

DISTRICT 91 BUSINESS MEETING Anonymity Protected

March 29, 2020

Email participation by:

4 District Chair; 5 Committee Char; 4 GSR's; 2 Area Chair participated through email.

Note: *This is a live document therefore the contents herein are subject to change as I receive reports. If you would like to print this document, you may wish to wait until the minutes are approved at the next District Meeting. If you see an error please email District 91 Secretary so that corrections can be made promptly. Thank you!*

OPENING 3:00 p.m.

- Serenity Prayer
- Preamble -**
- 12 Traditions - **
- 12 Concepts - **
- Concept of the Month - Concept 03 - **
- Next Month Concept 04 Review Volunteer - **
- Next District meeting Host group- April 2020 Cancelled
- **Current March meeting was cancelled due to Coronavirus precautions:**
 - WHITEFISH GROUP
 - 301 Central Avenue
 - Whitefish, MT
 - 3 PM March 29, 2020
- Review & approval for current February 23, 2019 minutes: May be approved/corrected if an email vote is sent by those submitting reports for March 29, 2020. As noted above.
- 7th Tradition

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [Revised District Guidelines](#)
- [AREA 40 Agenda Item Proposal Form](#)
- [DISTRICT 91 AGENDA PROPOSAL FORM](#)
- [District 91 Budget 2019](#)
- **WCRAASC - CANCELLED**
- **PRE ASSEMBLY - CANCELLED**
- **SPRING ASSEMBLY - CANCELLED & now a virtual meeting**
- **POCKETS OF ENTHUSIASM , Helena - CANCELLED**
- **SPRING ROUND UP, BOZEMAN, MT - CANCELLED**
- **MT VIRTUAL MEETINGS with ZOOM listed on - aa-montana.org**

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Archives -

*, District 91 Archives Chair

Bridging the Gap -

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Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) -

March 24th - Nothing to report.

*, CPC Chair

Corrections-

Greetings,

My apologies on the late report. As I'm sure it has been for everyone else, the month has been a crazy one for me as well. I do have a bit to report, although I'm sure most of it is common sense and could be guessed by anyone.

Throughout the past month, I have kept in close contact with the jail. My initial reason for doing this is our main contact at the jail, CDO **, has left his position and a replacement has been put in place, CDO *. I wanted to make sure to see * off the right way, and to welcome * as best I could. This proved to be a Godsend, as I happened to be first on their list for who to call when the COVID-19 crisis began. On March 16th, I received word that the jail would not be hosting meetings for the next two weeks, and they would contact me again on March 30th. As you might expect, my call with them on March 30th was to communicate an extension of no jail meetings through the month of April. I also spoke with them concerning the upcoming jail orientation, and they decided to cancel the orientation as well. I will need to speak with them later this month (April) to determine the status of volunteers who were planning to re-orient but were unable to due to this crisis. More on that will be in my next report.

Additionally, because of the Governor's orders, I am not able to begin my presentation on the Corrections Correspondence Program as planned. As soon as we are allowed to gather in person again, I plan to start that presentation, and possibly even plan a "How to Write an Inmate" workshop. We shall see what God has planned for us all. I am no longer running the show.

To sum up and make abundantly clear: There will be no jail meetings for the entire month of April. The spring jail orientation has been cancelled. I do not have information on when either of those events are to be rescheduled or begin again.

Thank you all for the opportunity to be of service, and to keep my own sobriety by giving it away.

Yours in service,

**, District 91 Corrections Chair

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District Intergroup Liaison -

*, District 91 Intergroup Liaison

Grapevine-

MESSAGE FROM GRAPEVINE

GRAPEVINE & LA VINA & COVID 19

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION JULY 2020

GRAPEVINE app Notice

*, District 91 Grapevine Chair

Intergroup Liaison -

*, Intergroup Liaison

Literature-

March 26th - Literature sales were sluggish in March. There were requests from Whitefish Group, Band of Brothers and the Canyon Group. Big Books continue to be the item of choice. Current balance in Literature account is \$730.59

*, District 91 Literature Chair

Public Information (PI)-

February 23rd - NOTE: I still have an opening for service - one of the PI committee members can no longer cover her AA meeting schedule distribution area and we need a new volunteer. The area that needs a volunteer is as follows:

Bigfork

Library (525 Electric Ave)

Motels/Laundromats (your choice – schedules only)

Lakeside

Motels/Laundromats (your choice – schedules only)

South Kalispell

Justice Center (920 S Main) - main floor and 2nd floor)

Library (247 1 st Ave E) - all the way in back and bulletin board – schedules &

brochures

Public Health Dept. (1035 1 st Ave W) - schedules only

Family Court Services – basement of “Blue Building” by courthouse

South Kalispell Motels/Laundromats (your choice – schedules only)

Thank you for letting me be of service.

*, District 91 PI Chair

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Treatment-

March 25th - I have made a call to Wilderness Treatment Center and she has asked that until further notice they will not be taking meetings from Alcoholics Anonymous. ** has my phone number and will contact me if there are any changes.

Pathways Treatment Center will also not be taking any meetings until the threat of Covid-19 has passed. I will keep in touch with them every two weeks to get an update. That is all for now.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

**, District 91 Treatment Chair

STANDING COMMITTEES-

Into Action -

Christmas Alcathon -

Miscellaneous Reports- WCRAASC - *Cancelled !!*

GROUP REPORTS

Band of Brothers

*

Big Book Group-

*

Bigfork by the Bay Group-

March 23rd - Our meeting is closed for now due to the Corona Virus and participating in numerous Virtual Meetings listed on aa-montana.org.

**, GSR

By the Book Group-

By the Book Group is currently not meeting because it takes place in the Alano Club. The Alano Club is currently temporarily closed. I will keep in touch regarding the Alano Club re-opening.

**, GSR

Canyon Group-

**, Alt. GSR

Chief Cliff AA-

**, GSR

Circle of Sisters-

**, GSR

Columbia Falls Group-

**, GSR

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Flathead Valley Serenity Group- **., GSR

March 27th - The Flathead Valley Serenity Group meets at the Alano Club which is closed until further notice. Below is the information for our online Zoom replacement meetings for Monday & Friday nights.

Thanks guys, love ya!

** , Serenity Group member

Monday Night Meetings

Topic: Serenity Group Beginners Meeting

Time: Mar 23, 2020 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Mon, until Jun 29, 2020, 15 occurrence(s)

[Join Monday Night Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 420 837 089

Password: 442532

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 420 837 089

Find your local number: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/fevcqZUgTE>

Friday Night Meetings

Topic: Serenity Group Topic Meeting

Time: Mar 27, 2020 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Fri, until Jun 26, 2020, 14 occurrence(s)

[Join Friday Night Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 565 600 471

Password: 215299

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 565 600 471

Find your local number: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/fevcqZUgTE>

Fresh Start Group-

Going to the Sun Group-

I've appraised ** (Area 40 webmaster) of our current situation. He already has our cancellation noted on the web site. We are having our first Zoom virtual Meeting tonight at the regular time. This first virtual Meeting is just Home Group members and a few other regulars as we will work

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out the kinks and get familiar with the format. Depending on how it goes and with a group conscience we will probably list it on the web site for all.

This is new territory for sure. I'm hunkered down in Polebridge but now am taking an elderly neighbor to the Doctor's tomorrow.

Later after the meeting-

Tonight we had our first virtual group meeting and it was kind of a cluster until we got everyone on the same page. But we got there and it was great to see and hear each other and have a meeting. At the end we did have a group conscience and decided to open it to all. I sent an email to ** the aa-montana.org Area 40 webmaster and he will include the link to our Meeting on the Area40 website.

We plan to be live from 6:45pm to 8:00pm every Thursday night. This will be a recurring event as long as needed. Our zoom ID is: 592-224-9888

Everyone take care and take the appropriate precautions. This Virus situation is likely one of the greatest challenges of our lifetime.

Be safe,

**, GSR

PS: this is one time when isolation is a good thing...

Lunch Bunch Group -

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New Hope Group -

March 24th - New hope has elected to stay open for the time being. But have posted new clean up and meeting guidelines in an effort to stay safe.

Vaughn H., GSR

Somers/Lakeside Group -

MAR 31 - Here's the latest update for the Somers-Lakeside group:

Our regular Monday meeting is 8-9 pm on Zoom. We started a Big Book study on Thursday 8-9 pm on Zoom, the first one was last week. Both meetings are password protected so if people want to join they can contact me with their email address & we'll get them added. My email address is ** & cell # **. It's been a great way to keep our home group members connected & adding other AA members as we go along.

**, GSR

Sunrise Group-

?, GSR.

Swan River Women's Meeting

**, GSR

Tobacco Valley Group -

**, GSR

Whitefish Group-

April 01,2020 - It is with heavy heart that I must convey that, effective tomorrow March 27th at 9:00 am, the Whitefish Group physical meeting location is shut down. This was a decision made by our landlord, to comply with the recent announcement by our state Governor that a "shelter in place" order is in effect until April 10th. As good tenants, and good AA's, we are complying with our landlords policy. Some group members have set up online meetings, however, this was not done by group conscience and as such cannot be called Whitefish Group meetings. Efforts are being made to reach out to any and all members to help them find and participate in other avenues of recovery. Please keep our group in your prayers, as we will be keeping yours in ours.

"Would the kind of dependence they had learned in A.A. carry them through? Well, it did...their dependence upon a Higher Power worked. And far from being a weakness, this dependence was their chief source of strength." Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions - pgs 38-39

April 01,2020 -

Greetings in service!

My heart goes out to all the other groups who are struggling to navigate this difficult time. It certainly has presented challenges for the Whitefish Group as well.

To start, I wish to convey the news that from this point on, I have transitioned into the GSR position for Whitefish Group. Due to circumstances beyond his control, ** would not have been able to fulfill the duties of GSR and made the wise decision to pass the position on to me. I want to thank him for his service, and especially for his humility and willingness to recognize the situation at hand and take a step back. I am confident in my ability to handle this position in addition to Corrections Chair, and hope I will be able to serve you all well in this expanded capacity.

Being in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, I would be remiss to not mention how it is affecting the Whitefish Group. We continued to hold our physical meetings until our landlord closed the church down on Friday, March 27 th . Since then, we have not had any (sanctioned) in-person meetings. An AA member in Whitefish set up a Zoom meeting, which I'm sure many of you have attended. It has since taken on the name of the Whitefish Group, even though we took no group conscience to establish it. The group is working to determine how to proceed through an obvious Tradition Six issue. I'll be happy to share our experience with it once it is resolved.

Currently, the group leadership is engaged in email chains to determine a number of things, such as holding a virtual group conscience meeting, holding virtual regular meetings, how to collect 7th Tradition, and the future of our meeting. Hopefully, we will hold a group conscience meeting and get all of these issues handled. I hope to have much more to report in April.

I would just like to state my opinion that during these times of crisis, it is important to keep our focus on following spiritual principles. History is replete with examples of groups that abandoned their principles during times of crisis, only to be undone by the consequences of that abandonment a short time later. I believe in the deepest part of my heart that this crisis is not only a test but a gift as well. The test is the gift and vice versa. By cheerfully capitalizing on this

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as an opportunity to demonstrate God's omnipotence, we will learn how well our way of life actually works; a gift which will pay dividends the rest of our lives.

May God bless you all, In Service, **, GSR

Women in Sobriety-

**

DISTRICT BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS -

Note: The discussions provided below do not exhibit direct quotes from the individuals. It is the secretary's attempt to capture the spirit of the discussion to the best of their ability. If you wish for something to be changed or amended please email the secretary.

OFFICER REPORTS-

District Committee Member (DCM) -

[GSO Update on Covid 19](#)

March 14th - Good afternoon all:

Sorry to inform you that the Area Assembly has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 scare around us. I will let you know what is to be done about the Assembly when I am informed. Due to the cancellation of the Assembly the Pre-Assembly has also been canceled. This is due to the lack of need for a pre-assembly and the coming bad weather tomorrow in the Southern part of the state and the lower Flathead, and the COVID-19.

As a result of these two cancellations I am rescheduling our regular District Meeting back to the last Sunday of the month (March 29), this will keep us on our regular schedule. If this does not work for everyone please let me know.

Thank you for all of your help and understanding. If anything else changes about the District Meeting I will try and let you all know as early as possible. Please let everyone at your meetings know about the District Meeting.

Thank you all again.

**, DCM District 91

Alternate District Committee Member (Alt. DCM) -

Just a friendly reminder to try to use the Bcc function when emailing, as many people do not want their email addresses going to all members on the email.

Thank you and be safe.

**, Alt. DCM

Treasurer-

Greetings; Stay safe, stay home.

Balance \$4,951.13 Pink Can \$1,452.75 Prudent Reserve \$1,497.52

Available checking Balance \$2,000.86

See detailed report:

[Treasurer's report March 2020](#)

**, Treasurer

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Secretary-

Thank you for your patience. We had so many updates this month I hope I included all the current information. Some information is a duplication of numerous email already sent to you. I needed something to create minutes!! Let me know if there are any additions or corrections to March activity. I'll see you in a virtual meeting soon.

Thank you for your consideration of others & yourselves - follow the suggestions we have been given: Social distancing - stay six feet apart; wash hands; sanitize hands; wear masks when necessary; stay hydrated; get your rest; exercise however you can; sanitize surfaces. BE SAFE!

Grateful to be in service, **, Secretary

AGENDA ITEMS: *Remember that items on the agenda are considered "made and seconded motions" and should be taken back to your home groups to get input in order to be able to discuss and vote the following business meeting. If there are any questions about this process, please let ** (DCM) know.*

OLD BUSINESS- None noted.

NEW BUSINESS-

March 16th - Howdy everyone,

**, Webmaster, is amending the Area 40 meeting list to include meetings that are temporarily closed. He is also including instructions on how to contact and become involved in "virtual meetings".

If you have any information about this please forward it to ** or **. Their email is attached.

webmaster@aa-montana.org

This is a dynamic situation so please stay in touch. Now more than ever we need to be able to reach out to the newly suffering alcoholic whose world is crashing down on them because of bar closures and also to those that are digitally challenged and are unable to attend the meetings they have come to rely upon.

Thanks, **, Area Delegate

SPRING ASSEMBLY MAR 28-29

March 20th - Hello all: There will be a Virtual Assembly meeting on the 27th and 28th of this month (March). I will know more information about it tomorrow. (the address, password, and meeting set up info.)

Please let me know who is planning to take part in this Assembly. GSR's and others will be part of workshops, so the Area needs to know who will be attending in order to assign these workshops.

I am learning as I go here, so please bear with me. If there are any questions please email me or call as soon as you can. **

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Area 40 Virtual Spring Assembly

Friday March 27th 7pm - Saturday March 28th 7pm

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/443101544> Unknown organizer.

Here is the Video that explains how to use Zoom.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1xvHnYCwHk>

Thank you for your patience and help.

**., DCM District 91

March 24th - I wonder if District 91 would spend \$15.00 to open a Zoom Account and hold a Virtual District Meeting. It's \$15.00/month for unlimited time and up to 100 participants at a time. Just a thought, **.

April 5th - **Spring Round UP 2020 - Bozeman has been cancelled:**

The members of the Bozeman 2020 Spring Roundup Committee are committed to the health and safety of our attendees. We have carefully and continuously monitored the relevant health advisories regarding COVID-19 (coronavirus) and their implications to our Spring Roundup. After considerable discussion last night, the Committee voted to cancel the Roundup and reimburse all those who have signed up for the event thus far. It was a difficult discussion to have, and a difficult decision to make. However, I left the meeting feeling deep satisfaction and gratitude knowing that AAs time-honored traditions and concepts continue to work in times of crisis and indecision, and that our loving Higher Power was present in the group conscience leading us to the best decision we could make at this time.

I have been honored to Chair this committee with an incredibly talented group of AAs and AI-Anons, and appreciate the opportunity to be of service to my District and my Area.

Yours in service,

**., Spring 2020 Round Up Chair

Minutes submitted by: **., District 91 Secretary