meetings, concurrent (not hybrid). **Sunday night speaker meeting time will change on 9/4 from 7:30pm to 7pm**

John (attended in person) **Tuesday at 8pm** (Bozeman)- All in person, averaging about 15 people a week

Karon (attended in person) **Pink Cloud** (Bozeman)- Still hybrid, about 6 in the room, 6 on Zoom.

Jennifer (attended in person) **Women's Serenity Group** (Bozeman)- Didn't clarify terms of cost-sharing agreement with other groups when they started. Suggesting that if you engage in cost-sharing with others you may want to consider all aspects prior.

Alex (attended online) **Bozeman Young People's** (Bozeman)- Meeting in person Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday night. Annual kickball event 8/7/22 at Kirk Park at 1pm then speaker event afterwards at the hall at 7pm.

Jeff (attended in person) **Big Sky** - Big Sky Chapel, Saturday meeting is hybrid, rest are in person. Crowd seems to be a little higher the last couple of months.

James (attended online) **Not a Glum Lot** - All online meeting.

Phil (attended in person) Thursday noon men's meeting) - averaging 12-15 people pretty steadily

Maurice (attended in person) **Friday Men's Group** - averaging 18 or 19 which is a slight decrease. Peace of Christ Church.

David (attended in person) **Early Risers Group** (Bozeman) - 16-22 people in attendance. Hybrid meeting. More in person than on Zoom.

Aaron (attended in person) **Primary Purpose** (Bozeman) - all in person, attendance is good.

Nikki (attended in person) **Rebellion Dogs** (Bozeman) - Dez is the new GSR for Reb Dogs, there's an Old Timers event coming up.

8. Committee Reports

Treasurer-Leah T. (attended in person)

- \$8632.69 current balance. Operating balance is \$4509.74
- Bank made a mistake, amount was off by \$.30, Leah will get that corrected
- Will deposit Hospital Group's check from last month
- Found at the bottom of the cash bag a check from Cooke City Group from 9/21/21 for \$86, Leah will contact the group

Answering Service- Gillian (no report)

Archives- Catherine (attended online)

- AA National Archives conference coming up in September. Same dates as Area Assembly. It is in Little Rock Arkansas. 2023 event is in Canada. Contact Catherine with any questions.

Bridging the Gap- Phil (attended in person)

- 4 requests this month.

CPC / Cooperation with the Professional Community- Neil (attended in person)

- Got a forwarded email from the Mobile Crisis Response Team in Livingston, sending out feelers for more information about AA. A group that goes in when there's a domestic disturbance to determine whether there's a mental health issue after police determine it's safe.

Corrections- Jennifer (attended in person)

- Took some pamphlets from the Fellowship Hall for a law enforcement event.
- Inventoried literature in the detention center. Still working on getting a stamp for literature.
- Jennifer met with the program director at the Detention Center and she offered to pay for a cell phone for inmates to call members of AA. This is just in early stages of conversation.
- Will follow up with Sarah about fixing the jail application on the website to say the correct year.
- AA Hotline is not working well for GCDC because you would need to call the person back and you can't call into the detention center. Answering Service may want to look into this.

Grapevine- Angie (attended in person)

- New Grapevine is out, about traveling sober.
- New publication called Fun in Sobriety and has inspiring stories for alcoholics.
- Looking for stories from sober military members. Email Militaryoutreach@aa.org if you'd like to contribute.

Literature- Amy K (attended online)

- Sold literature to 3 groups, put in an order for Daily Reflections for Corrections (came out of the Pink Can). Received hardcover Big Books finally. New Service Manuals are also in.

Public Information-Sarah (no report)

Special Events-Savannah (attended in person)

- Service and Volleyball event happened, pretty good turnout.
- Planning Delegate's report event.

Treatment- Jennifer for Chris (not in attendance)

- Invite each group in the district to volunteer at MCDC one weekend of the year.
- Ask for 1 year of sobriety to bring a meeting to Treatment.

Round-up Chair- Cassidy for Bruce (not in attendance)

- We are ready to open a bank account, wondering whether they should use District tax number. Betty will contact Bruce about her experience in 2020 with this. Tentative dates are 3rd weekend in September 2023. Does not have an AI-Anon rep yet. Still looking for people to volunteer to help. Contact Nikki or Bruce if you are interested in volunteering. Bruce's phone number: 406-570-3519.
- Pat made a point that Bruce should probably attend a District meeting to answer questions rather than just supplying people with Bruce's phone number.

Alt. DCM-Betty (attended in person)

- Still doing background stuff. Going to meetings, preparing meeting agenda.

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

- National AA Technology workshop is coming up September 25th in Seattle. Naatw.org
- Area Assembly coming up September 9th-11th in Great Falls at the Holiday Inn.
 - We have some excess funds at the District level and we do have scholarship opportunities if anybody would like to attend
 - Cassidy would like to attend the Tech committee at Area Assembly. Asked whether he would be able to apply for a scholarship. Rick cited the District guidelines in asserting that he is not eligible because his position is not an official one.
- Kalispell Roundup coming up

9. Old Business

- Continuing discussion for proposed changes to District Guidelines for the Treasurer position
 - Recap of last month's proposed changes: change language to not sound like 3 signatures are required on checks, Treasurer's committee would meet "quarterly" instead of "several times a year".
 - Several groups noted they weren't able to discuss in their business meetings yet.
 - Phil proposed adding a periodic outside audit, hiring a professional to go over the books periodically. Suggested we add this to the guidelines. Leah mentioned there would likely be a cost associated with that.
 - Some concerns about anonymity were raised - likely there would be a confidentiality agreement with a professional to alleviate anonymity concerns
 - Currently we have the finance committee in the guidelines as performing periodic audits
 - HOW group was in support of all the proposals as written.
 - Big Sky group raised concerns again about changing the name from Budget to Spending Plan.
 - Rick shared that the reason behind the suggested change is that a "budget" implies you expect a certain amount of income. By calling it a "spending plan", we are focused on what we expect to spend rather than what we expect to take in
 - Conversation was around how we use historic spending and income when determining our budget/spending plan for the year so we **are** projecting what we expect to take in
 - It was suggested that maybe this is just a semantics concern. The concern was about whether we are talking about past information (which the Big Sky group would expect to be called "Budget") vs. future projections (which the Big Sky group would expect to be called "Spending Plan").

- Big Sky group also suggested we change “Operating Balance” to “Surplus” which is how it is reported at GSO.
- Big Sky Group expressed concern about the presentation of the data. It appears that Area 40 uses an accounting program (maybe Quickbooks?) with a standard report to include income and expenses on the same page. Big Sky group is suggesting we present the financial data differently in a more standardized accounting format. Rick mentioned that changing the format would be a separate agenda item.
- Jerry made a motion to table this discussion and have Jeff bring his points in a separate agenda item for next month. Savannah seconded.
 - Discussion followed about how next month is elections and will be very busy. Motion was amended to table to September meeting.
 - Karon asked that the agenda item come out prior to the September meeting so that the groups can have an informed group conscience prior to the September district meeting
 - Discussion happened about whether the Big Sky group’s concerns substantively change the proposed guideline changes. Trusted servant tradition 9 was discussed about whether the format of the treasurer’s report was a discussion that should be had at the District level vs. the committee level.
 - Motion restated: Table this discussion until September when Big Sky group will create an agenda item with requested changes to the proposal with plenty of time for groups to give feedback. Motion passed (*unsure of for and against numbers*) Minority opinion was shared. Vote to reconsider failed. Original motion passed.

10. New Business

- Elections are in August. Please review the District 72 guidelines to get familiar with the positions. Will be using 3rd legacy procedure for elections. Earl F will be running elections for us.

11. Closed with Responsibility Pledge

Next district meeting Saturday, August 27 @ 4:30pm – 6:30pm at Bozeman Fellowship Hall and on Zoom