

Area 40 - District 72 Business Meeting

April 27, 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:** Lenore M.
- 2. Read the District 72 Safety Statement:** Lenore M.
- 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: 25
- 4. Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions:** Maurice W.
- 5. Reading of Concept Four:** Lenore M.

IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

- 6. Questions about last month's minutes? Can I have a motion to approve the March 2024 minutes?** (meeting held 3/30/2024)
 - **Motion to accept:** passed, minutes approved

7. Introductions & Reports: GSRs & Visitors:

Lila H, **Bozeman Young People's Group** (Bozeman) - meet Sun, Tues, Thurs @ 7pm. Business meeting held 1st Tues. @ 8:15pm. Attendance is good, newcomers showing up consistently. Ad Hoc committee working on our meeting formats.

Bob C, **Belgrade Common Solution** (Belgrade) - meet Sundays @ 5pm, business meeting held 2nd Sun @ 6:15pm. Not much to report, good attendance.

Teresa R, **Women's Serenity Group** (Bozeman) - hybrid meetings on Tues & Fri @ noon. Tues. is Steps & Traditions meeting, Friday is a discussion meeting. Attendance is steady. Birthday meeting is last Fri. of the month, business meeting held 2nd Tues. @ 11am.

Matt S, **Vennis Over The Hill Group** (Ennis) - Meet Mon. Wed, Fri @ 7:30pm, Tues. @ 9am, Sun. in Virginia City @ 10am. Attendance varies 5-20. Business meeting held 3rd Mon. @ 8:45pm. (Mon & Fri meetings are hybrid)

Connie L, **Fellowship Group** (Bozeman) - meet Thursday at Grand Ave. Church @ 7:30pm, Business meeting held on 2nd Thurs. after meeting. Birthdays are celebrated every Thursday. Steady attendance 14-15 people.

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. Attendance is 35-40, celebrated 6 birthdays this month with 45 people attending.

Nick, **There Is A Solution - TIAS** (Bozeman) - 7am Zoom everyday, in person Mon-Sat only. Attendance is steady around 20 daily. Business meeting held 1st Monday of the month @ 8am. Sat. is Big Book Study (good meeting), Sun. is a short speaker (if interested in speaking contact me).

Catherine J, **Hospital Group** (Bozeman) - We are hybrid and meet in the Bitterroot Room at Bozeman Health Group @ 6pm. Our business meeting is held the 1st Sun. of the month before the meeting @ 5pm. We celebrate birthdays on the last Sun. of the month.

Kristi D, **6th Chapter Group** (Bozeman) - meet Sun. @ 11am. Switching up formats. Please announce to your groups we could still use support.

Ashley P, **Primary Purpose** (Bozeman) - meet Mon & Wed at 8pm, Business Meeting held 3rd Wed. of the month. Attendance is 20ish. Will be conducting a group inventory prior to elections.

Maurice W, **Friday Men's Group** (Bozeman) - attendance really good 37-38.

Maurice W, **Thursday Big Book Study** (Bozeman) - Big Book Study, attendance is growing also, anywhere from 12-20.

Dawn W. **Early Risers 11th Step Group** (Bozeman) - attendance is good, 20-30.

Gail M. **Wednesday Noon Group** (Bozeman) - attendance good, business meeting held 2nd Wed. of the month.

Christine C, **West Yellowstone Group** (West Yellowstone) - we meet Wed. & Sun. at 6:30pm. Wed. is 12 x 12 or As Bill Sees It study, Sun. is Big Book Study. Attendance is good. Business meeting will be held in May & Oct.

Nel H, **LGBTQ & Friends** (Bozeman) - we meet on Saturdays at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall, attendance is good 8-15, we're self supporting, service positions are filled, new people showing up & visitors.

Janet C, **Joy of Living Group** (Three Forks) - we meet Tues, Thurs & Sat. Attendance is larger on Tues (20), smaller on Thurs & Sat (5-6).

Russ G, **Saturday Morning Third Steppers Group** (Livingston) - meet Sat. @ 10:30am, attendance is good, 30+. People stepping up for service. Business meeting held the 1st Saturday of the month.

Visitors: Brian (Tech. Committee), Russell V., Rick H., Bob

8. Introductions and Committee Reports:

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

Treasurer: Meghan R. -

- Low 7th Tradition income, literature sales just over \$500, will be sending money we voted on to GSO, paid PO Box for the year, paid printing cost meeting schedules for ¼ year.
- Finance committee met in March, conducted audit, there were no findings.
- (see email attachment D72 treasurer's report April 2024, or on Area 40 in District 72 Mini Sites)

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

- Not much to report

Archives: Gail M. -

- If you have any materials from your groups or from past District events that you would like to have placed into our local Archives, please contact me and we will arrange it. You can text me at 406 570-6917 or email at gm59715@gmail.com. Even if your group is not old, it would be great to have that on record.
- We would like to continue to get interviews with people who have been around AA in District 72 for years to get a full history of the area to add to our archives.
- If you would like to be part of the committee or would like to ask questions about the committee, please contact me. Also, if you would like to interview an old-timer in the Gallatin, Park or Madison Counties to add to the archives, we would love to have it. Area 40 Archivist, Earl F. let me know that we would like to have a recorded version of interviews as well as a transcript.

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

- Ty K, Area CPC chair, joined our meeting to provide feedback on the CPC meeting at Area Assembly last month. Several districts were in attendance and on zoom to report on recent outreach activities to professional communities.
- Ty also asked for our thoughts on/ideas for future area-wide CPC projects. Based on the very useful information exchange at the Area Assembly CPC meeting, we suggested initiating a bimonthly or quarterly online meeting for district CPC chairs and members. The purpose would be to share ideas on ways to reach professional communities and resources for projects. This could be especially valuable for districts that have fewer resources and past CPC experience to draw on.
- We will be an exhibitor at the Montana Primary Care Association Pain Conference & Addiction Medicine Network Meeting, May 2-4, in Bozeman. We'll staff a literature table with AA literature, including pamphlets relevant to medical professionals. Thanks to Amy K for ordering and delivering the literature on short notice.
- Doreen M has been in contact with Rev. Valerie Webster at the Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association to schedule a presentation at one of their upcoming membership meetings.
- We will be presenting with Al-Anon to the Bozeman Kiwanis Club in July. This speaking opportunity stemmed from sharing outreach ideas with the district 61 chair.
- Thanks to CPC Committee members—Bob E (Madison County), Dennis S, Doreen M, Eleanor W (Park County), Nora D, and Sharon S.

Grapevine & La Vina / Structure: Savannah D. -

- This month's special section is "How the Steps Changed My Life." AA members share their favorite experiences about how the Twelve Steps have helped change their lives to celebrate the launch of the new book, Our Twelve Steps.
- A new Prayer & Meditation Audiobook is now available on the Grapevine Store. You can check it out there.
- The Sobriety Calculator is a great tool to count your days of sobriety. You can see how many years, months, days, and hours you have of sobriety. It's amazing what can happen one day at a time.
- There are also new monthly magazines available, including Always Remember, Showing Up, A Good Thing, A Mother's Day Wish, We Stick to What Works, and So How Did I Get Here?
- You can also submit a story or Art! Attend and share events. Check out all new updates and much more at the following URL: <https://www.aagrapevine.org/>
- Updates: The grapevine board at the hall is restocked! We are requesting groups to ask their members to bring in any old grapevines to keep them in circulation on the board.

Literature: Amy K. -

- For April we sold \$517ish in literature, CPC ordered \$81.50 in pamphlets that will come out of CPC budget, I will give those to Karon today. Corrections wanted 2 large print big books so \$19.68 will come out of Pink Can budget. I ordered more big books and received them and gave our treasurer the invoice. I will need to order some Living Sober but will wait a little bit until I need some more basic books.
- I took an inventory and we have \$617.50 in pamphlets and \$4125.44 in books for a total of \$4742.94. That is about the right amount of literature that district should have on hand for groups.
- What should we do with the old version of Young People's Pamphlets?
- If you need any literature call or text me and we can meet up here at the hall.

PI (Public Information): Katie M. - (absent - Lisa read report)

- We did not order schedules this month.
- The PI committee delivered schedules to 38, we mailed schedules to 21 locations and emailed to 1 location. A big huge thank you to the PI committee, they are so awesome making this all happen!!
- The room with the drawer that we used to keep schedules in is now locked, if your group runs out of schedules you can call me + I will get you more. Due to this the PI committee is now stocking the hall with schedules weekly.
- 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!
- Next committee meeting is 5/31- 5pm. If you or anyone in your home group would like to volunteer please contact me.

Special Events: Valerie K. - (absent)

- No report

Bridging the Gap: Tony B. -

- 3 male requests from Gallatin County Detention Center (GCDC), no date release as of yet, bonds over \$10,000.
- No female requests
- Got lots of volunteers last month.

Corrections: Jennifer M. - (absent)

- No report

Treatment: Chris O. -

- At Montana Chemical Dependency Center (MCDC) there were many new residents this month, 7-10 women & 12-18 men.
- Getting a few new volunteers but could really use some new faces. GSRs tell your groups there is no background check, 1 year sobriety is required, and you must sign a non disclosure agreement. Contact Chris O.
- I attended the Area 40 Treatment breakout session at Spring Assembly. It was good to hear what other areas are doing and make connections.

Technology: Bradley G. -

- Committee met this month
- Welcomed 2 new members
 - Stu R
 - James H
- Discussed
 - In budget purchases
 - Tech soup opportunities
 - Upcoming account housekeeping
 - Producing a transcript of our business meetings via Zoom (or other application)
- PSA: Using Earbuds or Headphones for Zoom will improve your experience!
- Chairs can schedule the Districts Zoom room @ bradleygillick@gmail.com
- Reminder send screen shares to: Area40.district72@gmail.com

Alt. DCM: Lenore M. -

- Reminder that D72 elections will be coming up in a couple of months so please be thinking if there are positions you are interested in, job descriptions can be found in the district guidelines: <https://www.aa-montana.org/district-sites/dist72/docs/March-2024-District-72-Guidelines.pdf>
- GSRs be sure to share this with your home groups.
- I'll be attending the Spring Roundup in Billings in May.

DCM: Betty M. -

- I apologize for not being with you tonight as my husband, 2 dogs and I are camping in Big Bend National Park, TX this week.
- Earlier this month, I attended the Area 40 Spring Assembly in Great Falls. It seems like I always take something away from an Assembly; this time, three things struck me:
 1. How critically important it is for members like us to speak up and share our considered thoughts regarding the business of Alcoholics Anonymous. I take comfort in knowing that decisions are not made in a vacuum. Each Delegate seeks to discern what is best for AA as a whole going forward, and votes accordingly.
 2. Unity. Even when we do not agree, we unite on our love of AA, the Steps, Traditions & Concepts. We all want to ensure that AA is around for many generations to come.
 3. Faith that a Higher Power has been present at the AA General Service Conference in New York last week, guiding each Delegate to see, hear, speak and ultimately vote based on an informed group conscience.
- It meant a lot to me that so many of you from District 72 were present and able to give our Delegate, Kacie, the sense of our District on the agenda items and points of discussion for General Service Conference this month. Thank you for helping make this event successful!
- Kacie will be attending and sharing her Delegate's Report in Bozeman before the District Meeting on July 27 th .
- **EVENTS:** More information found on www.aa-montana.org calendar page
 - May 4 – Corrections & Treatment Workshop. First Presbyterian Church, 535 Ewing St, Helena. 11-3pm
 - May 17-19 – Spring Roundup in Billings @ Big Horn Resort. "Beyond our Wildest Dreams"
 - June 7-9 – 4 th Annual Founders Day Campout, Missoula. June 7-9
 - July 24 th – Delegate Report & Speaker Event (tentative). Hybrid. Fellowship Hall Bozeman. 1 – 4 pm
 - September 6-8 – Bridging the Gap 2024 Workshop Weekend. FairBridge Inn & Suites, Missoula
 - October 4-6- Havre AA Mini Conference. October 4-6. HRDC, Havre MT
 - October 11-13 – 2024 Fall Roundup. Fairmont Hot Springs, Butte. "Winning Recovery in the 406"

9. Immediate Business:

- **Discussion regarding whether to have District meetings outside of Bozeman during the summer months for 2024-** Betty R., Joanne M., Meghan R., Lenore M.
Discussion: Meagan R. explained agenda item form, discussions included keeping July & August D72 meeting in Bozeman, rotating June & September meetings out of town, start elections early, maybe in July.
Motion: Rotate the District 72 June & September business meetings to other towns, keeping July & August District 72 business meetings in Bozeman for District Day and elections.
Passed: YES - 22, No - 0
- **GSRs** - be sure to talk to home groups about possibly hosting June or September out of town D72 business meeting and add District Day Event, July 27, to your group announcements. (see attached flyer)

DISTRICT 72 AGENDA ITEM FORM: DISCUSSION

(1) State the discussion item:

Discussion regarding whether to hold District 72 business meetings outside of Bozeman during the summer months for 2024- Betty R., Joanne M., Meghan R., Lenore M.

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

- Traditionally, we've held District 72 business meetings in alternate locations throughout the District during the summer months (often June, July, August, and sometimes September). This has enabled a broader range of AA members to be able to participate (Concept IV talks about the Right of Participation- that participation is the key to harmony) in in-person District meetings if otherwise they aren't able to get to Bozeman every month, or are just interested in learning what District service is all about.
- For 2024, the annual Delegate's report and a service workshop are scheduled in Bozeman on the same day as our District 72 business meeting in July, so this meeting will be held in Bozeman.
- This is an election year and the District Guidelines state: "The election of district officers and committee chairs shall take place no later than the August district meeting in the even numbered years". We have a strong, reliable internet connection at Fellowship Hall in Bozeman with a proven process for facilitating hybrid meetings. If we choose to hold the election meeting in a location outside of Bozeman, we need to feel reasonably confident that we can conduct a smooth hybrid meeting.

(3) List the considerations (pro and con) of the discussion item/motion:

CONSIDERATIONS:

1. How can we ensure the best representation of voters and people willing to stand for District 72 positions at the election meeting, while also ensuring a smooth online experience for members needing to attend virtually?
2. We have a large district, with many groups outside of the Bozeman area. How can we make sure that all the groups/AA members are included & get to participate?

Some options already identified for consideration:

1. Hold all 2024 D72 meetings (including June, July, August, and September) in Bozeman and not rotate to other towns.

PROS: There won't be any confusion about the locations of D72 meetings this summer. Having the Delegates report in Bozeman (in July) provides a central location and is an opportunity for all AA members in District 72 to be able to hear the very important and worthwhile delegates report. Having the D72 August meeting in Bozeman allows us to use our strong reliable internet connection at Fellowship Hall in Bozeman for a hybrid meeting (as stated above).

CONS: No opportunity for the surrounding communities to host D72 meetings in the summer months of 2024.

2. We can hold the June & September D72 meetings in locations other than Bozeman that volunteer to host us and hold July and August in Bozeman.

PROS: We can partially keep the tradition of having some summer D72 meetings outside of

Bozeman, while also being able to have our July service event and have elections in Bozeman where we have a reliable hybrid connection.

CONS: There is the potential that it might create some confusion about where the D72 meetings will be this summer. The weather in Montana is a bit unpredictable in June & September.

3. We can hold the D72 meetings (for June, July, August, and maybe September) in locations other than Bozeman that volunteer to host us.

PROS: We can have D72 meetings (June, July, August, & September) in locations other than Bozeman, allowing us to keep this tradition and to make sure that many of the homegroups/towns/people in District 72 get to participate.

CONS: We might not get all elections done in time for the Fall assembly (September 13-15 this year).

(4) Financial considerations for the discussion item/motion (IF APPLICABLE):

The only “financial” considerations are in terms of maintaining unity within District 72 and service in terms of getting all D72 positions filled.

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

Because it directly impacts the District 72 elections for 2025-26.

(6) Final Comments:



Service & Unity:

Setting our Sights on AA's Horizon

District 72 BBQ, Speakers, Delegate Report, Games, Fun and D72 Business Meeting

Featuring...

Kacie N - Area 40 Delegate

Rick H - Area 40 P.I. Chair & Past D72 DCM



When & Where?

July 27, 2024, Fellowship Hall starting at 1:00

(Detailed times for events TBD)

Zoom info: Meeting: 843 3623 3284 Passcode: 371512

10. Old Business:

- **Discuss the idea of conducting another District 72 Inventory - Betty M.**
 - Further discussion from Groups & Committee Chairs to the Recommendations of the Ad Hoc of the Ad Hoc District Inventory Committee? Plan for moving forward?
 - Final report follows:

2020 DISTRICT 72 INVENTORY WRAP-UP REPORT - April 2024

Background of District Inventory concluded in December 2020.

In September 2019, District 72 voted to conduct an inventory to evaluate how well the District is fulfilling its purpose to help carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the still suffering alcoholic. Based on a district inventory used around the West Central Region, a District 72 ad hoc committee formulated an inventory questionnaire. It was distributed to 47 groups in the District. Groups were encouraged to hold group conscience meetings to compile their responses to the questions. An online meeting* was scheduled on October 11, 2020 for groups to report on their 1 responses. Written responses for groups unable to participate in the online meeting were submitted the week prior to that meeting.

Twelve of the 47 groups receiving the questionnaire either provided written comments and/or participated in the online meeting. The response rate was 25.5% with geographic representation of ten groups from Bozeman and two groups from outside Bozeman.**

The ad hoc committee, with assistance from note takers, compiled the written responses and those shared at the inventory meeting to produce the full text that is the basis for this report. The report was delivered at the November-December 2020 meeting. The full text of the responses is available at <https://aa-montana.org/district-sites/dist72/index.php>. This report summarizes responses and comments and is intended to suggest future agenda items at District business meetings.

The findings of the Committee were distributed in the November 2020 timeframe, posted on the Area 40 website and brought up for discussion at the November-December meeting. Detailed discussion was to begin in January, but that discussion did not occur.

Katie M. volunteered to lead an Ad Hoc Committee to the Ad Hoc Committee in 2023 to help D72 analyze the results by committee. Each district committee was responsible for reviewing the newly summarized information with their home group or their district committee and come back to the District 72 with the Committee's findings/thoughts/suggestions. This information may be found on the Area 40 District 72 mini-site under the District Inventory tab.

*The COVID pandemic influenced the scheduling and venue of the inventory meeting.

**Issues of closures and/or online only meetings during the COVID pandemic may have influenced the ability of 2 groups to respond.

2020 DISTRICT 72 INVENTORY REPORT

2020 District Inventory Questions Asked: (Note: Full questions and inventory responses are available on the Area 40, District 72 mini-site)

1. What is the District doing to Carry the Message to the still suffering alcoholic? What more can we do (to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic)?
2. How effective is the District communication with the groups, the fellowship and the rest of the service structure as a whole? What can we do better (communication with the groups and the fellowship...)?
3. Does the District effectively prepare their trusted servants for their position? If not, what can we do better?
4. Is our District attracting/voting the best leaders into all positions? Are we seeing a good cross-section of our groups, including new trusted servants, participating? Does the District's trusted servant turnover seem excessive? If so, why (trusted servant turnover excessive)?
5. What can we do better to retain leaders? How can we do better (emphasize the importance of service)?
6. Does the District emphasize the importance of service? How effective are we at this task (emphasize the importance of service)?
7. Is the District doing all it can to provide a safe, functional and accessible meeting place? If not, what can we do better (safe functional, and accessible meeting place)? Are the District meetings being conducted effectively? If not, what can we do better (conduct effectively)?
8. Does the District give the opportunity for all leaders, chairpersons and attendees to speak at meetings and participate in District activities? How can we do better (opportunity for all ... to participate in meetings)? How is the District doing in fulfilling its financial responsibilities as it relates to group contributions? How can we do better (financial responsibilities)?***
9. What current structures within the District are not necessary or effective?
10. What activities should the District do to encourage cooperation with the professional community- the physicians, clergy, court officials, educators and others who are often the first to see alcoholics in need of help?
11. Is the District effectively applying the "12 Traditions" in its operation? Is the District effectively applying the "12 Concepts" in its operation? What can we do better?
12. What role, if any, does the District play in the unity of the A.A. community as a whole? How can we do better (District role in the unity of the A.A. Community as a whole)?

***This question is commonly used in both group and district inventories, and does not indicate any suspicion of mishandling or mispending of group contributions

2020 DISTRICT 72 INVENTORY REPORT

2020 Report from the Ad Hoc District Inventory Report Results Committee (*excerpt. Full Report on Area 40 District 72 Mini-Site under District Inventory*)

Thank you for allowing us to serve. The experience of working together to develop a set of questions, a venue for sharing openly, and to hear and report how the groups in the District view our effectiveness as a district has been rewarding.

We made a concerted effort to contact every group and to assure that they were included in this process. However, only 25% of the groups we contacted participated either in the online meeting or by providing written responses. This raises a few questions: does participation at this rate adequately and honestly reflect the conscience of all of the groups in District 72? How much did COVID affect participation? What were other issues with non-response? Why do groups not participate? Are non-responders also not attending district meetings? Some of the participating groups (kudos for responding) admitted that they do not have a GSR, have not had a GSR or participated beyond their group for a very long time. Finally, are there underlying factors that did not even surface in the questions asked and answers provided?

Although participation was less than we had hoped, the groups participating offered thoughtful answers and suggestions for improvement. The inventory indicates that some groups are involved and recognize the work that the District does to carry the message, and they have some ideas about what can be done better. There were ideas expressed about improving the monthly district business meeting, helping everyone be better informed, helping everyone learn more about the services A.A. can and does provide, and attracting more people to help. There were no responses that indicated that the district structure needed to be changed or that there are any problems with the District's financial responsibilities.

2020 District Inventory Report Responses may be found on the Area 40, District 72 mini-site under "District Inventory" (*District Inventory Responses*)

2020 District Inventory Report may be found on the Area 40, District 72 mini-site under "District Inventory" (*District Inventory Report*)

2023 Ad Hoc of the Ad Hoc - District Inventory (inventory responses Feb. 2024) may be found on the Area 40 District 72 Mini-Site under "District Inventory". There have been no additional updates since February. Information in blue was provided by the Committee Chair/Officer to the District.

Respectfully submitted by Betty M, DCM District 72
April 2023

10. Old Business (continued):

- **Discussion about registering District 72 as a nonprofit to purchase a subscription to Quickbooks Online through TechSoup for use by the District Treasurer to track and report on financials** - Meghan R.

Discussion: Meghan re-explained the current Google sheets process we use now, explained the purchase of Quickbooks. *(See Agenda Item Form below)*

Spoke with GSO and their advice was do what you're supposed to do with the IRS, we don't help you with the process. Have spoken to a group who holds nonprofit status and says it's not complicated or hard to do.

Lenore asked those in favor at this point to give a head nod.....majority or room, if not all nodded their heads. It was suggested that proposal be put into 2 motions: 1 for nonprofit status & 1 for Quickbooks purchase.

GSRs please finish up talking to your groups about this with your groups, there may be a motion or motions for this next month.

DISTRICT 72 AGENDA ITEM FORM: DISCUSSION

(1) Discussion to register District 72 as a nonprofit and purchase a subscription to Quickbooks Online through TechSoup for use by the District Treasurer to track and report on financials

(2) List how the discussion item originated and background info:

- District 72 currently uses a complex Google Sheets spreadsheet for tracking budgets, income, expenses, and bank balances.
- The use of this spreadsheet requires an understanding of how Google Sheets and the use of formulas work to keep it accurately reflecting the data.
- It can be burdensome when new groups or budget lines are added to ensure all formulas throughout the spreadsheet are pulling from the correct places.
- Area 40 uses a version of Quickbooks for tracking and reporting on finances and has had an overall positive experience with it
- To qualify for the discounted price, we need to register as a non-profit with the IRS. I would request asking the District if we have any members experienced in this process to ensure we are properly registered from the outset.

(3) List the considerations (pro and con) of the discussion item:

- Pros -
 - Quickbooks software is designed specifically for this purpose and will likely be more reliable for tracking data
 - There is less room for error and would make the Treasurer position in future service rotations more accessible to folks who don't have Excel or Google Sheets experience
- Cons -
 - This would require an additional expense to the District
 - In order to maintain status as a non-profit, this would also require annual tax filings with the IRS and the State of Montana

(4) Financial considerations for the discussion item:

- \$20 to file articles of incorporation with the state of Montana
- \$275 to apply for recognition of exemption under § 501(c)(3) submitted on Form 1023-EZ with IRS
- This would require an increase to the Treasurer's budget (or the tech budget) of \$75/year
- This would require a potential increase to the overall spending plan of \$20/year to file annually with the Secretary of State

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

- Because it requires an additional expense by the District

(6) Final Comments:

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 May 15, 2024.*

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

**Next district meeting Saturday, May 25th , 2024
4:30pm – 6:30pm at the Fellowship Hall in 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**

**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*