

September 18, 2018

Business Meeting, District 5, South Florida Area 15, General Service Committee
Arcadia, Boca Grande, Englewood, Ft. Ogden, Nokomis, North Port, Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda, Venice

www.aadistrict5.org

www.area15aa.org

DCMs Contact Info:

Venice: Mary O. 941-223-8765; **Arcadia and Englewood:** Wes L 941-815-2287;
Punta Gorda: Jen N. 941-661-1074; **North Port:** Diane P. (h) 941-426-7265 or (cell) 941-284-3216;
Always Available Mark W. District Chair 941-716-0621

MINUTES ARE CONFIDENTIAL: must not be posted in public places (clubs, bulletin boards)
NOTE: All reports and motions must be handed to or emailed to secretary@aadistrict5.org on or before the business meeting is held and no later than the weekend thereafter. Please use Arial 12-point font and submit word or page docs rather than .pdfs for ease of insertion. THANK YOU!

Next Meeting 7pm GSR Sharing, 8pm District 5 Business Meeting
Community United Church of Christ, 3450 Biscayne Drive, North Port
on October 16, 2018 (the 3rd Tuesday)

OPENING: Chairperson Mark W. called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm, directly after the 7pm GSR Sharing on Current Practices Updates.

Start with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Sandy read the GSR preamble and Tim read the long form of Tradition 9.

WELCOME: New GSRs, AGSRs, DCMs and ACMs:

New GSRs: Mike from Another Chance Group, PC

New AGSRs: None

ROLL CALL: 21 GSRS; 2 AGSRs; 3 DCMs; 1 ADCM; 3 Officers; 4 Guests = 34 TOTAL

GSR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (any flyers are included at the end of the minutes)

SANDY H: Borderline Big Book, PG: Pamphlet Party, Understanding Anonymity by Maggie L. Eating Meeting 7 to 7:30 and Meeting 7:45 to 9pm, Last Monday September 24th.

PATRICK: Progress Group, PG 44th Anniversary Party, October 21st, Chicken 6pm, Meeting 7pm

RICHARD: Can Do Picnic, Oscar Scherer Park, Osprey, FL on October 21st, Noon till ... Hot Dogs and Hamburgers provided, please carpool as the parking is paid for by our group.

BILL and JENN: Oldest Group in District 5, 64 years, Tuesday Nights "NEEDS ATTENDANCE" and Anniversary is end of November (65 or 64 years)

DIANE: The Butterfly Group, NP, Last Wednesday is a speaker, 14th Anniversary September 26th, Speaker is English Jan.

BRUCE: Easy Does It Club, PC; Halloween Party, 9pm till Midnight, Saturday, October 27th, Costume contest, DJ and Raffle.

MIKE: Another Chance Group, Halloween Shindig, Saturday, October 27th at 8:30pm

TIM: New Beginnings, October 13th, Saturday at Noon, Dallas White Park in NP, Fall Festival, Hot Dogs and Hamburgers and Chips, Noon to 1pm

PAT: Tuesday Step Group has a Tradition Meeting Last Tuesday of the month, Jan K. speaker

CHAIRMANS REPORT: Mark W.

Good evening,

It is my privilege to serve as the district 5 chair. This is a busy time of the term in AA as we consider our service positions and opportunities. We will be electing our new panel of officers and committee chairs next month. I hope you will all consider rotating into new positions in District 5 and please know that we will help with any challenges you encounter. Please consult your sponsor or service sponsor regarding these decisions. We all need to carry the message of hope so let's share in the work together.

The Current Practices Committee has asked that we re-convene the Quarterly ad-hoc Committee to review the possibility of establishing this as a standing committee. Tonight there will be several motions for your consideration so please be patient. We are here to serve you and want to address all your questions.

If you are in need of a room or a ride for the October Assembly in Boca Raton please let us know. This is a voting assembly so you might expect a longer day on Sunday. The voting will take place after the business meeting has concluded. This is your chance to choose your Area Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Treasurer, Registrar and Recording Secretary. Also the standing committee chairs are submitted for your approval. Please make your voices heard. We look forward to seeing you there.

Love and Service
Mark W
District 5 Chair

ALTERNATE CHAIR/DCM CHAIR REPORT: Position OPEN**DCM REPORT:****RECORDING SECRETARY: Joyce C.**

September 18th Secretary's Report:

Good Evening Everyone, My Name is Joyce and I'm an Alcoholic:

As your District Secretary, I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to serve.

At the back table there are sign in sheets in alpha order by first name, please be sure to 'check' in on your name and/or correct the accuracy of the information or add your name to the New or Guest List if appropriate. Please Notice a new column: "Share OK", here I'm asking your permission to share your contact information with the members of District 5 as a printed handout.

Please email me your reports, comments, flyers, etc. or hand them to me at this meeting if you'd like them to appear in the Minutes. I will accept emails up to Friday night. secretary@aadistrict5.org

In Love and Service, Joyce

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Bill S.

Registrar Report for September 2018

Just a reminder, in October we will hold elections for the Officers for District 5. The Registrar's position will need to be filled for the two-year term beginning January 1, 2019 serving in Panel 69. No special computer skills are needed for this position. Training on the use of the program used by the registrars will be conducted at the January Area Assembly. If you are interested, please see me for details of the registrar position and to answer any questions you may have.

If you are standing for a new service position or are stepping down from a service position, please let me know before you leave tonight. If you are standing for a position, please fill out the form on the table in the back of the room so that you may be properly registered and receive support from G.S.O. as well as from our district members.

If there is a change to your group's meeting information such as the time or place where it meets, contact me by phone or text at (941-276-1561 or by email at registrar@aadistrict5.org.

Grateful to serve,
Bill S.
Registrar, District 5

TREASURER'S REPORT*: Mary O.

Hello District 5. Thank you for your contributions this month. District 5 received \$1,211.36 Expenses were \$1,588.48. Our ending balance is \$4,138.73. Treasurer's Report is on the back table.

We did not have a Finance meeting this month. We need a Finance Chair to help with the committee. Budgets will be coming up in Oct and Nov, so we will need extra help during that time. We will meet Oct 9th at 7:00 at the Intergroup Office. We will be distributing a budget form and history of expenses to Committee chairs. Please discuss with your committees how much you will need next year.

Kindly make out your contribution check to the ***District 5 Treasurer*** and mail to the address below
District 5 Treasurer
PO Box 7356
North Port, FL 34290

Mary O.
District 5 Treasurer
Email: treasurer@aadistrict5.org
[941-223-8765](tel:941-223-8765)

09/12/18

District 5

TREASURERS REPORT

Sept 18, 2018

Aug 18

Aug beginning balance		\$ 4,515.85
Income		
Basket	49.00	
Group Contributions	1,162.36	
Total Income	1,211.36	
Expense		
Archives	54.00	

Corrections Committee	730.52
PI/CPC Comm	29.20
Quarterly Excess Disbursement	315.00
Recording Secretary	24.60
Treasurer	26.42
Treatment Committee	408.74
Total Expense	1,588.48

Aug ending balance **\$ 4,138.73**

Prudent Reserve Beginning Balance July	\$ 4,001.38
Prudent Reserve Interest - 7/31/18	\$ 0.07
Prudent Reserve Ending Balance July	\$ 4,001.45

District 5 Group Contributions. August 2018

<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Another Chance Group	100.00
Bear with US	244.00
Blues Clues Group Study Group	14.00
District 5 Meeting Contribution	49.00
Easy Does it Group	20.00
Eye Opener (Cape Haze)	75.00
Eye Opener Group P.G.	109.13
Hanging Tough Group	76.00
Living Sober 12 & 12 Group	96.58
Morning Glory Group	77.65
Our Great Hope B.B. Step Study	5.00
Peace River Group	45.00
PMS Group	60.00
Solutions@noon	20.00
Steps to Sobriety	100.00
Tranquility On The Mound	75.00
Venice Fri. Night Women's Group	30.00
Women Big Book Study Group	15.00
Total Contributions	1,211.36

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: POSITION IS OPEN (oversee the Treasurer's Reports, request if any committees need extra money over budget. Meets 2nd Tuesday and has 1-year sobriety.

WEBSITE: Tania

Diane R resigned from the Web committee. Grateful for her service and wishing her well.

Updates pending to descriptions for Accessibility and Current Practices committees.

Looking for Web committee members!

TREATMENT: Brian U.

Good Evening everyone,

My name is Brian and I am the current chair for the treatment committee for District 5. All of our meetings are going well in the 5 facilities that allow us to carry the message. The Wednesday meeting held at the annex building on Cooper st in Punta Gorda, at 330, could use a little support. The format of the meeting is for beginners.

Our monthly committee meeting held on the 13th at the Easy Does it Club at 645, did not happen, I was the only one there.

We had 2 local bridges this month

Treatment will have a table set up on Sept. 28th at Laishley park from 7 to 9. This event is celebrate recovery, there will be speakers, music , food and fellowship. All are welcome.

I will be at the October quarterly held in Boca Raton, which will be my last one. Jason is the next chair and will try to come to the next business meeting, so you guys can welcome him aboard.

The next committee meeting will be October 11th at 645at the club. All are welcome.

Love and Service, Brian

CORRECTIONS: J.J.:

(see scanned docs further on in the report)

Corrections Committee Meeting

District 5- Area 15, South Florida

Minutes of 09/September/2018 Meeting: 10:00-11:30

Attendees: Les H., JJ A., Bob C., Betty M.

AGENDA

JJ A. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Minutes were reviewed and accepted by acclamation. (Betty M. noted the 2018 Budget, to date, was reviewed and discussed and accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

- Costs for renewals for Our Meeting in Print were reviewed. Bob C., C. C. treasurer, pointed out if we renew the Grapevine and LaVina, we will go over our 2018 Corrections Committee Budget. JJ A., Corrections Committee Chair, stated he would take this up at the upcoming District 5 Business meeting on August 21, and revise our Budget accordingly! **DONE** as reported by JJ. (*10 LaVina, 20 Grapevine- to be distributed to CCJ Men's, CCI, 2-3 to Work Camps, and so forth.)
- The Thursday AA meeting in the "Faith based" dorm has been cancelled, It is now recognized as "the Chaplain's Deal" to have inmate volunteers run AA Meetings in the various dorms. We of AA were supportive and helped run the first such meeting. But it was cancelled by DOC Administration, for having AA Volunteers behind the Center Gate, some of which was due to concerns of security and Inmates privacy. Then, given the choice, inmates voted "no" to having other dorm meetings run by inmate volunteers to satisfy the Chaplains agenda.
- Between e-mails from Corrections Chair, J.J. A. and LT. Long, she is quite happy with the present process of literature use and sees no need for changes at present time. Our guidelines are fine.
- The updated volunteer list for the Men's jail was completed and is attached.
- Flow charts for the AA Pre-Release Program for prison inmates, and the AA Bridging -the-Gap Program for treatment patients, has been delayed. JJ will be handling this in the coming month. This effort is to clarify for the AA Volunteers, at the Intergroup Office, who get phone calls from the various agencies for appropriate referrals.
- E-mails were, again, sent to probation depts. regarding our services from AA. And, again, there has been no response. It will need to be personally followed up on in the future, as our volunteers are able.

- Whether an AA meeting will be started again at the Arcadia jail is pending. And Les H. stated Jail personnel have our info. And can access it when they see the need.
- AA Volunteers who are “key holders” for the Monday Nite AA meeting are JJ, and Dan K.
- Bob C. mentioned that all Donations, that have had the approval of the Assistant warden of Programs, per the new donations process, now go to the Warehouse for distribution. They do not get taken through the front gate.

NEW BUSINESS

- Les H. made a Motion to have all old Corrections Committee info. With personal information from pervious Committees, be shredded. This was for Expediency and confidentiality. Motion passed unanimously.
- Betty M. reiterated the new vol. list for the Men’s jail has been successfully updated, and is attached. She will clarify one name with Lt. Long by e-mail.
- New volunteer group commitments for the month of September were completed.
- Meeting was adjourned with the-

A Declaration of Unity . . .

**This we owe to AA’s Future:
To place our common welfare first;
To Keep Our Fellowship United;
For on AA Unity depend our lives;
And the lives of those to come.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bob C. Secretary/Treasurer

ACCESSIBILITY: Bill S.

Accessibility Committee met on August 21, 2018 at the Intergroup Office in North Port.

In Attendance: Sarah N, Jeff J and Bill S

Chairman Bill S called the meeting to order at 5:40 with the Serenity Prayer

Items for Discussed:

After reviewing the minutes of the previous meeting item by item, we agree it is best to continue shoring up our initial efforts to solidify their impact in our community. This includes: Following through, completing phone calls to folks who offered their initial support. Forwarding the “promotional script” to those who would like to regularly announce it at the meetings they attend.

Attending the September 4 DCM meeting, inquiring if any DCM would carry our “promotional blurb” with them as they visit various AA groups throughout the District.

Inquiring via Facebook what connections can be made between the deaf/hard of hearing community and our Accessibility Committee.

Inquiring if there are there schools in our District that teach ASL? If so, contact instructors and tap into their knowledge of any deaf/hard of hearing “community” that we might be able to use to spread the word.

Revisit certain contacts from the Area 15 quarterlies and touch base to gain their input. This includes those deaf/hard of hearing members as well as AC chairmen throughout Area 15.

Initial contact was made with little success; follow up to include committee members.

Creating a small flyer that succinctly tells the story of our Accessibility Committee which can be handed out to interested parties. Contact information is included. Decided to use the information from our website which came from our display materials thus aligning our message consistently though our outreach.

Other business:

Applauded the web site committee's efforts to target our web page for uploading by the end of this month, and continuing to find a solution to get our monthly meeting placed on the District's events calendar.

Place our "promotional blurb" in The Lifeline beginning with the September issue.

The Accessibility Committee meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Intergroup Office at 5:30PM. All are welcome!

Grateful to serve, Bill S. Accessibility Chair

PI/CPC: Nancy

PI/CPC Report for September 2018

Committee did not meet this month. I had a family health crisis and was unable to attend.

No new activity. We continue to ensure that the libraries have our literature and meeting schedules.

Our ad is in the Feeling Fit supplement of the Sun newspapers.

We continue to approach physician offices and acute care facilities to offer our literature.

I put our business card and post card on community bulletin boards as well as at venues that have other business cards. This is something that anyone can do. So, if you are interested in service and carrying the message please join us to find out what else you can do.

We will be supporting the Rainbow group at the PRIDE Festival in Venice on Nov. 3 from 1-5. The Rainbow group is going to have a table and our committee will be providing literature and our display.

I am stepping down from the chair position in the spirit of rotation. Please consider standing for the position yourself or encouraging another AA member to do so.

I have been in contact with the Billboard company about the vinyl we own. The billboard is still up (free advertising), but when they do take it down I will be contacted, and they will deliver to me for Archives.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy P.

LITERATURE: Patrick

Looking for a group to get together, call 941-883-1414

INTERGROUP LIAISON: Position OPEN LOUIS (alternate for now)

www.aanorthport.org and/or www.aalifeline please subscribe for newsletter emails

"Apologies for being absent lately. I am feeling better. First, recent bugs in our events and meeting guide online and on the mobile app have been cleaned up.

Second, Intergroup elections will be held next month on October 18th. All positions are up for rotation including Chair, vice-chair, at-large members (and secretary and treasurer if still open). Liaison to District, Webchair, and other positions also need to be filled. Events and webchair committees also love welcoming new members.

Tickets for October 6th dance at St. David's (6:30) and the November Gratitude dinner on Nov. 3rd are available at the Intergroup Office.

Lifeline is published the first of every month and is coming along nicely. If you want it emailed to you, please subscribe in our home page or just call the office.

Please submit all events (flyers not necessary) if you want to get the word out and email webchair@aanorthport.org for all your website needs.

Love and service,
Louis A.”

GRAPEVINE: Richard M.

No report, my phone #941-525-7491.

CURRENT PRACTICES: Jan

The Current Practices committee met Sept. 12th at the Intergroup Office. Four hard working people with amazingly long attention spans joined me and covered what I thought would be two sessions of work! My sincere thanks to Ken, Renee, Mark, and Joyce. We revamped the District 5 Trusted Servants Legacy of Service, which is now in bullet format outlining the Qualifications, Scope and Procedures for our 5 officers, DCMs, ACMs, Finance Chair, Current Practices Chair and Intergroup Liaison. All these positions will be open when we have our elections in October. All other positions are voted on within their Committees. Yes, I have jumped the gun on including the qualifications for Finance and Current Practices Chair as those motions will be presented tonight under New Business, but that will become evident when we discuss this later. Most of the changes are a matter of simplifying procedures and utilizing our web site as a primary source of information.

The 9 motions under New Business tonight are the result of the hard work the Current Practices committee put together. They were also proofread via email and discussed in length over the phone since last week.

A new document has also been created which is part of our District's Legacy of Service which pulls all the common Qualifications and Procedures for the Standing Committees into 2 pages. This is subject to approval by the Committee chairs which I hope you will review and report back.

We will skip October and meet again November 14th at 7 pm at Intergroup to update the Book of Current Practices. All are welcome!

Grateful to serve, Jan K. Please call me if you have any questions 941-204-3445

ARCHIVES: Jen

Our Archives meeting was held on September 12, 2018. In attendance were Donna C., Jen N. and myself. We discussed our budget for 2019 and updated the scope and procedure for the Book of Current Practices. We also discussed details for the Districts' Group Tree, colors, medium for the Banner, etc. We thought we would have a template for you, but Staples Design team did not quite make it. Our tree will be presented in October and know you will be pleased. We could sure use extra hands to go through the group history's paperwork, so we can fill in the tree.

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 5pm at the extra space storage unit on Paulson Drive, off 41 in Murdock Circle. Call me 941-916-0966 or Jen at 941-661-1074 to meet us there.

In love and service, Tony T., Archives Chair

OLD BUSINESS:

Open Positions: DCMs (6); ACMs (8), Finance Chair

DCM STANDS: Sara, Sandy and Ann H. (Another Chance, PC 941 286-0793)

Finance Chair Qualifications: Oversee Treasury, Budgets on 9th, 10th, 11th month, Funds and Service Support.

DCM Qualifications: 4 years continuous sobriety; 2 years' service as a GSR (in any District); possess a working knowledge of the AA Traditions and Concepts; ability to visit assigned groups and keep those groups GSRs informed in all General Service Activities; ability to attend all District

Meetings and Area Assemblies; perform duties as suggested in the current edition of the AA Service Manual.

ACM Qualifications: same as DCM, but 3 years current sobriety is required.

NEW BUSINESS: Elections of Officers and Motions from Jan (below)

THANK YOU Coffee Maker Diane. Joyce to pick up one large can of Decaf and Regular for next month.

Meeting adjourned 9:46 pm with the responsibility statement and the Lords' Prayer.

MOTIONS TO BE VOTED ON BY DISTRICT 5 ON OCTOBER 16, 2018

1) Amend Motion #300 to read:

That the updated Book of Motions and Book of Current Practices be forwarded to the Website Committee for posting to the District Website.

BACKGROUND: This removes the necessity of the Secretary emailing the documents, and is utilizing our website more as a routine means of communication. The Current Practices Committee reports these updates to the body in their monthly report and the Website Committee will report the upload in their report, which are posted in the minutes.

2) To remove the password from all documents, including reports within the minutes.

BACKGROUND: The password to access District Documents is in our Book of Motions, Book of Current Practices, certain monthly Minutes and in the District 5 GSR Orientation Booklet. The Minutes are emailed and the Orientation Booklet is not a protected document. We would utilize word of mouth, (which Area 15 does) and not put the password in reports.

3) To adopt a general Legacy of Service for Standing Committees and their chairperson. The document will be maintained and updated by the Current Practices Committee with input from the chairs.

BACKGROUND: This is a tool for communicating job descriptions, responsibilities and general expectations. All material is already in general practice and/or in the District Book of Current Practices. It is the kind of information we use for District Officers. Note: the proposed document presented with this motion is subject to change.

4) That Motion 273 be amended to read:

That all motions and background information being presented to the District 5 body for consideration be read at the District Meeting and delivered in writing to the District Secretary, along with a sufficient number of copies for the voting members. The secretary will include the motion in the Minutes and on the Agenda for the next Business Meeting. Time sensitive motions would still follow the same procedure with the exception of placement on the agenda.

BACKGROUND: This amendment combines the essence of #273 with #319 making the motion-maker responsible for providing copies. They can ask a friend or officer for help. This enables all participants to be able to read and understand the motion before presenting it to their homegroups.

5) To rescind Motion #319 which becomes moot when the above motion passes.

"A motion, along with background information to benefit the GSRs, is to be given to the district secretary 10 days before being presented to the district meeting so the secretary can have printed copies available for AA members at the District 5 business meeting to take back to their groups. The printed copy will include a note to GSRs: If you don't understand the motion, please contact your DCM or ACM."

6) Amend Motion #204 to read: That the qualifications of Current Practices Committee Chairperson be:

- A minimum of five years' sobriety
- Service as a past GSR in any District
- 2 Years' service as a DCM in District 5
- Ability to attend all District 5 Meetings
- Knowledge of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts.

BACKGROUND: Motion #204 currently reads: "That the Current Practices Committee Chairperson be held by the immediate past District Chairperson."

This position has been vacant in the past when an outgoing District Chair was unable or unwilling to fill it. By having these positions stand on their own, we are not requiring a 4-year commitment and opening up a service opportunity to other members. These qualifications guide us in finding a candidate with the needed experience along with providing consistency and accountability to the District.

7) Amend Motion #275 to read: That the qualifications for Finance Chair be:

- A minimum 3 years continuous sobriety
- 2 years as a GSR in any District
- A minimum of 12 month's service as a member of District 5
- Ability to attend all District meetings
- Ability to understand financial records and budgeting

BACKGROUND: Motion #275 currently reads: "The Treasurer automatically fills the position of Finance Chair when term is finished."

This motion is for the same reason as the one above.

8) To amend Motion #309: All qualified District 5 trusted servants attending the Area 15 Assembly be reimbursed at the next District business meeting or other arrangements made directly with the Treasurer.

BACKGROUND: Motion currently reads: "by the end of Sunday Assembly Business Meeting, after submitting necessary receipts."

This was established for specific individuals who did not have credit cards. There are many ways around that issue without having to require the District Treasurer to be present on Sunday when he/she has finished their responsibilities on Saturday and has no other reason to stay on Sunday because he/she does not have a vote at the assembly.

9) That the Finance Committee be a Standing Committee.

BACKGROUND: The committee was established in Motion #63 in 1986 but nowhere can it be found in the Book of Motions that the committee is a funded Standing Committee. This has been an oversight and there is a need to support this committee and support the Finance Chair attending Area Quarterlies.

AGENDA OUTLINE FOR DISTRICT 5 MEETING

OPEN: 8PM SERENITY PRAYER: _____; GSR PREAMBLE: _____

TRADITION OF THE MONTH: _____ (long form) WELCOME & ROLL CALL:

NEW GSRs: (Name, Group, Town)

NEW AGSRs _____

ALL GSRs: _____ ALL AGSRs: _____

DCMs: _____ ACMs: _____ Officers: _____ Guests: _____

GSR REPORTS: (name, group, report)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: _____

ALTERNATE CHAIR/DCM REPORT: opening _____

RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT: _____

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: _____

TREASURER'S REPORT: _____

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: (open position): _____

Ad-Hoc/Qtly. Coord.: N/A: _____

Website: _____

Treatment: _____

PI/CPC: _____

Literature: _____

Intergroup Liaison: _____

Grapevine: _____

Current Practices: _____

Corrections: _____

Archives: _____

Accessibility: _____

OLD BUSINESS:

DCMs positions requested upon rotation: Sara, Sandy and Ann H.

Open positions: DCMs (6); ACMs (8); Finance Committee

NEW BUSINESS:

Legacy of Service Elections and Motions (see 2 pgs above)

VOLUNTEERS:

COFFEE: _____ COOKIE COMMITTEE: _____

SET UP _____ GREETER. _____ Adjourn time: _____

Close with Responsibility Statement and the Lord's Prayer