Area 40 - District 72 Agenda – February 2025 Meeting

Hybrid Meeting: Saturday 2/22/25 4:30-6:30pm at Fellowship Hall in Bozeman and via Zoom. Link information below.

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84336233284?pwd=cFl6MWxQN0pXNIV6MXdSVk9qdjVFQT09

Meeting ID: 843 3623 3284

Passcode: 371512

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES.

1. Open with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer

- 2. Read the District 72 safety statement
- Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions Nora D.
- 4. Read Concept Two: Meghan R.

The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.

- 5. Approve last month's meeting minutes 26 in person, 2 online = 28 yes, 0 no
- 6. Establish quorum. 26 in person, 3 online = 29 total, 20 needed for quorum
- Introductions of GSRs & Visitors: 3 MINUTE TIMER FOR GSR REPORTS.

Please briefly share:

- GSRs Your name, home group & anything you think might interest or benefit your fellow GSRs and/or District Chairs about your home group (e.g., events or activities your home group is hosting or doing, topics that your group is interested in or struggling with, etc.).
- **Nora D. (Wednesday Noon Group, Bozeman)** 15-20 members each week. 4 people home group members.
- **Maurice W. (Friday Men's Group, Bozeman)** 25-33 people, cookies there. Alt GSR of Thursday Big Book at noon group going well too.
- **Sue W. (Pink Cloud, Bozeman)** Meet Wed at 6pm in this room. Avg 14-20 and 7 homegroup members.
- **Jax F. (LGBTQ+ and Friends, Bozeman)** Meet Sat at 6pm. Business meeting on 3rd Sat after meeting. 5-15 in attendance. 3 newcomers that keep coming back, group is growing.
- **Tanya W. (6th Chapter Group, Bozeman)** Small group, speaker meetings once a month. Bring donuts! Try to encourage people to come. 10-14 regulars, 6 in homegroup.
- Valerie K. (Young People's, Bozeman) Sun Tue Thu at 7. 10-15 people per meeting, Business first Tuesday of month. 6 or 7 homegroup members, if anyone wants to come it is for young at heart
- **Dez R. (Early Risers 11th Step Group)** Read from literature that's not always AA approved. 20-30 regulars, might be outgrowing room. Meet in kitchen. Great group, around long time.
- **Bradley G. (Itching Hour, Bozeman)** Meet Fri, Sat, Sun at 9pm in south room. 5-25 people in room. Steady stream of newcomers. Please join if looking to be useful to newcomers. New homegroup member!
- Russ G. (Saturday Morning Third Steppers Group, Livingston) Had 3 feet of snow. Been 5 pots of coffee meeting size. Double the group participants lately.
- **Susan H. (Hospital Group, Bozeman)** Meeting Sundays at 6pm. Hybrid group, slowly growing! Nice turnout.
- **Teresa R. (Women's Serenity Group, Bozeman)** Meet Tue and Fri at noon. Hybrid. Business every 2nd Friday of month. (VOICE CUT OUT)
- Pat L. (Primary Purpose, Bozeman) Meet Mon Wed 8-9pm. Average 22-30 people. Homegroup has grown, member Wed Big Book, Mon is a topic. 3rd Wednesday is business.

- **Paul S. (Common Solution, Belgrade)** Closed meeting, 15-20 people. Big Book Study. Group conscience 2nd Sunday each month.
- **Matthew R. (H.O.W. Group, Bozeman)** Attendance solid, awesome Sat AM meeting, lotta people. Oct 11th is speaker event with Chris R from Texas. Birthday meeting is last Thursday of month. Come see us!
- Rafino D. (Camino de Esperanza/Way of Hope, Bozeman) Spanish speaking meeting. Meeting 7pm Tuesdays in Library. Have 7 members right now, 2 are newcomers
- **Chopper B. (Vennis Over the Hill, Ennis)** Mon Wed Fri nights 7:30. Wed night in Jeffers. Tues at 9am. Sunday 10am. 8-10 avg. VC Sunday meeting has 12-16 or so. Several newcomers in last couple months. Primary purpose to help still suffering alcoholic. Biggest challenge finding detox places for newcomers. If any ideas, they are open to it. Thanks to Tim K! For istepping up to be moderator for Group inventory on March 8th.
- Visitors: Your name & your home group.

Jeff L (Visitor) Rick H (Visitor) Collin (Visitor)

8. Introductions and Committee Reports 3 MINUTE TIMER FOR REPORTS

Treasurer, Tim K.

For more detail, please see full Treasurer's Report.

• Opening Balance: \$6,607.20

Total Income: \$977.64

Group Contributions: \$730.79Literature Income: \$0.00

Pink Can Contributions: \$246.85
 Expenses: \$300.00 (Rent: Jan/Feb/Mar)

Current Balance of \$7,584.84

Prudent Reserve of \$3283.88

- Pink Can Balance of \$471.77
- Accessibility Reserve of \$289.83
- Current operating Balance of \$3,239.36

See Attached Quick books reports for reporting period 1/21/25-2/18/25 which show all income and expenses for this period, YTD vs. Budget.

Any questions, feel free to contact me. Please be aware, District 72 Contributions remain the same mailing address:

District 72

P.O. Box 1538

Bozeman, Mt. 59771-1538

One group sent District contributions to the Area Treasurer Address, which she forwarded to me. Also a note, group contributions were down for this reporting period, reminder for Groups to send Contributions. Also: Please print off copies of all reports for District Report as I will not print copies to save costs and papers...you will receive these reports and if you need a new one sent to you by email or have any questions or need more information feel free to call me or email me at the District 72 treasurer's email address.

Answering Service, Dustin G.

I talked with the Area answering service Chair Lance W. and we are on the same page.

In January our district received 6 calls through the hotline, and the Area received 28 calls total.

Thanks for allowing me to serve! Dustin G.

Archives, Joanne M.

D72 Archives Report - Joanne M. - February 2025

- I've been going through the archives files a year at a time, trying to organize documents in a systematic way so it's easy to find things.
- My goal is to have both a digital and hard copy of all the meeting minutes and treasurer reports of each year, and eventually post them on the District72 mini-site.

CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community), Betty M.

Hi everybody!

The CPC Committee did a presentation for the MSU Nursing students earlier this month which was successful. In fact, our contact asked us to come back and do it again this Summer with a new cohort of students. At our Committee meeting earlier today, we did a debrief on what went well and what we might be able to do even better; we brainstormed some good ideas that we will be able to try out next time.

We made progress with two potential organizations, Family Outreach and Love INC. We will be meeting with them in March and helping them discern how more knowledge of Alcoholics Anonymous and, potentially, Al-Anon, might help their team members better support their clientele. We are also developing processes for strong initial outreach and follow-up. We have a wonderful time with a diverse set of skills that bodes really well for the work the Committee has before it in 2025.

GSRs, please mention to your groups that CPC would welcome new members, and will help them find a way to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous. Also, please feel free to give my phone number to anyone who is interested in learning more. 406-600-9595.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. Betty M CPC Chair - 2025-26

Grapevine & La Vina/Structure, Bob C.

Hello District 72.

There is a huge push for the Grapevine and Lavina app and I think that is great. It really is a wealth of information right at your fingertips. Magazines seem to dying in today's world but I still really like having a paper copy to give to someone or to flip through. I intend to make sure that paper copies are still available in the display at the Fellowship hall and to spread awareness of the paper copies. Subscriptions are available for the app, the magazine or for both at a discounted price, which really is a good deal and I feel is the best option.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Bob C

Literature, Savannah D.

Brought in: 256.66

Spent:

1,331.10 (Got to Treasurer after report for month was complete)

I do apologize for not getting the bought and spent in time to literature.

I also want to bring it to every ones attention that I have over committed myself and need to step down from literature.

I will continue through the month of March and will be done after that. I wish I had time to give the commitment the attention it deserve. Thank you for letting me be of service.

-Savannah

Tony asked about getting books, Rufino also asked about getting books in Spanish. Get from Savannah/District Literature Chair, cheaper to get through District for Groups.

PI (Public Information), Ashley H.

Public Information February Report:

- Quiet month
- Next committee meeting is March 7th @ 5:15pm @ the Hall (Fellowship Hall in Bozeman)
- Let me know if you have meeting changes or updates
- Warming center meetings have been up and going, we still need volunteers.
 - *1st and 3rd Wednesday of month @ noon
 - *Not an AA meeting, is a recovery meeting

Special Events, Amy K.

Hello District 72.

Exciting news, we will have our first special event for 2025 on March 29th from 1:00-4:00pm before the district meeting. It will be a GSR Workshop, Karon our former CPC chair who was once a GSR and now is active at the Area level and Ty who was once a GSR and now is active at the Area level will be the speakers. They will share with new GSR's some wisdom and encouragement and give you the low down on some important things to know about with your new role as a GSR to get you prepared to go to the Area Assembly that is April 4th-6th in Great Falls. It will be a potluck luncheon, there is a sign up sheet I will pass around. My goal is to call every GSR from our district and personally invite them to the event. ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

Some other things to know about moving forward...looking at the budget for special events, each one has a budget of \$125.00. To rent this room for the event since it is more than an hour is \$75.00 so more than half the budget is already gone, so signing up to bring things for the potluck would be much appreciated. With the budget for this event I have secured the room, have made some copies of the flyer and will be able to supply the condiments and the plates, napkins, etc., for the event. So as a District your participation and involvement is crucial to help with these special events moving forward, and don't worry I will ask for everyone's help!!!

Looking ahead, the next event I am hoping will be before the June District Meeting on June 28th. I am still waiting to hear back from Lisa, our Area Delegate. She lives in Bozeman, so it will be nice we will not need to reimburse her for gas etc...I am thinking it will be a district day, founders day and delegates report kind of all rolled into one sort of thing.

I am thinking we could do another one in September before the district meeting and then another one in December before the district meeting. Any ideas that the district has would be awesome. Is there something you would like to know more about? Just reach out to me.

I will see you ALL at the GSR Workshop on March 29th at 1pm!!! Thank you for letting me serve!!

Amy K.

Bridging the Gap, Nelson H.

Bridging the Gap report February 2025

Numbers

Bridging the Gap (BTG) requests for a temporary contact: 14 since start of January and 11 in month of February

- 6 identified their gender as female, 8 as male
- 13 matched with a temporary contact, awaiting answer on one
- 8 from detention center, 6 from treatment facilities

BTG volunteer database

List of people willing to be temporary contacts in District 72 is now current.

- Chair plans this coming week to make the formal update on the Area 40 database
- Chair plans this coming week to send an email to everyone with refresher guidance on being a temporary contact based on the form, Area 40 Montana – Temporary Contact Program Rev. 04/16
- Be great to have more volunteers from the Livingston area, we have two and have requests from people being discharged there.
- Big thanks to Erica for asking Livingston women members for availability for this service.

Updated information

- BTG request for temporary contact form is updated and District has a copy on file for anyone who
 needs to take it into a facility
- The new address for sending BTG requests and all BTG correspondence is nelsonbtg2025@gmail.com.

BTG Outreach Workshop

Outreach Workshop to allow BTG chairs from across Area 40 to meet and share experiences, successes and challenges

- Takes place on May 17 in Dillon, 12-5pm
- District 72 BTG chair is part of the committee bringing the event together, including shared lunch
- Includes speaker panel comprised of people with both BTG volunteer and participant experience,
 Nelson has approached Dennis from District 72
- BTG chair requests mileage reimbursement for attending the event and some expenditure for food to contribute to the potluck

Literature

BTG chair requests

- updated BTG pamphlets with the updated preamble, to include in BTG folder
- Plain Language Big Book for use in detention center meetings

Corrections, Tony B

Report/Notes from 2024-02-10 Corrections Meeting

Tony B, Dennis S, Nel H, Jennifer M

How to get more people at the 'Corrections meeting'. Move from 6PM to 5PM?

Need details about Prison.

Update schedule for GCDC.

More big books for GCDC!!! Get one box.

Nel: Had odd interaction with inmate [not including name here]. Held his hand during handshake extremely long. Wrote some weird stuff on BTG request. Made some odd comments with sort of sexual overtone. Wasn't sure how to deal with this, this all happened in a meeting that Nel was chairing.

Nel: updating the BTG info sheet. Lots of clairification issues.

Updates (2024-02-22) !!!! New volunteers at GCDC Catalina R, Jacob L and Tiffany D. We have n=4 inmates being sponsored by volunteers!!!

Nelson asked if Tony can bring Plain Language books in cause inmates have asked, Tony says yes a box of plain language and of regular 4th edition. Brian and Bradley both stated (and as general reminder) that Tech Committee can help change Zoom meeting times etc. Tony has not yet heard back from Misty about jail orientation time, Pat L says he attends Prison meetings, can get Tony the information about the Prison.

Treatment, Rebekah P.

(Absent at a retreat, report sent in next day)

Mark E went for the men and Catherine and Meghan went for the women.

I am at a retreat and there is no internet service.

Rebekah

Technology, Brian S.

The Technology Committee met on February 20th, 2025. Topics of discussion:

- Review of the Digital Payments from District Accounts agenda item from last month's business meeting
- Practical next steps when a digital payment process is established for the district concerning our current projects (internet domain registration and Google Workspace setup)

Current projects are on hold until the above agenda item is resolved.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks for your service!

- Brian

Alt. DCM (Alternate District Committee Member), Meghan R.

Not much to report. In guidelines we do have option for people to request scholarships for attending Area. Applications need to be voted on at District. Please, if needed, apply and get them in so we can help. Too tight turnaround for Spring assembly but ok for Fall.

DCM (District Committee Member), Lenore M.

(Tim read report, Lenore absent for migraine.)

DCM REPORT: February 2025

NEW TO REPORT:

Hi all! I had a very informative Zoom meeting on 1/26 with the Area 40 Officers, Committee Chairs, and other DCMs.

Information was shared about what the first few months of this new rotation will look like. For me (and other DCMs), it will mostly be learning about the agenda items on the agenda for the General Service Conference this year that our new Delegate (our very own Lisa C.D.) will be attending & voting at. These agenda items are separated by the committees that they relate to (ex. Anything financial would go to the finance committee). My job is to give you all this information (once I have it) to discuss at the District level and most importantly for GSR's to discuss at the group levels, and then try to give a sense of our District/any questions & concerns we all have to Lisa at the Area 40 Spring Assembly at the beginning of April. There will also likely be Area 40 specific agenda items at the Assembly.

We have an Area 40 online dashboard where the agenda items and background materials will be located. Once I have more information, if anyone is interested in background materials, I can share the Dashboard username & password.

FOLLOW UP INFORMATION:

The address for Area 40 Pink Can contributions to contributions is the same:
 Area 40 Pink Can Fund PO Box 232
 Missoula, MT 59806

The new address for other financial

Area 40 is separate: Area 40 PO Box 43 Billings, MT 59103

- 2. Last month, I mentioned that the DCM and shuffling district committee chairs were selected to serve on Area 40 committees. I will be serving on the Area 40 finance committee, Dustin G. will be serving on the Area hotline committee, and Betty M. will be serving on the Area CPC committee.
- a. I did ask and found out that Area does not finance these people to attend the Area Assemblies. If it is doable, the District should cover their way. I also found out that these committee meetings are all on zoom, so it's possible to attend that way.
- b. I also found out that each of these people is a voting member of the committees.
- c. We have \$1700 in the Spending Plan designated for "Area Designated Chair Travel". I think this is enough to cover both D72 committee chairs to attend both Area Assemblies

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Expenditures			10.00	10 1000 1000 100
Alt DCM		200.00	-200.00	200.00
Answering Service Misc		200.00	-200.00	200.00
Answering Service Misc		0.00	0.00	0.00
Archives Supplies			0.00	0.00
reoniros ouppies		100.00	-100.00	100.00
Area Designated Chair Travel		1,700.00	-1,700.00	1,700.00
Bank Charges & Fees				
100 to		0.00	0.00	0.00
Bridging the Gap		50.00	-50.00	E0.00
Bridging the Can Mice		50.00	-30.00	50.00

NEWS FROM GSO:

1. There are currently 22 trustees serving in the General Service Board (usually, there are 21). This is because the chair of the board is an alcoholic- this is the first time this has happened! So, there are 15 alcoholics (usually 14) and 7 non-alcoholic trustees.

NEWS FROM AREA:

2. There will be an online Preassembly on March 8th from 12-5pm on zoom. Preassemblies are great opportunities to discuss/get more information about agenda items on the Fall Assembly agenda. There is a link below!

UPCOMING EVENTS: See all events on Area 40 calendar: https://aa-montana.org/calendar.php

- 1. WSRAASC Conference in Casper WY on Feb 28-March 2. I have an extra bed if anyone is interested!
- a. This will be available on Zoom, but you still need to pre-register for it if attending on zoom
- b. There is an overflow hotel at the Days Inn located nearby at **301 E E St** (307-234-1159).

Online Preassembly on Zoom March 8th from 12-5pm: https://aa-montana.org/pdf/2025-03PreAssembly.pdf

Pockets of Enthusiasm in Helena on Friday & Saturday March 14&15th Spring Assembly at the Holiday Inn in Great Falls April 4-6th Treatment-Corrections Workshop in Helena on Saturday April 26th from 11am-3pm

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or needed information:

EMAIL: dcm72@aa-montana.org

Reminder: send all reports to Lila at district72.secretary@gmail.com

PLEASE COME TO THE MICROPHONE FOR ALL REPORTS, QUESTIONS, COMMENTS.

9. Immediate Business – for JANUARY 2025: 2 MINUTE TIMER FOR QUESTIONS/OPINIONS

10. Old Business: 2 MINUTE TIMER FOR QUESTIONS/OPINIONS

• Discuss options for how the District handles recurring technology subscription payments (Brian S.)

Discussion notes:

- Brian reminded us of the proposal (DISCUSSION): Treasurer responsible for keeping debit card. Need prior approval for taking out. Receipts required. All transactions accounted by treasurer. Authorized users would be DCM, Alt DCM, Secretary. Keeping list of reoccurring payments done by Treasurer. ACH payments also monitored. People that aren't approved can coordinate through the authorized users if payment needed.
- Chopper says in general everyone in his group in favor of it. Would prefer if it's a separate card for a separate account with a maximum withdrawal amount to minimize fraud.
- Pat L group in favor, echoed Chopper's group. Set limitations to one time expenses, ability to dispute and protections important. Felt like it is a necessity. As a group will need to revisit this, probably after we start if passes to see how it's going.
- Bradley (speaking as member of tech committee) says pretty sure debit cards built in with limit to transaction amount, how much can be pulled out at once. Reminder individual spoke last time about how simple reporting fraud has been in their experience, said it assuaged his fears about that issue. Says having a separate account may be level of complexity we don't need, we can already do it.
- Betty M says not out of group, just personal thoughts. Is there anything we want to implement regarding direct withdrawals, should we consider more extended audit, considering the attention we give to money at both District and Area level?

MOTION READ AFTER DISCUSSION FOR VOTING

1) State the discussion item/motion: If it is a motion the first word should be "Motion." If it is an agenda item to discuss the first word should be "Discuss" (note: a discussion item can turn into a motion).

Discuss the following proposal for management of a debit card for the District bank account and its use in digital payments for District subscriptions.

- a) Treasurer to obtain and is responsible for keeping a debit card for the District bank account.
- b) Authorized Users would be required to check out the card from the Treasurer to use for purchases or expenses approved by the District. Receipts will be required for EVERY purchase made using the card. All transactions made on the card will be accounted for on the Treasurer's report each month.
 - a) Proposed Authorized Users (for discussion):
 - i) DCM

- ii) Alt DCM
- iii) Secretary
- c) Treasurer to keep a list of subscriptions or recurring payments (online, digital, or other) for which the card or ACH is used as a payment method. This is important in the case of loss or theft so that any existing subscription services can be updated with new payment details.
- d) Authorized users are responsible for coordinating with stakeholders to set up *digital payments for services approved by the District*. (i.e. entering debit card or ACH information on a website where necessary).

2) List how item/motion originated along with additional background material(s), information, or research relating to the agenda item:

As we move into the future, many tools we use are moving toward online subscription-based services. This is true for D72 as well with our continued use of Zoom and recent adoption of QuickBooks and TechSoup. In addition, one of the mandates for the Technology Committee is acquiring an internet domain and registering with Google Workspace for Non-Profit services.

All of these require setting up some form of payment for recurring subscription charges. Until now, members of District 72 have been paying for these through use of personal cards or bank accounts and then being reimbursed through the District. This process suffers from the following problems:

Using new digital tools generally requires digital payments - and a new District process for doing so, effectively and securely. Besides providing access to digital tools, digital payments have additional benefits described below.

3): List the considerations (pros and cons) of the item/motion: Pros:

- Simplifies accounting through the ability to attribute a withdrawal from the District account directly to the Institution(s) from which a service is being purchased. E.g. a bank line item would list the recipient as Zoom or TechSoup rather than simply a numbered check with no information about the payee or signatory.
- Additional accuracy in expense tracking:
 - Payee information in bank line item
 - o Date of expense and withdrawal are tightly coupled
- Removes inefficiency in dealing with reimbursements to individuals for certain District costs
- Mitigates the danger of loss of service of digital and other subscription-based services (e.g. Zoom, QuickBooks, domain registration, magazine subscriptions).
- Removes the need for individuals to pay out of pocket for larger costs, such as travel/lodging for conferences.

Cons:

- Potential for the card to be lost, stolen, or misused.
- Additional responsibility for Treasurer position description may need to be updated.
- Doesn't change the reimbursement process for those who are not *Authorized Users* of the debit card

4) Financial considerations for the item/motion (if applicable):

Described above.

5) Why this subject should be discussed by the District:

While our more traditional means of payment will also be affected, what this proposal seeks to achieve is for the District to establish what is essentially a new process: *digital payments from District accounts*.

As stated above, this is something that will become more prevalent in the future, not less. Given that and the potential benefits, I believe it's important to discuss and achieve a group conscience as a District on the matter.

6) Final comments:

None.

VOTING

22 yes in room, 3 online = 25 in favor 0 opposed 1 abstentions

MOTION PASSES

- 11. New Business: 2 MINUTE TIMER FOR QUESTIONS/OPINIONS
- Nelson asking for reimbursement for BtG Outreach Workshop
 - \$320 dollars for year is budget for Nelson. Nelson asks what charitable reimbursement rate is. We learn it is \$0.14/mile from Meghan, which is from IRS.
 - Nelson asked Tony what was his use of budget?
 - Tony says requested mileage to go up to Missoula, two nights of hotels for conference (National BtG conference, around \$300)
 - Meghan says intent of BtG budget was for BtG to go to MCDC each month. Except Treatment chair has taken over that role. So money has been there for that purpose but hasn't been used.
 - Nelson: Right. So is that how we do it or different?
 - Meghan says up to you.
 - Nelson says not really in his capacity to also go up there. Requests can he get \$0.14/mile, and to cook food to bring. Meghan says it is within his budget so he is ok.

Amended Note:

At the end of the meeting several people expressed concerns about a visiting member's persistent contributions to group discussions. The member was also given an opportunity to express their views.

If you have items for next month's agenda, please email Meghan at least 10 days in advance of the next meeting date (when possible). Remember there is a form on the Area 40 District 72 mini site to help in writing agenda or discussion items

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

Next district meeting: 4:30 p.m., Sat. March 29, 2025. At Fellowship Hall in Bozeman See Area website for happenings in our District and the rest of Area 40 as well as current District information: https://www.aa-montana.org/ Our District 72 mini site: https://www.aa-montana.org/district-sites/dist72/index.php

12. Close with: Responsibility Statement

Motion to close.