

District 05 meeting
October 14, 2015
6:45pm opened with serenity Prayer
Introductions: 17 GSR'S

Secretary Report: Derek B. filling in for Shane

- Reports Due: Treasurers, Archives, Treatment, CPC, CVIG, WICYPAA

Treasure Report: Ron S.

Not present – Will mail checks to the reimbursed parties

Archives

- Set up archives at Treatment workshop in June
- Still assembling the archives for 2014/2015

CPC

- Presentations delivered
- **\$20 for rent approved by group, Ron will write check**
- EC County AIM Court (2/29) with treatment and other participants
- Leads/forthcoming presentations – Chippewa Valley conference of “Rostered Leaders” (EC area clergy meeting) Thursday 11/19/15, Arbor place staff 10/22/15
- Follow ups – UWEC First offenders, Need to follow up with UW-Stout

Treatment

- Held a traditions workshop in late August in Eau Claire. Positive feedback on both content and format. About 35 attendees.
- Held election during August meeting to nominate a new chairperson, Sara D was elected then was elected at last month's district meeting.
- Had a representative attend AIM court last month with other committee's and facilities. Looking to present more in the future possibly on a quarterly basis.
- Have two facilities (New Journey and Affinity House) we are keeping in contact with but have not been requesting our services on a regular basis.
- We will be holding elections for our secretary and our coordinator positions next month. We have a flyer made to help encourage those looking for service opportunities (flyer attached)
- Seeking reimbursement for:
 - **\$27.43 for Dave S. taking our speakers out for lunch**
 - **\$34.23 for Kevin K. supplies for workshop**

CVIG

- Nothing to report

WICYPAA

Not Present

Groups

- Monday night Universalist Unitarian meeting in Eau Claire is now giving away sobriety medallions
- Step by step group (Eau Claire) is brainstorming ideas for a workshop

- Back to Basics (Eau Claire) is also brainstorming a workshop...more to come
- Flimsy Reed is having a 2nd anniversary party at 1st Baptist Friday November 6, 2015

DCM

- I attended the evening portion of the conference and the area committee report on Sunday morning.
- Derek T. was elected our next delegate from Paradise, MI, and Sara P. is our area chair / alternate delegate.
- Safety in AA meetings.
- Reimbursement:
 - Conference: \$30 Gas, \$50 Food, \$18 Registration, \$99.84 Printing
 - Total \$197.84
- Workshop Update Coming in old business.

Old Business

- Letter from Webmaster (Jason L.) read aloud and asked to bring back to their groups (Attached)
- New website URL discussed district05.org vs. aadistrict05.org,
- District 05 workshop flyer (Attached)
- Fall Conference 2017 Bid???
- Motion made to put forth a bid, to be held in District 05 for Fall Conference 2017
- Bid will be made this coming weekend at the assembly
- 3 Lakes Assembly – Bryon B. will be going and has room for more

GSR Sharing Session

- Bryon B. is going to District 21 tomorrow to give advice on planning a conference for their upcoming 2016 Fall Conference
- Robert's Rules of Order for the incoming GSR's??

Open Sharing

- Andy W. will be doing the newsletter for the last month if you have any ideas contact him
- Workshops “open vs. closed”
- WICYPAA description given,

Next Months reports: Corrections PI, Webmaster, Intergroup

Attn: District 05 membership
Re: Webmaster position

After much prayer and consideration of where God wants me to focus my time and energy, I cannot in good faith stand for a two year term as is recently implied by the decision of this body to have an election. A few months ago, I believed that I would retain my nominated position of Webmaster for a couple of more years and announce a little over one year from now, that anyone interested should step forth. I have been serving on the Structures and Guidelines committee for Area 74 and have recently been chosen to be the chair for the coming year. I have also been tapped for a significant leadership opportunity at my church. I believe that God wants me to be available to more fully serve both of these positions.

I would strongly encourage anyone who is interested in standing for this position, who possesses the technical skills required and also has demonstrated a track record of honoring service commitments, to contact me so that we can discuss the position and their ability to serve the district in this capacity. It has been an honor to serve our community for just over 4 years as your Webmaster! I have been able to assist with connecting several people in need with resources to help the still suffering alcoholic; truly rewarding work! I will continue to serve our area as the Structures and Guidelines Chair of Area 74 for 2016.

**My hope is that you read my remaining words with the understanding that I do so with as much sincerity, and as much love as anyone can. I write these words because I believe it is paramount that alcoholics anonymous remains vibrant and continues to grow in both presence and unity as we continue the truly awesome work we've all done together under the past 2 DCM's. As a result (and for what it's worth) I strongly advise that much wisdom be used as we move forward with filling this particular service position. Also, that some points contained be considered to improve our guidelines.

I realize that recently, during (what often seems to be highly energetic) elections, a GSR brought up having also having an election for Webmaster. Worth noting is that this was the district's board and committee chair elections (Webmaster was not on the docket, nor was it listed in the email sent by the DCM the month prior for good reason). I would remind the body of the reality that the district needed to have an election for Newsletter due to the reality that we had two people not uphold their commitment, only to need someone fill in, twice. I would like to mention that Andy did a fine job of covering those duties for our district; thank you once again for your continued commitment to our community Andy! I and our district greatly appreciate your efforts!

I also realize that this day and age, (not that I have decades of sobriety) it is a lot easier to find someone who has the ability to copy and paste as well as edit documents using Microsoft Office software or any of several (currently) available software packages that present enough functionality to create a newsletter; as it was when I was 9 months sober and volunteered to help as the district hadn't had a newsletter for nearly the same length of time. A similar level of consistency and attention to detail is very beneficial to this position as well. However if a newsletter editor disappears, it is relatively easy for someone to pick up where the previous editor left off.

I cannot stress enough the importance of selection of the Webmaster, because the district does not have legal ownership of the website. In fact it is the Webmaster as an individual, who has legal ownership of the domain via their Go Daddy account. Believe me I was, and do remain an advocate for this to not be the case; however there is no way around it. As a district, we had discussion and a

vote, a year ago when this body voted to formerly acknowledge the previously ongoing procedure for this position as being a recommendation from the Webmaster for a replacement, would then be voted on by the body. The Webmaster position clearly, is not a committee, nor is it a chair of a committee. The Webmaster is a trusted servant who must possess the ability to perform various technical tasks, consistently, accurately, and often is the first point of contact for still suffering alcoholics.

Also worth noting is that the recently approved District Guidelines did not have any reference to the previously mentioned action item (motion approved by a vote) even though the motion to form the ad hoc committee clearly was given direction to use this as one of the documents to create proposed guidelines. Worth noting as well, is that there exists an issue with consistency with Newsletter and the Webmaster positions as being listed in a section referred to as Committee Chairs, and in another section, as not being listed with Committee Chairs. It is the prerogative of this body to do as it wishes, however I bring this information forth for the good of the district, so that its membership is aware of the inconsistency in the guidelines as well as (and especially) the seriousness of potentially being hasty in 'electing' someone to the Webmaster position.

I want you all to know that I am not setting a hard deadline of a certain number of days or weeks, and am committed to continuing my duties as Webmaster until the right candidate can be discovered and selected. I would urge you to be open to the reality that we may not have the right person in place by November, and be open to addressing my replacement whether it be during this term, or early in the next.

I also am very much willing to continue to work with the committee chairs to update their committee pages (and update their email forwarding accounts with the new chairs' email addresses) as we navigate through this transitional period. Know that I will not be done in days or weeks, but am committed to continuing my duties as Webmaster until the right candidate can be discovered, selected, and the website is fully functional and in the hands of the next trusted servant.

Last, I would like to thank God and you all for the opportunity to serve as your Webmaster. This position has provided me a unique opportunity to grow and serve. I wish nothing less than God's highest and best for you all and for the district.

Yours in service,

Jason L.
District 05 Webmaster