

Area 54 Assembly Minutes

January 19, 2025

Opening:

Katie S. opened the Assembly with the Serenity Prayer. She introduced the new officers. Jamie B. read the 12 Traditions. Brian C. read the 12 Concepts. Sandy F. read and discussed Tradition 1. Janice S. read and discussed Concept 1.

Announcements:

Katie S. announced the Mini-Conference March 28-30, the General Service workshop _ Hybrid Feb. 16, Unity Day and the GSC Report on May 18, the Picnic on June 22 and Gratitude Sunday on Nov. 16. Hosts are needed for Unity Day, the Picnic and Gratitude Sunday.

Recording Secretary:

Joan S. presented the minutes of the October meeting in former Recording Secretary Ellen W.'s absence. She explained the sign-in procedure for all DCMs, GSRs, Area Committee Chairs and Past Delegates to establish eligibility for running for office. She reminded the group about the 2-minute time for giving reports and speaking at the mic, and reminded the group to use the nametags on the back table. Motion by Susan R., second by Charles M., to accept the October minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Wellington R. presented the January-December 2024 Budget vs. Actuals. Total Income was \$40,809.44. Total Expenses were \$45,037.06. it should read The 7th. Tradition is down 30.27% from the 2024 approved budget. Expenses for mailing and printing are way up due to inflation. The Ohio State Convention blew the budget because of the amount the hotel charged. James. T., the Technology Chair, recommended we give documents like the minutes, agenda, and budget reports to him so he can share them with those on Zoom. Other suggestions and comments were made by Bob D., Bob McK., Catherine G., Al K., Candy L. and Christine L.

Mailing Secretary:

Devona S. said the mailing party is Feb. 22 at the Intergroup Office in Youngstown, hosted by the Youngstown Multi-District. Hosts are needed for the four other mailing parties this year.

Motion by Jamie B. and second by Charles M. to suspend the remainder of the agenda items to discuss the budget. Motion passed.

After the break, Delegate Beverly F. announced that Chair Ellen W. has resigned because of health issues. We will elect a new Chair at the March Assembly.

Proposed 2025 Budget:

Beverly F. presented the proposed budget line by line. Total Income is \$37,750. Total expenses are \$45,500.

We discussed 7th Tradition income and the Square electronic payment system used in conjunction with the QR code, and why that makes it difficult for us to track the exact source of all the individual and group contributions. Nikki M. suggested we place the QR code on our agendas. We discussed that one way to bring down our costs is to continue our "Go Green" campaign which encourages subscribers to receive our quarterly newsletter, The Recorder,

digitally instead of by mail. Other comments and suggestions were made by Mae R., Amy E., Joan S., Darcy F., Al, Catherine G., Dustin S., Janice S., Devona S., Candy L., Tina C. and Ed B.

Motion by Candy L., second by Nikki M. to decrease the line item for the 7th Tradition from \$1,500 to \$1,050 because we aren't bringing in the higher amount when we pass the basket. Motion passed. Katie S. offered a minority opinion and said we are responsible and self-supporting. How do we get the message to our groups that we need more money? If we complain about falling short, we shouldn't be voting to decrease the amount we collect in the basket. Travis Z. and Ray F. also expressed minority opinions.

Motion by Beverly F., seconded by Tina C., to revote. Motion passed. We revoted on the original motion. Motion failed.

Motion by James T., seconded by Tina C., to allocate a part of our disposable cash as income if needed.

Motion by James T., seconded by Wellington R., that the Panel determine what to do with the remaining \$6,315.51 in disposable cash, and bring a recommendation to the Assembly in March. Motion passed.

Motion by James T., second by Tina C, to adopt the 2025 Budget as amended. Motion passed.

Area Officer and Function Reports:

Mailing Secretary Devona S.: The first mailing party will be Feb. 22, from 3:30 to 5, at the Youngstown Inner Group.

Bob D., Gratitude Sunday Chair: The event in November, hosted by District 29 in Orwell, drew 125 people. Past Delegate Dan M. spoke on his experience with General Service. The group returned its \$300 seed money.

Judy K., DCM for District 23: Attendance at district meetings is good. They have two new GSRs and one new alternate GSR. One of the GSRs had her Grapevine poster featured on the Grapevine website.

Karen S., chair for the committee Cooperating with the Professional Community: Hispanic UMADAOP in Cleveland is interested in a presentation to the hospital staff. Karen will share her story with Case Western Reserve Medical Students.

Motion by Amy E., second by Christine F., to adjourn. We closed with the Responsibility Pledge.

Attendance:

58 people in the room and 10 on Zoom.