

Area 40 - District 72 Business Meeting

December 10, 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."- Betty

3. Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions - Katie M.

4. Reading of Concept 12: Betty spoke about Concept 12

5. **Betty shared some reminders** re: Roberts Rules of order and how the conversation/voting happens in these meetings.

6. Establish quorum - 16 online, 14 in person - **30 voting members total**

7. Approved October 2022 meeting minutes- Katie moved to approve, Dez seconded

8. Introductions/Attendance:

Visitors (attended online):

(attended in person): Lenore, Joanne, Susan, Warren, Jeff

GSRs and reports:

Pat (attended online) **H.O.W. Group** (Bozeman) - Meeting at Church of Christ and on Zoom - concurrent. Monday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday (speaker at the live Sunday meeting, discussion at the Zoom Sunday meeting). **Group is discontinuing all online meetings effective January 1, 2023.** Looking for a new home by the end of March because the Church of Christ has sold its property. Susan H is new GSR for the HOW group.

Karon (attended in person) **Pink Cloud** (Bozeman) - Megan P is incoming GSR, still looking for home group members, currently have 6-10 who attend on Zoom every week and several who come to face to face as well. **In need of people willing to make service commitments.**

Jennifer (attended in person) **Women's Serenity Group** (Bozeman) - Having a business meeting on Tuesday, encouraging spirit of rotation, hoping to rotate positions on Tuesday, if not Jennifer will be stepping down as GSR no earlier or later than June. Non AA related announcement: there is a Saturday afternoon group called the Sisters Group and is an offshoot for female members of any recovery group. Contact Jennifer if you'd like more information.

Alex (attended online) **Bozeman Young People's** (Bozeman) - Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday at 7pm at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman. Lila H is new GSR, Valerie is the alt GSR

Gail (attended online) **Wednesday Noon** (Bozeman) - Have not elected a new GSR at this point, hybrid, only have 3 home group members. Been considering discontinuing the zoom portion because it has low attendance.

Stephen (attended online) **Bozeman Hospital Group** (Bozeman) - Still meeting 6pm on Sunday nights online, Catherine is our new incoming GSR

Doreen (attended online) **6th Chapter Group** (Bozeman) - Sunday mornings at 11am. Attendance is slowly climbing, have been getting quite a few newcomers. Still hybrid and plan to continue that. Kristi D is new GSR. Need some more home group members.

Katie (attended in person) **Tuesday at 8pm** (Bozeman) - Everything's good, meeting is also moving from Church of Christ but not sure where to yet. Melinda W is incoming GSR.

Dez (attended in person) **Nicki** (attended online) **Rebellion Dogs** (Bozeman) - Reb Dogs had a Christmas party on December 24th. Had a potluck and meeting at 5:30pm then marathon meetings starting from there (every hour for 24 hours). Betty asked whether there will be online capabilities for the marathon meetings - they hadn't discussed so Dez will get back to us about that.

David (attended in person) **Early Risers** (Bozeman) - 18-26 people, hybrid meeting, anywhere between 3-6 people on Zoom. David will continue as GSR.

Bob (attended in person) **Common Solution** (Belgrade) - Sundays at 5pm, things are going well.

Celia (attended online) **On Awakening** (Bozeman) Meet Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30am and read On Awakening, would love more folks to join. Hybrid meeting.

Matt (attended online) **Vennis Over the Hill** (Ennis/Virginia City) - New GSR, needs to get info changed so he starts getting minutes emailed to him

Sarah (attended online) **Livingston Women's Noon Group** (Livingston) Holiday potluck on the 23rd at Fellowship Hall in Livingston, meeting at noon, potluck at 1pm.

Kietra (attended online) **There is a Solution** (Bozeman) 7am 7 days a week, remaining GSR until they do elections, continuing Zoom, about 25-30 people online and also have in person Monday-Saturday, still kind of low in person 5-10. **Sunday is a speaker meeting - 15 minutes, looking for people willing to speak.**

Maurice Friday Men's Group (Bozeman) 20-23 people each week

Jerry (attended in person) **Stacey's Alumni Group** (Gallatin Gateway) Gateway Bridge Church, attendance has been regular, birthday meeting is usually about 16 people.

8. Committee Reports

Treasurer-Leah T. (attended in person)

- Outstanding payment for a check for \$39.95 that needs to be re-issued
- Operating balance currently at \$3408.98
- Jerry made a suggestion about using a money market checking account
- Jeff brought forward some questions about the numbers on the October report, we were able to point out where the correct numbers were accounted for on the report

Answering Service- Gillian (attended online)

- Total calls to Area 40 from January 1st to date: 359
- Total calls to District 72 from January 1st to date: 76
- Call to District 72 in November: 5
- Four calls were from visitors wanting to know where meetings were in their area.
- One call was from someone who had been sober, had been drinking, now wanted to stop. He wanted to know where meetings were and if someone could meet him at a meeting.
- Thanks again to my two steadfast volunteers, Sarah S and Thomas G.

Archives- Catherine (attended online)

- Wants to make sure she has all flyers from events that have happened in the last couple of years to ensure they make it to the archives. **Please send any flyers for events your group has held in the last 2 years to Catherine.**

Hello District 72,

I feel much gratitude at the close of this rotation. Thank you District 72 for giving me the opportunity to be of service these last 2 memorable years. If you have anything that your group would like to the archives important to include. And below are a couple of links for you to share with your groups.

- Here is a link to the Box 459 Holidays Issues which include a cartoon with tips for staying sober and sane during the holidays. <https://aad23.org/twelve-tips-holiday>
- Also see the most recent issue of Box 459 for some of the recent updates about Indigenous translations of AA Literature. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service! <https://www.aa.org/box-459>

“I salute you and thank you for your life”

In gratitude,
Catherine J., Archives Chair

Bill's Last Message

<https://www.aa.org/bills-last-message>

My dear friends,

Recently an A.A. member sent me an unusual greeting which I would like to extend to you. He told me it was an ancient Arabian salutation. Perhaps we have no Arabian groups, but it still seems a fitting expression of how I feel for each of you. It says, “I salute you and thank you for your life.”

My thoughts are much occupied these days with gratitude to our Fellowship and for the myriad blessings bestowed upon us by God’s Grace.

If I were asked which of these blessings I felt was most responsible for our growth as a fellowship and most vital to our continuity, I would say, the “Concept of Anonymity.”

Anonymity has two attributes essential to our individual and collective survival; the spiritual and the practical.

On the spiritual level, anonymity demands the greatest discipline of which we are capable; on the practical level, anonymity has brought protection for the newcomer, respect and support of the world outside, and security from those of us who would use A.A. for sick and selfish purposes.

A.A. must and will continue to change with the passing years. We cannot, nor should we, turn back the clock. However, I deeply believe that the principle of anonymity must remain our primary and enduring safeguard. As long as we accept our sobriety in our traditional spirit of anonymity we will continue to receive God’s Grace.

And so—once more, I salute you in that spirit and again I thank you for your lives.
May God bless us all now, and forever.

*Read by Lois at the annual dinner given by the New York Intergroup Association in honor of Bill's 36th anniversary—October 10, 1970. elia asked about how to access

Bridging the Gap- Phil (attended online)

- 2 people who've reached out, it has been pretty quiet lately. Phil expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

CPC / Cooperation with the Professional Community- Neil (not in attendance)

- No report

Corrections- Jennifer (attended in person)

- Pink Can funds has provided volumes of literature for inmates which they do use and appreciate.
- Hoping to add additional women's meetings and work with Gallatin County Detention Center more and get more people to volunteer.
- Ordering some books and will be using the Pink Can funds for that

Grapevine- Angie (not in attendance)

- No report

Literature- Amy K (attended online)

- Has sold a bunch of literature, just got the check to Leah so that'll be on the next Treasurer's Report. Putting an order in for some 12x12s and As Bill Sees It.

Public Information-Sarah (attended online)

- Ordered 700 schedules, Meghan will send an email to groups when they are available. Sarah is also happy to mail schedules to outlying areas
- Working on holiday ads, periodicals and online letters, hoping to have them run the 19th of December to 13th of January.

Special Events-Savannah (not in attendance)

- Nothing really to report, Savannah expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve in that position

Treatment- Chris (attended online)

- Montana Chemical Dependency Center meetings have been going well, been keeping a mix of veteran folks who have experience taking meetings up there and sprinkling in some new people gradually. Building a good team of volunteers. Honing the message and focusing on 1st step meetings. Also going to be using funds from Pink Can to purchase additional literature (bringing Big Books over every trip)

Round-up Chair- Bruce (not in attendance)

- Nicki gave a report - regular monthly meeting starting **December 20th, Tuesday at 7pm meeting off the kitchen at Fellowship Hall in Bozeman.**
- October 27th-29th 2023, theme is We Are Not Saints, looking for people to help with website, planning events, speakers, mapping out the logistics
- Another request to have Bruce attend district meetings in person made by Tuesday at 8pm group
- Pat asked for clarification around schedule - Nicki confirmed meetings will be the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm

Alt. DCM-Betty (attended in person)

- Betty shared her gratitude for her opportunity to serve

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

- Deadline for agenda items for Spring assembly February 1st 2023
- West Central Regional AA Service Conference will be in Omaha, NE March 3rd-5th
- Area 40 Spring Assembly March 31st-April 2nd in Great Falls
- Wilson House in Helena Big Book Awakening Weekend, intensive 3 part format for the weekend, in

person January 6th-8th

- January 21st and 22nd, 12 Step and 12 Tradition Workshop via Zoom, coming from Oregon.
- Bridging the Gap outreach workshop in Shelby, MT on May 6th. 12pm potluck and Bridging the Gap speakers
- Publishing dept at GSO update - some publications are still backordered with estimated times they will be available, reach out to Rick if you'd like more info

9. Old Business

- **Katie M proposed to continue funding our current technology and hybrid solution until either another technology plan is passed or until April 1st 2023.**
 - Clarification around whether Kassidy would be willing to continue this commitment if we were to vote it in - Betty confirmed that yes, he would
 - Stacey's Alumni Group asked how the current set-up is being used to clarify what we are asking to continue funding - answer was that the Zoom license is for District committees as well as District meetings
 - Katie made a motion: **Continue with our current technology and hybrid solution until either another technology plan is passed or until April 1st 2023.** Meghan seconded
 - 11 in room, 15 on Zoom in favor - 26 in favor, **motion passed**
- **Election of Special Events committee chair - Betty**
 - Betty read the position description
 - Jeff volunteered to stand for the position
 - Sarah nominated Gillian, Gillian accepted
 - Jeff withdrew his nomination
 - **Gillian** shared her service history then **voted in as Special Events chair by acclamation**
- **Discussion of proposed spending plan - Betty**
 - Betty first called on committee chairs to find out whether they are requesting a change in their budgets.
 - Hospital Group wanted to propose increasing our rent to Fellowship Hall from \$100/month to \$150/month because we've been paying the same amount for quite some time.
 - Chris mentioned the the Hall does have a budget shortfall of about \$24,000 every year
 - Spending plan would increase to \$11,555/yr if we were to add \$50/month to our rent
 - Rick shared that this should go back to the groups
 - **GSRs please bring this proposal back to the groups to discuss a potential increase in District 72 rent at the Fellowship Hall**
 - Gail suggested that we vote on the spending plan and add this topic as a consideration for January
 - **Jerry moved to approve spending plan**, David seconded.
 - We had substantial unanimity on the vote (did not count actual hands)
 - Maurice voted against and shared minority opinion
 - Betty asked if anyone would like to move to reconsider, no one did
 - **Motion passed - spending plan approved as written**

- **Discuss Technology Committee proposal - Meghan - ran out of time, tabled until January**
- **Home Group Service Position Challenges - Karon - ran out of time, tabled until January**

10. New Business

- None

11. Closed with Responsibility Pledge

Next district meeting Saturday, January 28th @ 4:30pm – 6:30pm at Bozeman Fellowship Hall and on Zoom