

Area 54 Assembly Minutes

Oct. 19, 2026

Opening:

DeVona S. opened the Assembly with the Serenity Prayer. Ruben M. read the 12 Traditions. Michael S. read the 12 Concepts. Christine F. gave her summary of Tradition 6. Darcy F. gave her interpretation of Concept 6.

Announcements:

The Ohio State Convention planning meeting is 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1, at 411 Gould Rd., Columbus. All are welcome. Gratitude Sunday is at 2 p.m. Nov. 16 at 601 Cleveland Ave., Canton. The next Area 54 Assembly is at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at the 12-Step Recovery Club, Brunswick. The Area 54 Mini-Conference Planning Meeting is on Jan. 25. Location to be determined.

Recording Secretary:

Joan S. presented the minutes. The following correction was noted: Under Area Officer Reports, change IKYPAA to ICYPAA. Add this to Bob M.'s report under What's On Your Mind: He volunteered at GSO Archives and, while there, received a glowing endorsement from a delegate from another area of Beverly's performance at the General Service Conference. Motion by Val D. and second by Melissa M. to approve the minutes. Motion approved. Until our email problems are solved at the website, send reports to Joan at JStewart@PublicityHound.com. Or bring a copy of your printed report to the Assembly.

DeVona mentioned the problem we're having when email is sent from our website or to an "@area54.org" email address. Anyone who thinks they can help solve the problem should meet after the Assembly.

Motion by Steve K. and second by Val D. to suspend the agenda until after we elect a mailing secretary to replace Cory B. who resigned due to obtaining a new job.

Election:

DeVona read the duties of mailing secretary. Val D., Darcy M. and Melissa R. stood for the mailing secretary position. Darcy M. did not meet the 75% attendant requirement to stand for an office. Motion by Christine F. to suspend the 75% attendance requirement for this election only, and let anyone who wants to stand to do so. Second by Michael S. Motion passed. Val D. was elected.

Treasurer:

No report submitted.

Mailing Secretary:

Folding party is at 11 a.m. Dec. 6. Steve K. is hosting at Austintown Studio Apartments, 850 Meridian Road, Youngstown.

Registrar:

Tina C. has updated groups and change of addresses.

7th Tradition – Mae R. passed the basket.

Anniversaries:

Those with anniversaries since the September assembly announced them.

Introduction of new General Service Representatives (GSRs) and District Committee Members (DCMs):

New GSRs and DCMs introduced themselves.

Area Officer and Function Reports:

James T. gave the report for Quinsetta M., chair of Group Services who presented the General Service Representative School in August. It was informative and the food was good. We handed out workbooks.

Karen S., chair of the Communication with the Professional Community Committee (CPC), reported on the Public Sector HR Association in Cleveland. They received requests from 27 companies from 17 states interested in AA presentations. Her two-year term as chair is up at the end of December. Email her if you want more information about the position.

Standing Committee Reports:

Mae R., Finance Committee chair, explained the need for more than a \$1 contribution in the basket. Give \$3 or \$5 or whatever you can afford. Let home groups know about the envelopes for contributing on our anniversaries.

Darcy F., alternate chair for Public Information (PI), said the initial nursing home outreach is completed. Now they need volunteers. District Committee Members who have a Public Information Committee should give her contact information. Her committee meets the second Sunday of each month on Zoom. Information is on the Area 54 website or our Facebook page.

Jim S., archives chair, said the Akron Intergroup Office will move into its new building after Thanksgiving and our archives will move with it. We're getting a bigger space.

Christine F., Treatment Committee chair: There's a new meeting at the Hitchcock Treatment Center for Women at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. The group has been registered with Cleveland Central Office. The committee is seeking temporary sponsors to support the Bridging the Gap program.

District Committee Reports:

Jeff C., District Committee Member (DCM) Districts 3 and 60: He attends 3-4 group business meetings in Districts 49, 3 and 60 almost daily to announce the importance of having a GSR. Two groups have elected a GSR as a result. Twenty-two people attended the Akron Multi-District workshop to discuss the importance of what GSRs do.

Dustin C., District Committee Member District (DCM) District 5: His district meets at 6:30 every Thursday at Christ Episcopal Church on Mantua Street in Kent.

Arnetta P., District Committee Member (DCM) CM District 35: Friends of Glenville will vote on a GSR at their next group conscience.

Darcy F., District Committee Member (DCM) District 43: They will hold their second workshop at 10 a.m. Nov. 1 at St. Bede's Church in Mentor. Theme: How to Build a Stronger Home Group. There will be panel and a breakout group that will discuss the group inventory.

Ben W., District Committee Member (DCM) CM, District 8: They have one new GSR, and three other groups are interested in electing GSRs. It's a bit of a struggle trying to get people involved.

Judy K., District Committee Member (DCM) District 23: They're planning a fund-raiser talent show next year and asking each group in the district to bring an act. They are partnering with a district in Pennsylvania to present a workshop on service on Oct. 18.

Horacio M., District Committee Member (DCM) District 22: The "There is a Solution" group in Painesville meets Monday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30-9 p.m. It's a Spanish-speaking group, with people available to translate.

Intergroup Liaison Reports:

Steve K., Youngstown Intergroup: The archives room is complete. We made a donation to the Akron Intergroup to help with construction and moving for the new building. The intergroup will host its own Gratitude Banquet on Nov. 22 at Cimineros.

John K.: Akron Intergroup: Demolition on the new building is complete. Move-in expected by early December. The stained glass window has been moved and is being repaired. There's a new women's meeting at the Summit County Jail.

Arnetta P., Cleveland North Coast Multi-District: They held a workshop on Oct. 18. The topic: "Color Line Part 2: African-American delegates in Group Service," presented by James T., Technology Chair. Beverly F., our delegate, gave her general service report.

Bob M., Past Delegate: Cleveland Central Office is holding its advisory committee meeting on Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m. It's a hybrid meeting on Zoom. People in Cuyahoga, Lake and Geauga counties are invited to send a representative. Every now and then they don't meet the 20-group forum which is disappointing.

Alternate Delegate's Report:

Wellington R.: He reported on the Public Sector HR Association convention that he attended with others from the Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Committee on Sept. 29. Association members were thrilled that we will pass their information along to their local AA offices. The Ohio Linguistic Committee is being created. He also attended a Concepts workshop hosted by Pennsylvania Area 60, District 62. He also attended a 12 Concepts workshop on Oct. 18.

Delegate's Report:

Beverly F.: She presented highlights of the AA World Service Meeting. The nominating committee has 66 applications for the non-trustee director role. The budget forecast shows operating expenses reduced to \$19.15 million, a 1.8% decrease from the original budget. Contributions are trending below budget. Strong literature sales have mitigated some of the decline. The Corrections Committee sent tablets with the Plain Language Big Book to jails and prisons. Of those, 320 were read all the way through. They're working on an audio book. The General Service Office is retrofitting the existing structure. They will be working on a social media policy.

Old Business:

We discussed at length the tabled motion to donate \$1,500 to the Akron Intergroup for its move to new offices. Dustin S. said he was against the motion because of the continually growing archives which need to be housed and insured. Rick M. from King School said he is in favor of the motion because \$75,000 is needed for the archives which cannot be replaced. We need to know if the \$1,500 would be used for general moving expenses or for the archives. Darcy F. said we also need to know where we stand with our budget. Motion by Tina C. to table the item until

we get more information from the Akron Intergroup and our treasurer. Darcy F. seconded. The motion passed.

New Business: None

What's On Your Mind?

Dustin S.: He wasn't aware that Area 54 has a Facebook page. He questions its privacy and anonymity because someone who is not an alcoholic, was able to see it.

Darcy F.: We will not see a treasurer's report until January. Can we see a report earlier? Beverly F. said there's an IT glitch somewhere.

Christine F.: Let's consider the spirit of AA when we discuss and vote on issues.

Jim S.: Where will our mini-conference be this spring? Beverly F. said she will have this information on Monday. We're canceling our old contract and going to a new hotel.

Charles M.: He can be a contact for the host committee if people need more information about the Ohio Young People in AA conference this year. He'd like to have a literature table.

Dustin S.: He suggested that when we redo the Area 54 Guidelines, we include an item that addresses giving money to anyone other than the GSO in New York.

Michael S.: As a newcomer, our business meeting is overwhelming. When we vote to end discussion, it should end. Beverly said newcomers can meet with Wellington R. after the meeting if they have questions.

James. T.: Anyone interested in the duties of the chair of the Communication with the Professional Community committee can email Karen S. at KarenJS80@gmail.com. The assembly will vote on her replacement.

Stephanie J.: Founders Day and AA are separate from Dr. Bob's home which is the only approved space that sells literature outside the Founders Day grounds.

Jamie B.: The treasurer's duties, according to the Area 54 Guidelines, state: "Gives a treasurer's report summarizing current receipts and disbursements and year-to-date expenditures compared to budgeted amounts at all Area Assemblies." If you decided to take this position, you can't change what you do.

Karen S.: She has had the CPC chair position for two years and she's confused as to when it ends. Beverly F. will speak with her afterward.

Dustin S.: He recommends not seating a new panel and all new committee chairs at the same time. Perhaps have staggered terms for the panel. Or have new panelists one year and new chairs another year.

Bob M.: Founders Day is a committee of the Akron Intergroup Office. There used to be a lot of money donated. They used to contribute some of that to us. I will look I the archives to see what he can find. We shouldn't be giving to an intergroup unless an intergroup is giving to us.

Motion by Tina C. to adjourn, second by Janice S. Motion approved.

We ended with the Responsibility Pledge.

Attendance: 40 in the room and 8 on Zoom