

Area 40 - District 72 Business Meeting

October 26, 2024

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. Read the District 72 Safety Statement
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)
 - Voting members in attendance: 23

4. **Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions.**

5. **Reading of Concept Ten**

X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

6. **Questions about last month's minutes? Can I have a motion to approve the September 2024 minutes?** (meeting held 9/28/2024)
 - **Motion to accept:** passed

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

Lila H, **Bozeman Young People's Group** (Bozeman) - meet Sun, Tues, Thurs @ 7pm. Sun is a Step Study meeting. Business meeting held 1st Tues. 8:15pm. Group checkbook up and working great, writing checks. Our speaker meeting is growing. Elections will be in a few weeks.

Bob C, **Belgrade Common Solution** (Belgrade) - meet Sundays @ 5pm, business meeting held 2nd Sun @ 6:15pm. Things are going well.

Chopper B, **Vennis Over The Hill Group** (Ennis) - Meet Mon. Wed, Fri @ 7:30pm, Tues. @ 9am, Sun. in Virginia City @ 10am. Business meeting held 3rd Mon. @ 8:45pm. (Mon & Fri meetings are hybrid) I'm the new GSR. Things are going well. We will have a Xmas party 12/5 in Jeffers, and a group conscience in February 2025. Our groups primary purpose is to help the still suffering alcoholic and where they can detox in the community. If anyone has ideas please reach out to our group.

Tim K, **H.O.W. Group** (Bozeman) - meet Sun, Mon, Thurs, Sat, birthday meeting last Thurs of month. Business meeting 2nd Thurs of month @ 8:15pm. Group Speaker Event was well attended.

Catherine J, **Hospital Group** (Bozeman) - we meet in the Bitterroot Meeting Room (Entrance 1). We ask the AA members to join us in this space face to face as our meeting needs support. In person attendance is low, our online support is greater. The meeting ID is 907 401 861 (password hospital) We hold our business meeting on the first Monday of the month at 5pm and we celebrate Birthdays the last Sunday of the month. We'd love to see new faces and old ones too. Ken S. celebrates 20 year on Sunday, Oct 27.

Melinda W, **Tuesday at 8 Group** (Bozeman) - meets at St. James Episcopal church, business meeting held 1st Tues. of the month. Elections held & positions filled.

Autumn H, **Friday Night Beginners Group** (Bozeman) - meets Fridays at 6pm, 20 minute speaker followed by discussion.

Connie L, **Fellowship Group** (Bozeman) - meet Thurs 7:30pm - 8:30pm Grand Avenue Christian Church, business meeting held second Thurs. of the month.
Attendance 15-18 people, haven't had elections yet.

Kristi D, **6th Chapter Group** (Bozeman) - meet Sun. @ 11am. Things are going good.

Jax F, **LGBTQ+ & Friends** (Bozeman) - meet Sat. @ 6pm, good attendance.

Bradley G, **Itching Hour** (Bozeman) - our groups been meeting for 2 decade but are now going to become official and register with GSO. Our attendance is anywhere from 5-20 people, steady stream of newcomers. We meet Fri, Sat, Sun - 9pm.

Visitors: Brian (Tech. Committee), Doreen M. (Alt GSR), Sean

8. Introductions and Committee Reports:

(Reminder to send any reports, flyers or information district72.secretary@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Meghan R. -

- Income:
 - 7th tradition: \$563.29
 - Pink Can: \$250
- Expenses: \$80
- Operating balance: \$4036.76
- Amount we currently have in excess of our max operating balance: \$1185.13
- Mistake in Literature income recording on the Treasurer's Report from July that I fixed. Originally reflects \$0 of income in July but should have said \$435.30
- We are officially registered as a non-profit with the IRS and the State of Montana! We've requested the Quickbooks software through TechSoup and should have access to that by the middle of next week.

(see email attachment D72 treasurer's report Oct. 2024, or find it on the Area 40 in District 72 Mini Site)

Answering Service: Dustin G. - (absent - Joanne M. read report)

- Nothing to report.

Archives: Gail M. -

- It has come to my attention that the District 72 archives are missing years of business meeting agendas and minutes. I will be trying to fill in the blanks as much as I can.
- If you would like to interview an old-timer who sobered up in Gallatin, Park or Madison Counties to add to the archives, we would love to have it. We would like to have a recorded version of interviews as well as a transcript. Please let me know if you are interested. Nel has volunteered to interview Dennis S. and transcribe it to add to the archives. I have not had an update from them on where it stands.

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

- We Welcomed visitors the incoming chair and a new committee member for 2025-2026 rotation
- Doreen has been in contact with the professors teaching the psych nursing course at MSU. Nursing. They are interested in an AA presentation in the spring semester.
- We'll be presenting with Al-Anon at the Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association on November 13
- We're in discussions to arrange a presentation at the Counseling and Psychological Services at MSU Student Wellness Center
- The director of the MSU addiction counseling certificate program, an online academic program that prepares students pursue licensure as a Licensed Addiction Counselor (LAC) is interested in us presenting to one or more of his classes.
- We will be attending and displaying literature (not full exhibit) at the American Society of Addiction Medicine "Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder" conference on November 7-8. The target audience includes pharmacists, physicians, counselors, social workers, physician assistants/associates, nurse practitioners, and nurses.

- We continue to follow up with contacts at the Bozeman/Gallatin County Corrections/treatment court/ and Bozeman Family Outreach – (referral from PI committee)
- We discussed the possibility of arranging a presentation for HR professionals in businesses in the District—perhaps a noon online meeting
- The National PI/CPC working group continues to be an excellent resource for the exchange of ideas and resources. The October meeting included discussions of research on stigmatization of alcohol use disorder among health professionals, mainly doctors. The findings point to a critical need for enhanced education and training programs to equip physicians with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively manage addiction cases. Other discussions included:
 - Some meeting participants cited difficulty of getting into hospitals—some have to have literature for all recovery options posted, not just AA; nurses are more likely to have bedside contact and may be better target audience for AA to reach out to and provide presentations. Key contact in hospitals is education director.
 - Presentation on use of AI/Chat GPT for identifying relevant conferences and Generating images for posters and flyers
 - Outreach to first response professionals (police, fire, EMT, ambulance drivers, etc.)
 - Motion for an additional appendix for updated Dr’s opinion for the Big Book is being put forward by New Mexico/Area 46. We may see that on the 2025 (or later) GSC agenda.

Grapevine & La Vina / Structure: Savannah D. - (absent - Joanne M. read report)

- **The Gift Of Gratitude**
This month’s featured section is “Neurodivergence in AA,” with powerful stories by AA members with autism, ADHD, dyslexia, social anxiety, and Down syndrome. We also include some wonderful gratitude and Thanksgiving stories.
- **Grapevine Daily Quote October 26**
“In this life we shall attain nothing like perfect humility and love. So we shall have to settle, respecting most of our problems, for a very gradual progress, punctuated sometimes by heavy setbacks. Our old-time attitudes of ‘all or nothing’ will have to be abandoned.”
AA Co-Founder, Bill W., March 1962, “What Is Acceptance?”, The Language of the Heart
[Sign up to receive GV’s Daily Quote](#)
- **IMPORTANT UPDATES**
FROM THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE
2025 International Convention:[Registration Opens September 10, 2024 \(Noon EDT\)](#)
Make plans to attend the 2025 A.A. [International Convention](#) scheduled in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. [To learn more, click here.](#)
FROM AA GRAPEVINE
The new price for a yearly [La Viña print subscription is \\$18.00](#), effective January 1, 2025
YPAA World Tour: [Audio Stories from Young People in AA](#)
[American Sign Language](#) Videos for Deaf Alcoholics!
[Prices for a yearly subscription effective April 15, 2024](#)
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The Gift of Gratitude
Joy on a Full Moon
Thoughts Come & Go
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Literature: Amy K. -

- Slow month - \$5.00/books, \$9.83/pink can
- Going to order 6 cases of Plain Language Big Books on Nov. 1 - 4 cases already sold, this will give district 2 cases in stock for sale. Cost is \$11 per book, there are 20 books in a case. (\$880.00 already sold, received \$320.00 upfront)

PI (Public Information): Katie M. -

- We did not order schedules this month.
- The PI committee has delivered schedules to 41 locations, mailed to 18 locations, and we have emailed to 1 location.
- 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.
 - **GSRs could you please announce? We always need more volunteers!**
- The committee has been working on holiday PSA's. Traditionally our district has placed a PSA in the Bozeman + Livingston papers. Last year we also added the Belgrade + Big Sky paper + KGLT radio. This year we have decided to put our PSA in the online version of the paper, and we will still have some PSA's in the printed paper. We will continue to do KGLT. We have added the Bozeman Magazine. And we have also added putting flyers around Bozeman + Livingston with our holiday PSA.
- Spending plan :
Current PI spending plan : \$2,750 / year
Total already used (primarily on schedules): \$ 1545
 - Monthly schedules - about \$200/ mo = \$2,400/yr
 - Quarterly Schedules - about \$380/ quarter = \$1540/yr
 PSA total for this holiday season: \$945
Total remaining after PSA plan: \$ 280
(+ we may need to buy more schedules this quarter)
We spend less on schedules, but we are getting them to roughly 38 additional locations than when I started this position. We have been able to reallocate the funds dedicated to Public Information to make a much broader reach with PSA's.
- Next committee meeting is on Thursday Nov 14th at 6pm If you or anyone in your home group would like to volunteer please contact me.

Special Events: Valerie K. -

- Nothing to report

Bridging the Gap: Tony B. -

- Thank you to D72 for sending me to BTG Workshop, I learned a lot. Next workshop will be in the spring of 2025.
- At the workshop I learned BTG target applicants should be from treatment centers. Ours are 99% from Gallatin Valley Detention Center (GVDC).
- We had 2 requests in October - 1 near Billings, 1 in Bozeman area

Corrections: Jennifer M. - (absent - Joanne M. read report)

- Nothing new to report in corrections this month.

Treatment: Chris O. - (absent)

- No report

Technology: Bradley G. -

- The committee did not meet this month.
- Items under consideration:
 - A discounted Zoom license via the District's new Tech Soup account.
- Reminder send screen shares to: Area40.district72@gmail.com

Alt. DCM: Lenore M. -

- Thank you everyone for standing for new positions. I'm excited about the 2025-2026 rotations
- Please remember our next D72 meeting will be held on December 14, 2024.

DCM: Betty M. -

- Area 40 Service Rotation Workshop - Nov. 16 (Virtual event)
- Attitude of Gratitude, Helena - Nov. 23
- Recovery Group Speaker Event & Workshop, Billings - Dec. 6 & 7
- Area 40 Hotline Workshop - Dec. 15 (Virtual event)

(All information can be found on the Area 40 website calendar)

9. Immediate Business:

- **Review the Proposed Spending Plan for 2025** - Meghan R.

(see email attachment D72 2025 Proposed SPending Plan)

Spending plan was reviewed, explained, and adjustments made.

- Heard back from Secretary, Literature, PI, CPC, DCM, and Technology committee chairs. The rest we made some educated guesses/suggestions based on what we know is coming up and/or what we've seen spent in past years.
- DCM: kept the total amount, reallocated based on location of events and past expenses
- Treasurer: added line items for Quickbooks and annual filing with MT Secretary of State Archives: Increased because we weren't sure whether printing off hard copies of items is required?
- Bridging the Gap: Reading through the District Guidelines, we found that part of this committee's responsibilities is to travel to the MCDC meeting monthly and give a presentation on BTG. We added a travel line because of this.
- Corrections: I added a line for going to MSP -not sure if this is still happening or will on a monthly basis?
- Grapevine: Based on current price of 2 year print subscription
- Literature: added \$40 for the receipt books that are used to track purchases from groups and individuals
- Misc: Reduced the amount for copies for committee chairs - this budget historically hasn't been used much
- Round-up - we'll be hosting the 2027 Spring Round-up. District Guidelines direct us to elect this position 2 years in advance so I expect we'll be electing a Round up chair in May. I've added a line item for seed money to be set aside for this committee when it's Formed.

Area Designated Chairs: We have 2 of them, I included money in the spending plan for both to attend both area assemblies

- **Recommendation for excess District 72 funds-** Finance Committee (presented by Meghan R)
Excess funds: \$1185.13
 - Expected expenses through the end of the year:
 - PI: Meeting schedules (\$300) and Holiday PSAs (\$900)
 - Rent: \$300
 - Special Event: \$125
 - Literature: New Plain Language Big Books for inventory: \$440
 - Total: \$2065
 - If we were not to get any more contributions from the books through the end of the year, and IF these were our only outstanding expenses, our operating balance would be at \$1971.76. Remember that this amount does NOT include our prudent reserve, pink can fund, or accessibility fund.
 - The recommendation from the Finance committee is for GSRs to share this information with their groups and take it into consideration when doing splits through the remainder of 2024. We will easily spend down the excess in the next 2 months if we aren't receiving contributions from the groups.
 - Why do we have this excess? There were several budgets not used this year including some from the DCM due to being unable to attend the Service Conference, treatment not receiving reimbursement for travel to MCDC, and our area designated chairs not participating in Area Assemblies.
- **Proposed changes to the District Guidelines for the Treasurer officer service position description** - Meghan R.
Agenda item moved to next month.

10. Old Business:

(This agenda item was listed as new business on agenda but should have been under old business)

- **Discussion to add "Provide oral and written reports at the monthly District 72 business meeting" to all service position descriptions in the District 72 guidelines (except for Secretary)-** Lenore M.
 - The reason to not include the Secretary is because the Secretary's monthly minutes serve as their written report
 - Currently the following District service position descriptions don't mention anything about an oral and/or written report: District Committee Member (DCM), Alternate District Committee Member (Alt DCM), Answering Service, Bridging the Gap,
 - Currently the following service position descriptions refer to an oral and/or written report, but with inconsistent language: Archives, Corrections, Grapevine/La Vina, Literature, Public Information (PI), Treatment, Special Events, District Inventory, Roundup Chair

Motion: To add to all service position descriptions in the District Guidelines (except secretary) the following statement:

"Ensure oral and written reports are provided at the monthly District 72 Business Meeting"

Passed: YES - 21, NO - 0

11. New Business:

- Discussion to add “Participates in the Finance Committee as lead by the Treasurer” to the District Committee Member (DCM), Alternate District Committee Member (Alt DCM), Secretary, and Literature Chair service position descriptions in the District 72 Guidelines- Lenore M.

- It is currently only mentioned in the Treasurer service position description that the DCM, Alt DCM, Secretary, and Literature chair are the members of the finance committee

Motion: To add “Participates in the Finance Committee as lead by the Treasurer” to the District Committee Member (DCM), Alternate District Committee Member (Alt DCM), Secretary, and Literature Chair service position descriptions in the District 72 Guidelines.

Passed: YES - 20, NO - 0

Motion to adjourn @ 6:30pm

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.”

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 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. This would be December 4, 2024.*

Please send any items to be screenshared & displayed at the next D72 meeting to:
area40.district72@gmail.com

**Next district meeting Saturday, December 14th , 2024, 4:30pm – 6:30pm
at Fellowship Hall, Bozeman 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

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The link to our District mini site is:

<https://www.aa-montana.org/district-sites/dist72/index.php>

*If your group has an event flyer you wish to post on the Area 40 Calendar of Events
please send to: webmaster@aamontana.org*