

Northeast Ohio General Service Meeting Minutes January 21, 2024
Area 54 Assembly
Hybrid Meeting

Opening:

Katie S opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Followed by prayer requests.

Katie S. explained the purpose of the Concepts
Traditions read by Tommi. Concepts read by Tina C.
Report on Tradition 7 by Michael D and Concept 7 by Kristen B

Announcements:

- Mini Conference Planning meeting – Jan 28, 2024
- Upcoming Mailing Party
- Conference of Delegates Past & Present – Feb 9-11, 2024
- General Service Hybrid Workshop – Feb 18, 2024
- Mini Conference Planning meeting – Feb 25, 2024
- Next hybrid Assembly – Mar 17, 2024

Recording Secretary

Ellen W explained sign-in procedures. Reminded the body to introduce themselves with first name and last initial. There is a 2-minute time limit for giving reports. All reports may be sent to the recording secretary via email at recordingsecretary@area54.org. The October 2023 minutes were presented. Kevin R motioned to approve the minutes. Jamie B seconded. Minutes were approved.

Katie S. introduced the panel.

Area Treasurer

Wellington R presented the proposed budget. There were some typos in the header of the budget sheet. 2023 actual contributions of \$34,374.84 versus budgeted \$29,916.11. 375-400 separate contributions by groups and individuals. Budgeting for 2024 contributions will be \$31,200 plus \$1,500 income literature sales. Total budgeted income for 2024 is \$32,700. Budgeted Expenses for 2024 – purchase of two computers; literature purchases of \$4,300. Mailing of NE Ohio Recorder is every three months including printing costs of \$4,000 and mailing costs of \$5,000. There are 1600+ envelopes are sent via USPS and 900+ emails are sent. Conference expenditures are expected to be \$17,400.

Tina C motioned to table the rest of the assembly for the budget. Amy E amended the motion to table after 7th tradition. Amanda B seconded. Passed.

Mailing Secretary

Amanda B reported the next mailing party would be at the Feb 24 in Sagamore Hills. There are 1648 paper mailings.

Registrar

Devona S reported that everything has been updated with GSO. DCMs – Please do not complete the GSR change form.

7th Tradition basket passed.

Amanda B motioned to increase mileage reimbursement from \$0.30 to \$0.45. Wellington R seconded. Vote 30 in favor; 12 opposed. Minority opinion spoke. Motion to reconsider mileage reimbursement increase. Those in favor to revote 17; No to revote 35. Motion passes to increase mileage reimbursement from \$0.30 to \$0.45.

Budget discussion

Tim H presented the budget discussion.

Discussion items – The cost of purchasing of new computers is in a separate fund of \$2,000. State Convention–Tina C requested to have a stipend to attend the State Convention to be voted on under new business. Why do we show a negative balance? The budget includes Cost of Living Adjustments. Amy E asked why do we purchase literature to sell? Jeff Y stated we actually have a surplus in the budget.

Jeff Y motioned to pass the budget that shows deficit spending. Seconded by Adam P. Jamie B motioned to close the discussion. Seconded by Jeff Y. In favor 57; opposed -0-. Discussion closed. Jeff Y motioned to pass the budget as amended. Seconded by Adam P. All were in favor with no opposition. Budget passes.

13 New GSRs – James T, Jim J, Tommi, Jonathon, Andrea D, Gary G, Julie W, Edith, Terry M, Rachel S, Marie, Maggie, Paula

New DCMs – Kevin R (6), Dave H (Heights Hub), Maggie (43)

AA Anniversaries – Kimberley (34), Val D (15), Nelson M (19), Kristen (9), Andrea D (14 months), Kevin R (19), John K (5), Michael M (22), Michael D (30), Adam P (13), Margaret (34), Irene (12), Mae (32), John F (1), Leslie S (35), Marie S (8)
All were given Birthday envelopes.

Area Officer and Function Reports:

26th National Archives Conference was held 9/7-10, 2023 in Sudbury ON – Jamie B and Bob McK attended. Bob D and Susan R were on the long timers panel. Bob McK mentioned there is an archives book. Archives history saves AA as a whole. We never stop learning. Ask questions. The 27th National Archives Conference will be 9/26-29, 2024 in Des Moines IA.

Group Services – Adam P reported that the General Service Workshop will be held Feb 18 at the 12 Step Recovery Club at 2pm. Pizza and beverages will be provided. The Workshop will help us prepare for the Mini-Conference (Mar 22-24) and the Ohio State Convention (Aug 24-25). Preliminary Agenda items will be loaded into Google Docs when available. Adam also reported that the Ad hoc guidelines committee is making good progress and will hopefully be ready by April assembly.

Grapevine – Matt P – feel free to download the GV app

Webmaster – Dan M reported that the transition is going well. He would someone to run zoom and a web developer.

Accessibilities – Kimberley reported that Vincent has stepped down

Finance – Mae R explained GSO contributions, birthday envelopes, gratitude envelopes.

OYPAA – Charles reported that Akron is bidding for the OYPAA conference.

MultiDistrict Reports

Akron MultiDistrict – John K – The Intergroup has new cameras/security. The Intergroup is looking into options for after-hours phone calls.

North Coast MultiDistrict Cleveland – Bob McK reported Ruth D is retiring. Election will be Mar 28.

District reports

Heights Hub – Karen S is outgoing DCMC as she is the new CPC chair. (Cooperation with the Professional Community)

District 6 – Alternate DCM, Bill M, reported the district picnic will be held June 29.

Alternate Delegate report – Bev F presented a report on the East Central Regional Forum. The Theme of the mini conference is Connecting with Love, Unity and Service. Your group has a chance to be heard.

Delegate report – Tim H reported on the historical costs of attending the General Service Conference in New York. 2022 cost was \$9,600, 2023 was \$10,700; 2024 is expected to be \$9,200. GSO is providing \$50 dinner stipend instead of banquet to save money. Visit to Stepping Stones is planned for Apr 20. The Delegate may extend their hotel stay at \$229 per night. The Plain & Simple language Big Book will be available for delegates in the Reading Room.

Old Business

Mini-conference – Enter to win a mini-conference package!

Area 54 picnic – Nelson M (D61) put in a bid to host the Area 54 picnic at Swine Creek Park

New Business

Tina C motioned to create a stipend to attend the State Convention for committee chairs. Cost of \$189 for hotel stay, banquet and registration. Seconded by Amanda B. Tim H told committee members to bring a display for their committee and will need to participate in the Convention planning meetings. Jim S counted 17 committee chairs. Jamie B mentioned that each committee chair is required to present a display at each of our Area events. Motion to provide a stipend to State Convention of \$189 for each committee chair for a possible total of \$3,200. Most were in favor; two opposed. No minority opinion. Motion passed.

WOYM

Miscellaneous discussions – Transgender. Preamble

Area 54 Inventory – Wayne mentioned that the Area 54 Inventory should have been mentioned under Old Business

Agenda Items – Joan S – How do we know what items should be discussed with our group?

Almost everyone motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting closed with the Responsibility Pledge.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen W

Ellen Winson

Recording Secretary Area 54 Panel 73