

ST. VITAL AA GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Wayne S called to order the regular meeting of the St Vital AA Group Committee at 6:00 pm in the St. Vital Club Zoom room and spoke about the 12th tradition.

ROLL CALL

Position	Name	Present	Absent	Regrets	Report Sent (if absent)
Chair	Wayne S.	X			
Treasurer	Kelly T.	X			
Secretary	Jill S.	X			
Literature Rep	Dan B.	X			
House Rep	Tom H.	X			
Morning Rep	Jessica F.	X			
Evening Rep	Guy G.	X			
Open/Closed Speaker Rep	Rick B.	X			
Sponsorship Rep	Don M.	X			
AFM Women's Rep	Vacant				
Decorator	Laura C	X			
Corrections Rep	Tim B.	X			
Alt. Corrections Rep	Gilles D.	X			
Special Events Rep	Liz C.		X		
Birthday Rep	Mitchell D.	X			
PI/CPC Rep	Dave B.	X			
Treatment Facilities Rep	Don B.	X			
Intergroup Rep	Kelli R.	X			
Alt. Intergroup Rep	Emily L.	X			
General Service Rep	David S.	X			
Alt. General Service Rep	Monique A.	X			

TREASURER (Kelly T)

Treasurer's Report	
Monthly Income	4672.41
Expenses	3594.38
Surplus	1078.03
Bank Balances	
Chequing	4802.18
Prudent Reserve	11113.51

- If money is to be moved from or to the prudent reserve, that has to go through the group conscience. The group conscience has our prudent reserve to be sitting with 3 months of expenses for the clubroom. However, this is not written in our minutes
- Opening readings state that we are taking from the prudent reserve and are in need of the 7th tradition. If this is not true, we should be taking that out of the opening readings. Until Kelly T gives the group the numbers on what our expenses are then we will decide as a committee if we need to keep on with a plea for 7th tradition.
- Kelly T cannot find where it says we need 3 months of expenses in our prudent reserve.
- Kelly T will look at what our expenses are.
- Motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report made by: Guy G
- 2nd by: Don M
- Treasurer's Report accepted as written

INTERGROUP REP (Kelli R.)

Power point presentation presented over zoom about what intergroup does.

ALT INERGROUP REP (Emily L.)

Power point presentation presented over zoom about what intergroup does.

GENERAL SERVICE REP (Dave S.)

Written report that is going to Donnie, New York Delegate Rep. Notes were taken from the online meeting that was held on zoom @ 630 pm.

Donny, Area 80 Manitoba New York Delegate C/O Denise Baker, Area 80 registrar, Greetings from District 7 St. Vital Group

On Monday April 12, 2021 the St. Vital Group hosted an online zoom meeting dedicated to present a few Agenda Items to its membership. These will be presented for discussion at the upcoming GSO, New York (Zoom) Conference by Donny, our Area 80 Delegate. I have tried to abbreviate as much as possible.

In an attempt to present these items to gauge the membership's opinion we presented a brief synopsis of the Item E Review suggested gender-neutral options for changes to the AA pre-

amble. The polling indicated that 68% of participants favoured option 1 – “Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people...”

Some LGBTQ members thought that this version would help them to feel more included in AA meetings. There was also some conservative opposition to any change.

We also presented a poll on whether to Accept or Reject a proposal to revise the 164 pages of the Big Book (5th Edition)? following the guidelines of pronoun usage, passages or sections that are no longer consistent or relevant when taken in context of society in general or the AA membership composition along with the chapters; *To Wives and The Family Afterward* being specifically evaluated to be more consistent with today's membership.

This polling attempt in-sighted a very lively debate it was not clearly defined as to what changes were acceptable, with the group being fairly polarized about what changes and where they would be implemented. Some members worried that the AA message would lose its effectiveness if the book was altered either partly or perhaps the first 164 pages remain the same.

There was a brief discussion about the development of a 5th edition (taking into consideration past Advisory Actions) of the big book with a member suggesting that if it were too radical in its gender-neutral approach, and of using the term Higher Power in place of the God word, we could always resort to continuing to use the 4th. edition.

There was an attempt to discuss Item J Consider request of participation from online groups in the device structure. This proved to be too large of a topic for trying to get any kind of consensus on in the time remaining.

We were also unable to present proposed changes to the Native North American pamphlet which would include terminology as indigenous peoples.

In conclusion, it would appear that the membership would be most agreeable to changing the preamble, perhaps be less open to changing the **To Wives** and **The Family Afterward**, to make them more current and gender neutral and least agreeable to changing critical content in the first 102 pages of the AA book.

Donny had originally approached David B to present these items to our membership and he very graciously, included Monique A, Alternate GSR and myself having the least amount of participation in the initial organizing the presentation to the group.

St. Vital members are very involved and interested in the service aspect of what is going on at the Area 80 (Manitoba) level and at the World Service Organization level.

The items discussed can be extremely divisive which is why St. Vital Group is so fortunate to have stalwart members such as Jo-Anne L. to moderate and reference when needed these events.

St. Vital Group is very grateful to Monique A. And David B who are always willing and knowledgeable with concern to these vital issues.

Yours in Love and Service.

F. David Sawchuk, GSR St. Vital Group

ALTERNATE GSR (Monique A.)

Thank you to everyone who made it to the meeting to vote on the topics.

CORRECTIONS REP (Tim B.)

No old business.

ALTERNATE CORRECTIONS REP (Gilles D.)

Prisons and jails are locked down solid. They are trying to get online meetings going in the correction facilities but it is going at a slow pace.

TREATMENT FACILITIES REP (Don B.)

No old business.

LITERATURE REP (Tom H.)

No old business.

PI/CPC REP (Dave B.)

- PI/CPC Workshop held on March 18 was a smashing success
- 3 excellent presentations (Ian R., past PI/CPC East Chair, Area 80, Alfredo P., Area 11 PI Chair, Shane S., Area 64 Delegate), as well as rich discussion by over 60 participants from around Manitoba and North America
- The audio was recorded; if you would like a copy of the recording, please contact me
- We also discussed PI/CPC Agenda items for the upcoming General Service Conference.
- There was strong support for the PI/CPC pamphlet to be created for Mental Health Professionals.
- Attended the Area Assembly in March and participated in the Area discussion of the same Agenda items in a workshop. It was both fascinating and exciting to be part of the discussion with our area about items which will ultimately be discussed and voted on by our General Service Conference. It is a privilege to be a small part of helping to carry the message to the Professional Community.

BIRTHDAY REP (Mitchell D.)

No old business.

SPECIAL EVENTS REP (Liz C.)

No old business.

SPONSORSHIP REP (Don M.)

No old business.

HOUSE REP (Dann B.)

No old business.

MORNING REP (Jessica F.)

No old business.

EVENING REP (Guy G.)

No old business.

DECORATING REP (Laura C.)

No old business.

CHAIR (Wayne S.)

- A few group members have brought forward the idea to open the clubroom on Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 11 am. These group members state that they have covered for people to open the meeting.
- Concerns made by the group members who brought it forward stated that members have been turned away due to the current restriction limits. There have been lots of young women come over from Destiny house and the 9:30 am meeting interferes with their schedule at Destiny House.
- Concerns and questions brought forward from the committee:
 - As a committee we cannot just make a decision, suggested that we vote on it or it goes to group conscience.
 - In the past when other members have held studies it has been voted on at the committee level.
 - Concerns regarding that we are opening the room to make an exception for a certain group of members.
 - We are already stretched thin with getting members to do service on both zoom and in-person.
 - Suggested that there is no harm in opening the clubroom to try out a different meeting time.

Motion made by Don B that we open the clubroom every day for an 11:00 am meeting

Guy G seconds.

Voting

8 for.

6 opposed.

Motion defeated.

Motion made by Dave B. to open the clubroom starting April 22nd for one month on Monday, Wednesday, Friday for an 11:00 am meeting.

Don B seconds

Voting:

12 for.

1 opposed.

Motion carried.

SECRETARY (Jill S.)

No new business.

TREASURER (Kelly T.)

- St. Vital group has taken on the zoom account and paid for the year which was \$240.00 , max 100 occupants. This was paid in March
- Web Hosting service and domain name renewal which was paid in March for the year. Thank you to Dave B who got the group started on that and covered the costs.

INTERGROUP REP (Kelli R.)

Intergroup Rep April 2021 Report

- Alternate Intergroup Rep Emily and I attended the regular monthly meeting of the Winnipeg Intergroup Association held Monday April 5th, 2021
- Interesting meeting.
- Brenda from central office gave her report.
 - 172 calls (26 messages)
 - 66 were office calls
 - 36 were seeking in person meetings in their area
 - 8 were “help for others” calls
 - 16 to place orders
- I inquired if the groups who individually take Telephone Answering Shifts keep any records of what types of calls come in or if we should be doing that.
- It has not been the past practice to do so, however Brenda and some others on committee thought we could test pilot that idea as a group possibly. Particularly is any of the calls resulted in 12 step calls.
- The Intergroup Reps were given Speaker and 12 Step Lists to update with new and current volunteers.
- They have gotten away from just adding people on to old lists and require the reps to ensure the list is current, members names are active, information given is accurate. There have been past incidences of people who had died remaining on lists etc.
- There was discussion on 5th step list as well. This is a HOT topic. It seems that Central office wants the groups to come up with their own lists as it is very hard to maintain for the same reasons.
- Emily and I have some cold calling to do among group members to get these lists updated prior to the next meeting.
- Our report to Intergroup included our “pep-rally” style power point. Which Emily will share! We mixed slides topics on:
 - WIA Info
 - Traditions
 - Call to Action
 - Unity
 - Responsibility

- It is an unfinished project as we need to still add information on Intergroup positions and job descriptions. We are waiting on feedback from the other members, and from you!
- Lastly Area 80 Web Committee has started a search for a replacement for David B our current and very talented Web Master! Expertise required: significant experience with Wordpress, Google Workspace, HTML/CSS/PHP/Javascript/MySQL

ALTERNATE INTERGROUP REP (Emily L.)

No new business.

GSR (David S.)

No new business.

ALTERNATE GSR (Monique A.)

No new business.

CORRECTIONS REP (Tim B.)

No new business.

ALTERNATE CORRECTIONS REP (Gilles D.)

No new business.

TREATMENT FACILITIES REP (Don B.)

- Attended the Jan 21st meeting.
- Great need for Big Books at AFM. Donations are welcome
- Wheelchair accessibility at certain homegroups.
- Bruce Oake Recovery Centre opening in Spring 2021.

LITERATURE REP (Tom H.)

No new business.

PI/CPC REP (Dave B.)

- Changes are coming to our aamanitoba.org website. Stay tuned for more info, OR:
- The next PI/CPC meeting will be held on April 21st at 6:30 pm on Zoom. You can hear more about these changes at the meeting. There are also many opportunities to be of service, and we are busy generating ideas on where to focus our efforts as a committee. Come on out – all are welcome! Visit aamanitoba.org and check the event calendar for the link to the meeting.

BIRTHDAY REP (Mitchell D.)

No new business.

SPECIAL EVENTS REP (Liz C.)

No new business.

SPONSORSHIP REP (Don M.)

No new business.

OPEN/CLOSED MEETING REP (Rick B.)

No new business.

HOUSE REP (Dann B.)

No new business.

MORNING REP (Jessica F.)

No new business.

EVENING REP (Guy G.)

- 4 evening positions open
- We are struggling to keep people in the positions and between zoom and in person it has been a struggle to keep people in the positions and to fill them. Suggesting a group conscience that we create specific zoom positions.
- Kelli R suggest that we create a sub-committee before we bring the positions to a committee and get together to come up with a job description.
- A few of the committee members will come up with a job description before it is brought to the group.

DECORATING REP (Laura C.)

No new business.

ADJOURNMENT

Wayne S. adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm

Next meeting is Wednesday, May 12, 6:00 pm