

## Area 54 Assembly Minutes

March 15, 2026

### Opening:

**DeVona S.** opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. She reminded people to write their names on a slip of paper and put it into the bucket for a chance to win registration and a hotel room for two nights for the Mini-Conference March 27-29. Joan S. will put names of people on Zoom today into the bucket. The winner's name will be drawn after the break. DeVona reminded people to sign the sympathy card for the family of Calvin L., Area 54/Panel 65 past delegate, whose wife, Shirley, passed away. Ben Z. asked that we sign a card for his sponsee who passed away two weeks ago. Nelson and Amanda B. asked that we keep their friends and relatives in our prayers.

Jamie B. read the 12 Traditions. Katie M. read the 12 Concepts. Larry D. did a summary of Tradition 8. Jim S. read and discussed Concept 8.

### Announcements:

**DeVona S.** said our Mini-Conference is March 27-29. Our next Assembly is April 19. The Unity Day potluck is May 17 at the 12-Step Club. Amanda B. is chairing. She's working on the flyer which will be put on the website.

### Recording Secretary:

**Joan S.** presented the October 2025 minutes. No changes. Motion to approve the minutes by Quinsetta M., seconded by Charles M. Motion passed. Joan presented the January 2026 minutes. Susan R. asked if Joan received her written report at the January Assembly. Joan said no. Susan will resubmit it. Motion by Jamie B. to accept the January minutes, seconded by Charles M. Motion approved.

Joan reminded people to include their phone numbers on the sign-in sheets. Anyone who has written reports can email them to her at [RecordingSecretary@Area54.org](mailto:RecordingSecretary@Area54.org) or hand them in. People have two minutes to speak at the mic.

### Treasurer's Report:

**Candy L.** thanked us for prayers. Her surgery went well and she is recovering. She presented the treasurer's report. Total expenses for the first quarter so far are \$8,734.68. February and March expenses are still being tallied. Contributions so far are \$4,981.40. Total available in the checking account is \$535. Jeff C. would like to see a summary of group contributions. Candy said she will do it every three or four months. Cory P., Wayne G., Tommy H., Ben W. and Wellington R. commented on the budget. Beverly F., Past Delegate,, suggested people order the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money & Spirituality Mix."

### Mailing Secretary:

**Devona S.** said the mailing schedule on the back table is incorrect. The correct schedule will be on the Area 54 website. **Val D.** said the February mailing party sponsored by Hay Una Solucion was a success. She needs hosts for the April, August and December mailing parties.

### Registrar:

**Tina C.** said she has received a few updates from groups. GSO has notified her that people with General Service positions who are in Fellowship Connection and are rotating out must update their service dates, or they will get kicked out of the system and will not receive mailings. If you want to be kept on a courtesy list and receive the materials via email or snail mail, let Tina know.

## **Mailing Parties:**

**DeVona S.** announced the dates for the next mailing parties: April 11, June 27, Aug. 29 and Dec. 5, all Saturdays. See Val D. if you're interested in hosting. Susan R. said District 39 would like to host the June 27 mailing party.

## **7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:**

The basket was passed. If you want to contribute, you can also use the QR code on the agenda that takes you to the Area 54 website. Once there, click on the three bars in the upper right corner, then click on Contribute.

## **Anniversaries:**

Those with anniversaries since the last assembly announced them. New GSRs introduced themselves.

Tina C. explained what the mailing parties are: a district or homegroup buys and makes food, provides volunteers, and helps stuff envelopes with materials that include our newsletter, flyers promoting our events, a contributions envelope and anything else people need to know. We return stuffed envelopes to the presort company which takes them to the post office. The mailing list includes our GSRs, DCMs, committee chairs, the panel, past delegates, and the intergroups.

## **Introduction of new GSRs and DCMs:**

New GSRs and DCMs introduced themselves. They are welcome to meet with Wellington R., Alternate Delegate, who can answer questions after the meeting.

## **Area Officer and Function Reports:**

**Horacio M.** reported on the three-day Mini-Conference he attended in District 53 in southeastern Ohio. It was an eye-opening experience participating in discussions about the agenda items. It helped him understand why we are here and helped prepare him for our Mini-Conference.

Horacio picked the winner of the registration and hotel package for our Mini-Conference. It was Tricia D., GSR from the Western Reserve 12 & 12 in Twinsburg.

**Joan S.** reported on the two-day Mini-Conference in District 55 in northwestern Ohio. Five planning meetings allowed the area to offer special touches like three home-cooked meals on Saturday, and no one was turned away if they couldn't afford the registration fee. Candy L. said offering a two-day conference in a church makes it less expensive, and more people would be encouraged to attend. Jamie B. said the food was donated by many of Area 55's homegroups—an example of unity.

## **Area Committee Reports:**

**Quinsetta M.,** Group Services Chair, said 35-40 people attended the February GSR School. It was well-presented, and the Power Point went into great detail. It was a nice preparation for the upcoming DCM College/potluck August 23 at 2 p.m.

**Amanda B.,** Corrections Chair, said they're dealing with the problem of different rules for different jails, and some jails aren't returning phone calls. Many jails aren't allowing paper of any kind. The committee is trying to get tablets instead of books into the jails.

**Susan R.**, Newsletter Editor, said committee reports and articles are due to her by Monday, March 30. We will be more inclined to support you if we know what's going on. We also need a tri-fold board for the Mini-Conference from all committee chairs. She will take photos of the displays and try to put them in The Recorder. Mail reports to [newsletter@area54.org](mailto:newsletter@area54.org).

**Christine F.**, Treatment and Facilities Chair, said the women's meeting that her committee started at the Hitchcock Center in July had to be discontinued because of internal issues at the center. She was contacted by a warden at the Justice Center, is undergoing a background check, and wants to host a meeting there.

**Jeff C.**, District Committee Member CM for Districts 60 and 3 and Akron Multi-District Chair, said John C. replaces John K. as the new Akron Intergroup liaison. The Multi-District's Spring Seminar is March 21 from 12:30-3:30, including food and a service panel, at 130 Broad Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls. The Multi-District picnic is July 18, 11-4, at Kelcee Creek Shelter, Waterworks Park, 2025 Monroe Falls Ave., Cuyahoga Falls. Founders Day registration is open. Register early so you can get a ticket to be in The Jar if there's rain. Akron Intergroup Office open house is March 28 from 1-3. Literature will be 15 percent off. Akron Intergroup Anniversary is April 26 from 1-3, including lunch and Cory W., the speaker. It's at Guy's Party Center, 500 E. Waterloo Road, Akron. Primary Purpose Group is holding a Welcome Home meeting Thursday, June 11, at 6 p.m., at Community Vineyard Church, 2543 State Road, Cuyahoga Falls. The Multi-District is doing more group coordination with the Akron Intergroup. Their new office has space for Area 54 and they'd like to us to staff a desk and answer questions.

**Ben W.**, District Committee Member for District 8, said many groups are small and some don't want to be involved in General Service or don't have the time. They need to make sure the rooms are still open for the sick and suffering.

**Arnetta P.**, Chair for the Cleveland Northcoast Multi-District, said they have one new GSR for Stella Maris Sunday, District 36. He won the scholarship for the Mini-Conference. They are working on the tri-fold for the Multi-District. District 35's Good Orderly Direction Wednesday group is no longer meeting at the Hitchcock Center. They need a new meeting place. The District 36 workshop is May 16. The topic is The 12 Concepts of World Service.

**Wellington R.**, Alternate Delegate, spoke on the District 55 Mini-Conference in Northwest Ohio. He commented on a tabletop card regarding "Concept 3: the right of decision empowered for us as servants while maintaining accountability." We are all responsible but are we being accountable? He spoke about the Area 53 Mini-Conference in southeast Ohio. Committee members couldn't make good decisions because the paperwork for proposed agenda items wasn't detailed enough. He said it was great that Horacio M. was able to attend.

**Tim H.** updated us on our Mini-Conference. We have 45 registrations, 37 banquets and 2 scholarships. We have only 4 committee chairs signed up for the Mini-Conference. Committee chairs get a stipend to help defray costs. Katie S. suggested people take flyers on the back table to their home groups. Jamie B. said only 4 out of 17 committee chairs have registered for our Mini-Conference. We need to call them and urge them to attend. Amanda B. said if Tina sends her the email list of all GSRs and committee chairs, she will send an email to them along with the flyer.

**Susan R.** said our Hospitality Room welcomes any type of food for guests. Also, we have ice cream socials on Friday and Saturday nights, hosted by District 39.

**Quinsetta M.** said GSRs can ask their homegroup to cover the cost of registration and the hotel. That's what she did, and her homegroup paid for it.

**Beverly F.**, Delegate, gave the AAWS highlights. International Convention is 2030 in St. Louis. The retrofit of the General Service office in New York is coming along well. They hope to be in by the end of March. About 600 tablets with The Plain Language Big Book were sent to jails. About half were read all the way through. It will be translated into French and Spanish.

### **Old Business**

We discussed the tabled motion to donate \$1,500 to the Akron Intergroup for its move to new offices. Rick M. said the total cost of moving was \$93,558. The rent is \$300 a year. Rick made a motion that we give the Akron Intergroup \$1,500 to help with the move. Beverly F., Jeff C., Candy L., Wayne G., James T., Ben W., Jamie B. and Susan R. commented. Charles M. called the question. Amanda B. seconded the motion. The vote: 19 in favor and 11 against. The motion passed.

### **New Business:**

**Tim H.** discussed the Ohio State Convention website. He made a motion for Area 54 to pay the \$45 a year for the website and collect \$11.25 from the other three areas. Wellington R. seconded. Tina C. said this issue is for the Ohio State Convention planning meeting to decide, not Area 54, and she will not support the motion. There was substantial unanimity. The motion failed.

### **What's On Your Mind:**

**Amanda B.** said Unity Day is May 17. Doors open at 1:30, we start at 2. Bring anything but chicken. Bev F. will give her report and there will be a fun program.

**Mike D.** reminded us that there are two pamphlets that have a deadline of March 31 for stories: the transgender alcoholic and the Asian alcoholic.

**Ben W.** Moved to adjourn. Christine F. seconded. Motion passed.

**Attendance:** 36 in the room and 5 on Zoom