

2013 NIA Winter Committee Meeting

January 26, 2013

Lord of Life Church, La Fox, IL

District 43, Host

Call to order -Kelly

New attendees –Harrison H DCM 42, Sam M GSR, Sue V Dist 43, Holly M, Jeff D Dist 43

AA anniversaries –Kelly 14, Rich 3, Michelle 15, Mike 26, Carol 14, Sam 3, George 32

Twelve Concepts of World Service --Craig

Announcements -Terri

Approval of 2012 Fall Committee Minutes –Robert S, Tina R

Officer Reports

Chairperson , Kelly L

Thank you district 43 for hosting today's committee meeting. The preliminary agenda had the meeting being adjourned at 12:00 pm. The final agenda now has the meeting ending at 2:00 pm. I am hoping everyone orders lunch and stays until the adjournment of the meeting. According to the guidelines my responsibilities include sending out an agenda with a cover letter and map with directions three weeks prior to the next Committee meeting and the same with a flyer four weeks prior to the assemblies. So you can see a lot has been added within the few weeks between the preliminary agenda and the final agenda.

As I mentioned in my letter sent out three weeks ago with the preliminary agenda I have had lots of phone time with a lot of the DCMs, some going on his or her second year and few new incoming DCMs. I will be announcing the new and the present appointment committee members.

December 16th I attended the 2013 Spring Conference planning committee meeting with Allen Jacks our newly elected alternate chair and liaison to the conference. The committee confirmed the fact that there will be time for committee breakouts in the same room immediately after the assembly. Also tables will be available for committee displays.

January 13th I had attended the 2013 State Conference Program committee meeting and later that same day the Bridge the Gap Weekend Workshop planning committee. These AA members, many out of their comfort zone take hours out of their days, adding up to months and even up to a year beyond being a GSR, district or area committee member or sponsor to help provide these workshops and conferences for us and the still suffering alcoholic that needs the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. Please try to encourage your district member to step out of their comfort zone and possibly host the 2014 Spring Conference.

Alt. Chair, Allen J

It's been a busy month and a half since I was elected Area Alternate Chair. I started an area equipment and supply inventory. Did you know we have 70+ pounds of coffee? I'm still trying to figure out how to get everything to and back again from our events with my car. I do have some people that have volunteered to help me with this. It will be a work in process, and like most service positions I will have a good idea of what to do just before my rotation is up.

I've made three trips to Rockford for the 2013 Spring Conference Planning meetings.

I've made one trip to Montgomery for 2013 Big Book Conference. Many more to come

I've been in contact with District 72 host of the Spring Assembly and District 90 one of the co-host for the Pre-General Service Conference about those events.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service

Secretary, Dawn B

Please watch your email before each Assembly and Committee Meeting. I will be sending the minutes, please print them and bring the with you. If you need a new badge, please see me, I'll be happy to make you a new one.

Alt. Sec. , Dana C

Please let me know any changes to your district GSR meeting, so I can update the list

Registrar , Marilyn F

Fellowship New Vision database

Fellowship New Vision database (FNV) was developed by the General Service Office and released for use by the areas in May, 2007. FNV is a web based tool and because of that, updates are immediate. FNV also provides each area, via their Area Registrar, access to update certain area information directly into the database. Because FNV is an online-real time database, what is entered by either the areas or the GSO Records department is available for immediate use.

Four times a year the Alternate Registrar will be sending to the DMC and the District Secretary a document of all of the groups in their district. The last column is where updates can be entered. GSRs can update group information by working with their DCM or district secretary or by completing a group information change form which they can find online at <http://www.aa-nia.org/forms.html>

Group information includes group name, group number, area, district, history dates, meeting locations and times, and complete group contact information. *District information*, on the other hand, includes district service positions and contact information for those elected to those positions and *Area information* is similar to district information but at the area-level.

This information is the key to communication throughout the A.A. general service structure. GSO uses group information to send information kits to new GSRs, copies of *Box 459*, the GSO quarterly newsletter, and GSO quarterly reports. Similarly, the area uses the information to send to the group *Concepts*, the NIA newsletter, and area assembly meeting minutes. This information is also used by GSO to send information kits to District and area-level committee chairs to help orient them to their service positions and by area service committee chairs to communicate with their district counterparts.

In FNV the Registrar can search for groups or individuals and do instant updates.

It is no longer necessary to send group information updates to both NIA and GSO. All information update requests can be sent to the area registrar at registrar@aa-nia.org.

New e-mail address for the Area Registrar

The new e-mail address for the Area Registrar is: registrar@aa-nia.org.

Information updates since 01/01/2012

All update requests that were received before 01-24-2013 have been processed in FNV. The following tables summarizes the updates January 2012 through December 2012

<u>Total for 2012</u>	
<u>Group information</u>	<u>127</u>
<u>New groups</u>	<u>47</u>
<u>Folded/Inactive</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>Group contact information</u>	<u>561</u>
<u>District contacts</u>	<u>121</u>
<u>Area contacts</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Total updates</u>	<u>926</u>

<u>Total for 2013</u>	
<u>Group information</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>New groups</u>	<u>1</u>

<u>Folded/Inactive</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Group contact information</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>District contacts</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Area contacts</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Total updates</u>	<u>5</u>

We will continue to send welcome letters from the area to new GSRs. The packets include the following:

- a welcome letter from the area
- a snapshot of the group's information from FNV
- NIA contribution envelope

In 2012 the Area Registrar/Alternate Registrar sent 249 new GSR group packets.

Treasurer, Mike F

This report is being presented as of January 24th. The following is our financial status as of this date.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Contributions:	\$4,968.93	\$6,063.98
Expenses:	\$6,441.42	\$2,117.82
Net Contributions/Expenses:	(\$1,472.49)	\$3,977.16

As you can see we are behind on contributions compared to expenses.

Can Contributions

Pink Can Fund: has received a total of \$414.84 YTD in contributions. We have spent \$0 on literature.

Green Can Fund has collected \$0 YTD. We have spent \$0 on literature.

2012 Primary Purpose Register (Basic)

The 2012 PPR Basic Budget Final and the 2013 PPR to date is attached to this report.

We need to discuss updating the PPB3 line item of the PPR. We can discuss this after lunch.

If you have any questions regarding this information or the attached financial reports just give me a call or send me an email.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you as your NIA 20 Treasurer.

Alt. Treas. Janet N

Alternate Treasurer's Report

1/26/2013

The contributions report is attached to this memo. The summary of the

numbers is as follows:

Group Contributions \$ 3,339.04

District Contributions 25.00

Conference Contributions 1,833.79

Total: \$ 5,197.83

Please let your groups know that the address to send contributions to the NIA Treasurer is:

NIA Treasurer

Northern Illinois Area, Ltd.

P.O. Box 241

Elburn, IL 60119

There are plenty of contribution envelopes on the information table for you to take back to your groups.

Thank you to everyone for your contributions to NIA 20.

Delegate Report Rich H

Hello Committee

Welcome to newly rotating DCMs, and the newly elected Standing Committee Members. I find myself getting geared up for the 63rd General Service Conference in April. Talking to other Delegates including the other Delegates making up the Conference Grapevine Committee. Also to a couple staff members asking some questions regarding the Preliminary Agenda. All second year Delegates are paired up with a first year Delegate as a Buddy System, to feel a part of the Conference and share some experience. Last year the Area 1 Delegate, Alabama never did contact me. I wasn't bothered by this since I was actually pretty prepared and new a number of people there. I did contact my buddy Linda, Area 44 Northern New Jersey. I knew the Delegate before her and a few people she knows from the Northeast Region. We get along good and look forward to meeting.

I'm sure a lot of you do not already have the April 13th, Pre-General Service Conference Workshop foremost on your minds right now, but I have been looking at Board Reports, thinking about our Area Committees, and having that day to share our combined thoughts and information with each other. And getting Agendas and Background Information to Cheryl on a timely basis so that you all have the time to read, share and discuss. Which also hopefully includes us talking to you individuals, Groups and Districts, prior to the Conference. And I hope to be fortunate enough to share with as many of you as I did last year with Post-Delegate Reporting.

At the Conference, along with the work in Committee and voting on recommendations, there is other work through the week. And I was asked to do a presentation on Sunday afternoon "Self-Support- What does it Mean to the Fellowship?" I am excited to participate, and to be selected as one of four Delegates doing Presentations. We will also be dividing into Groups to talk about and answer groups of five inventory questions each. One of our Group's questions is "What more can be done to insure the General Service Board remains transparent and thorough in their reporting to the Fellowship? I am looking forward to this especially since four years ago now, I had no real intention of standing as Alternate Delegate and Delegate, but what I saw as lack of true attempt at true transparency by some Board Members and some Conference Members, I made this decision to try to make a difference. I have gotten a lot of positive feedback in regards as to my efforts to keep all of you as informed as possible throughout the year. I will get more detailed on that during the Spring Committee Meeting and Summer Assembly, when I will be asking all of you to look inside yourselves and ask, what it is that you are willing to do to guarantee the future of Alcoholics Anonymous?

In three weeks, February 15-17 some of us will be in LaPorte, Indiana, for the Conference of Delegates Past and Present. Though the title doesn't sound very inviting for all, all AA members are welcome to attend. And next year Area 20 will be hosting this Conference. I have been invited to bring a panel to the East Central Regional Conference in Appleton Wisconsin, July 19-21. We will discuss a motion today that I hope will be presented at the Spring Assembly March 9th in Rockford. On February 9th, myself and a couple others will be in Rockford for a "District 70 Website Workshop and a Forum on AA and It's Future." On December 20th, two others from my Home Group, The Hope Factory in Crystal Lake, and myself were the three speakers at the Pacific Group in Chicago. And today January 24th, (as I write this) I was in Rock Falls

With Corrections Chairperson Bill W. and three District 12 Correction Volunteers, meeting up with local volunteer, Alternate Grapevine Chair Wally L., and a friend, for the Summit of Hope, which I am sure will be reported on. I am still a Corrections Volunteer at the McHenry County Jail, and I thoroughly enjoyed today, talking to other volunteers and parolees and men and women on probation, about Alcoholics Anonymous and recovery from alcoholism.

STILL WHERE MY HEART IS AT IN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Alt. Delegate Cheryl V

Greetings and salutations to everyone!

Here we are now entering our 2nd year of rotation. (At least many of us are.) By now our feet are starting to get an idea about what direction we should be heading. We are starting to gain an understanding about the role we play in the Area and in General Service. We should also be thinking about passing on this information. If you are an Alternate like I am, hopefully you are starting to talk to the chairperson or DCM about the work they do. Things run so much more smoothly when we learn a bit about our next adventure before we jump in to it. And, as we know with sobriety, we get so much back in return when we share our experience, strength and hope with those on the path with us. This is just as true in service.

Looking back on the time since our last Assembly I have to admit I haven't been too active. I did however take time to enjoy the holidays and work with some people new to the program. Like most places, there are always people trying to appreciate their first sober holidays. Since I got sober at Thanksgiving I know how this can be a challenging time when you don't have much time. Sometimes it's a hard time when you do have time.

I had the pleasure of speaking at one of the Spanish meetings this month in McHenry. If you've never had this experience, you need to try it! I have to admit, I was getting kind of nervous since I was the only woman there. Fortunately some women were looking to find the McHenry Alano and found this meeting instead. I don't think it was by chance that they came there. Hearing one of the speakers tell their story through an interpreter is both a blessing and a challenge. It gives me a chance to experience for myself how our Spanish brothers and sisters might feel about sitting in our Assemblies. And of course, I get to talk about service, one of my favorite topics. My challenge here is to talk slow enough for the interpreter. I did however find out that there are a few words that do not need to be translated, they seem to be universal =D

Looking forward in the year, I am already starting preparations for distribution of the General Service Conference Agenda and background material. We've supplied copies of the preliminary agenda today and you should have already received an e-mail of those from Rich early. We will once more be mailing 2 printed copies of the full agenda, along with a cd of the background material. If you are a new DCM please make sure Marilyn has your information and address. I have already purchased the envelopes and am starting to write out the labels.

For you that are DCMs, it will be up to you on how you distribute the information to your Groups. Printing several hundred pages for each person isn't exactly eco-friendly, or even financially friendly. You may however want to print one full copy for your District. Most Kinkos, Staples, Office Max, etc. can print from a file for you. So you could take your disc to one of these places near you to get a copy. I will also be breaking down the agenda by committee, and you may

contact me if you wish to have me send you a version in an e-mail. Although we did find last year that the background for PI was too large to send in one e-mail. So we may have to break that one down to two files. So if you have a person who is interested in a specific committee portion, feel free to contact me and request I send that one in particular along to you.

I am still trying to find a venue for a quarterly service school type meeting. As we discussed at the break-out meeting in December, the idea would be that we could create small sessions where you could provide information at your Districts in short meetings, perhaps before or after your various District meetings. I continue to work on ideas for these sessions and content and handouts. If you have any topics that you think your GSRs would like to have sessions on, please let me know. This will allow me to start coming up with the material. Think of it as a "train the trainer" event for service. Someone from your District attends the meeting, then goes back to your District and talks to your local GSRs and members about the topic. DCMs could be the main conduit, or they could suggest their Alternate attend, or LCMs, or any other GSR. Breaking down service into bite size pieces seems to be something that most people would not only tolerate better than an all-day event, but perhaps even retain some of the information. I know that I cannot retain more than my tushy can handle ;-)

Conference Reports

1. 2012 NIA Big Book Conference, Mike M

Slightly over 400 attended

The coffee was slightly late due to electrical problems however there were ample refreshments which lasted all day and no real complaints. The lunch delivery was Split up well between the two buildings and everyone got one. It was a beautiful Day at this gorgeous facility and logistically everything went very well. There was standing room only for Some panels in The 2nd building but no one seemed to mind.

I have gotten feedback that the panels and the speaker that Pat T. got were very good.

Our Public information person estimates our attendance at around 500. There were some additional small charges from the facility however we saved A large charge by going to our own private company for the handicapped ramp.

Even so the conference did fail to break even by over \$600.00 mainly due To Facility charges and final attendance at 420 being a little short of what we Hoped. Many did work hard to promote this, especially Chuck D. Maybe Some other methods can be worked out at the next one.

On a personal note it was a wonderful experience I will never forget. It was a Privilege to work with such hard working and dedicated people. We also Wound up with many terrific volunteers.

All in all I think a good day was had by all.

2. 2013 NIA Spring Conference, Allen J

3. 2013 State Conference, Larry S

The theme for the 2013 State Conference, hosted by District 22 and 23, is Our Solution in Action. The conference will be held August 23 - 25, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Woodfield in Schaumburg (1800 W. Golf Rd.) which is across from Woodfield Mall. The room rate is \$89 per night. The phone number for room registration is 1-888-421-1442. Refer to the 2013 Illinois State AA Conference. Registration is \$20 and the banquet is \$33. The A.A. speakers will be Jack G from Huntington, CA, Debra B. from Madison, WI and Mary D., a staff member from G.S.O. We will also invite the East Central Regional Trustee who will be elected at the 2013 General Service Conference. The Al-Anon speakers are Eric S. from South Elgin, IL, Beverly B. from Lewisville, TX and an Alateen speaker to be announced. The program includes topics pertinent to our three legacies, unity, service and recovery. Within that format there are two program events that will include AA and Al-Anon participation. For some events we will invite some professionals or possibly some public servants to provide us with another perspective on recovery and how we can better interact with our friends. There will not be online conference registration but there will be a website where you can get more information about the conference. The site will include access to a website where you can make room reservations. I hope to have the preliminary version of the site up and running tomorrow. The address will be: <http://www.stateconference2013.aa-nia.org/> All our committee positions are filled. We had planned to have the flyer available today but there were several issues with the print job. So the flyers will be reprinted at no charge and will hopefully be available sometime next week. Our next meeting is tomorrow, January 27th at St. Hugh of Lincoln Church at the corner of Highland Ave. and Randall Rd.

There was discussion on inviting people to this as a "facebook" event.

4. 2013 Annual BTG Workshop, Carol H

5. 2013 Big Book Conference, Michelle H

January 26, 2013

The Committee of the 2013 Big Book Conference
on 1/9/13 at 6:30 PM at

The Church of the Brethren

155 S Boulder Hill Pass

Montgomery, IL 60538

Where we meet every Month on the
2nd Wednesday

Items discussed,

PROGRAM- The program committee needed to meet and discuss the program and speakers. They arranged to meet the following Saturday and discuss the program. They also decided since they could not come up with a speaker they would reach out the area archives to get the flyers from the first 5 conferences.

The final flyer –Must be done by the spring conference, we will approve the final copy at the February meeting.

Printing cost- The final cost for the printing of 10K Flyers will be 250.00 dollars Motion will be presented at the February meeting.

Schedules of Visits to Area District meetings- We have formed a schedule for a member of the committee to start attending all 25 Area 20 Districts meetings.

Final Report from 2012 Conference – The committee is awaiting the final report from the 2012 conference to help with the prep for the food and other costs.

Seed Money- We did receive the seed money; however the check was not signed so we returned it. We did receive the check back 1/25/2013.

DCM Reports

District 10, Mike M, DCM

The spiritual Kindergarten group in Grayslake has started a "Service school" once a month after the meeting to promote service and educate on the particulars, concepts, guidelines and types of service available. The Fox Lake community center in Fox lake is the place for the monthly open meeting with a dinner and dance afterward the third Saturday of every month. There is now a guided meditation every Friday at 5:30 pm at Serenity house in Libertyville. District 10 and 12 will be hosting the Spring breakfast in March or April. Our District meeting this month we will have all the new committee chairs and alternates rotating in. Looking forward to a new workshop or two in the near future.

District 23, Karen M, DCM

We are hosting a spring workshop on April 13 from 1-4 at St. Columba on Irving Park rd in Hanover Park. The workshop will be on steps 6&7(always a good area to work on).

We have only one position open(alternate dcm) and one person interested. We filled 2 positions that had been vacated-alternate treatment and alternate website.

The district website is up. Dist23.aa-nia.org

Corrections chair visited dupage county to get information on attending/bringing meetings into the jail.

I am still working on motivating the chairpersons and gsr's to be more active and participate more.

District 40, Robert S, DCM

Having been elected to the position of Area Alternate Treatment Chair, Robert Snipes has stepped down as DCM and Debbie Prohut has been elected DCM.

Efforts are on-going to bring volunteers to the Good Samaritan Hospital Detox Unit from all four DuPage County Districts. Julia Anne G spearheading this for District 40.

Efforts are on-going to provide an AA meeting at the DuPage County Crisis Center. This also included all four districts. Steve M, District 40 Treatment Chair is spearheading this.

Plans for the second annual DuPage County Open are being finalized. Flyers are available here today and we encourage people to get there early as we are expecting to have to utilize an overflow room that have video and audio capabilities but will be separate from the main room.

D40 Treatment is providing a beginner's meeting at Serenity House in Addison, an Extended Care program for both men and women.

District 41, Walt, DCM

For any that might not have heard, Art C passed away on December 12, 2013. He was a great asset to our district and we do miss him already.

Our answering service has an office that is manned by volunteers which is supposed to be open 12 hours per day, 5 days a week. This is becoming a problem due to a lack of 'office' volunteers (actual 'manned' time is approximately 33% covered); our 'home' volunteers appear to be picking up much of the slack.

We have managed to fill a couple more 'open' district committee positions: LCM and Alternate Grapevine Chair (who will be having a booth at the Du Page Open). We also have been having some minor success with getting some of our groups to elect GSRs (and more are talking about it). We actually had a couple new GSRs show up at our last couple of district meetings.

We are supporting the Second Annual Du Page Open (Feb. 23, 2013) with a speaker and both literature and hospitality booths. The hospitality booth was kind of scary from a supply side until this week. There were 3 volunteers to help bake things (including myself and a sponsee); as of this writing there are now 8 volunteers, with two of them helping to solicit more volunteers. I don't know for sure where it's going currently, but it's good to see some 'service' spirit out there. To be continued (this district never ceases to amaze me [and I'm sure this is true of all districts]; every time I think we are 'losing ground' good things happen. This just re-affirms to me that there is a 'higher power' looking over us all).

The district has been supporting our county-wide effort to hold monthly district open meetings at the Du Page Crisis Intervention Center. So far, so good; we've managed to cover all of our committed meeting dates. We've been asked to support a second meeting there every month; on this one volunteers are lacking as of this date. We need to hit local meetings harder and are considering reducing our requirements (to be suffering from or be in remission from some emotional illness, or at least be very familiar with one or more) to speak there.

This week we also contacted Haymarket Center regarding their annual symposium. A reply was received that the symposium will again be held at Elmhurst College in June (6/10-12), 2013. At our next district meeting this announcement and preliminary fliers will be made available seeking volunteers. The other Du Page districts and Area will also be contacted to solicit volunteers.

District 62, Michelle H, DCM

In District 62 We have started 2013 off with a BANG!

- We have been distributing a district questionnaire asking the fellowship what it is that they want and need from the district. The questions are: what do you want from your district trusted servants? Do you know that every AA member is welcomed at a District GSR meeting? Does your group have a GSR, Treasurer and GVR? Do you want more workshops and if so what kind? Would you be able to help in District Service events?
- District 62 has been working on a lit project to submit to the Area Level about the pamphlet AA for women. We are hoping to give this to the Area Lit Chair at the next assembly.
- We have passed a motion to purchase lit from GSO to construct GSR packets that are given to NEW GSR's when they attend the district meeting. This is something we did last year and we have gone through each and every one. This gives the NEW GSR materials to take home right away the cost is 1.25 per packet but we feel as a district it helps the new GSR.
- The DCM has passed out the GSC 2013 preliminary agenda and asked all chairs and GSR's to review. The DCM reviewed the process that we will be entering and how we will pass out the info
- We are going to print on our schedules again and they will be yellow this time
- District inventory, The DCM found one area's suggested District inventory and this was passed out at the meeting. We will be reviewing this material in 3 months so we can better help this district.
- District Guidelines- District 62 has no guidelines at this time. Before the end of the year we will be incorporating guidelines based off Area 20 and District 51 and GSO.
- Service School- District 62 will be hosting a Service school that will take place over 3 months meeting once a month for 3 hours (at this time) Flyers will be distributed in March
- District 62 Lit committee will be ordering materials to fill our racks and create more beginner packets we have gone through 175 in 15 months. This is a revolving fund that was created over a year ago.

District 90-Jesse N, DCM

We are looking forward to co-hosting the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop with District 91 on April 13 at Bethel Baptist Church in Galesburg. We are also looking forward to the Illowa

Intergroup annual event (speaker, dinner and dance) on April 20 at Modern Woodmen Park in Davenport, Iowa.

District 91, Ed M, Acting DCM

1. Planning is going forward for the Knox County Round-up at Lake Storey, Galesburg. Fliers and email messaging as the material come available.
2. The Pre General Service Conference Workshop is proceeding, a simple reminded card is available today on the material table. District 90 and 91 will be working together on this. Most jobs have been filled, lunch committee still needed.
3. Plan are to finalize as much as possible the April 13th meeting during the regular district meeting in early February.
4. Established guidelines per NIA will be used.
5. This is a good learning process within district 91, for the area event
6. Thirteen groups are present in the four county district
7. We seem to have a strong base of support among long time members, however a regular flow of new people has been noticed.
8. A general interest in things district is being noticed as well, lines of communication between groups and district are open.
9. We have a building a base of support financially
10. Services provided are a PI/CPC program, literature material and catalog in groups, schedule of meetings, Corrections Programs, mainly state prison. Bridging the Gap is still a work in progress. The Phone Answering Service is well established.
11. Regular contributions have been approved to Area 20 and GSO on an ongoing basis's
- 12 We shall continue to look for a web site person to provide the area on district 91, per a potential district Web-Site.

Discussion of NIA Committee Agenda items

1. Bids for the 2014 NIA Spring Conference : No Bids

2. Motion to Distribute Concepts in a Digital Format :

Motion has been will be presented again at Spring Assembly

3. Motion from Special Needs Committee : Jeff L

Host 3 Workshops for Approx cost of \$750, no questions no discussion

5. Motion by the Alternate Delegate to amend The Procedures for the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop

Rich would like a friendly amendment to read "Current Available media"

Judd says service guidelines will have to be amended. R&C would need to take a look at this.

In favor of this revision with friendly amendment; Majority vote yes, with one no who does not wish to speak to the minority opinion. PASSED

4. 4. Motion by Judd W to add new section to NIA 20 Service Handbook

: It is moved that a new section entitled "Primary Purpose Financing" be added to the "northern Illinois Service Handbook" immed following section entitled "Committee Handbook". Judd has (point of order 2009 precedent that these changes may be made by Area Committee, and reported to Assembly, who may or may not approve it. guidelines page 32) made the motion and asked that it be voted on by the Area Committee, not the Assembly. Jeff G states this section wasn't voted on in 2009, since we are adding something new. Mike F says this is NOT the section that can be voted on by the Committee, but must be by the Assembly. Judd answers that this is not a guideline section. Kelly to a vote how many want to pass this to assembly-15 yes. To vote today-this is the majority vote. This will be presented today for vote.

Judd chooses to have the assembly vote, but Kelly would like to have it discussed today. Questions: Robert S, is this just an explanation of what we are already doing? YES. Joe this is just an addition to the guidelines? Judd; the content of the GSR handbook is not my decision. Jesse N, how is money prioritized? Judd, this document gave rise to PP Financing. There are some guidelines that have been written, some may not, this document is about shared experience, it is NOT guidelines. The purpose it to provide a context in which future guidelines can be written. Bill W. has this motion been before Report and Charter? Kelly, no, but was presented to Area Officers. Judd; R&C is responsible for maintain documents not making content. Karen, PPR page 41, but would we be adding another PPR? Judd, that's guidelines, this is about PPF, a broader topic, and NOT a guideline.

Discussion: Michelle, this document EXPLAINS and makes finance committee work easier. Jeff, not in favor of this, he is looking to put this as a new main section, and there is NO precedent as to approval by which body, assembly or committee. We are deciding today to not listen or ask the GSRs. Mike F, both handbook versions this would be BEFORE service guidelines, both are identical, we could put them in both. Revisions could be approved by substantial unanimity of the Area Committee. Cheryl, good idea to have the history of how this works for future Finance Committee, but should be voted on by the Assembly. Larry S, question has been decided that Committee decides this today. Rich would like to postpone this until Spring Committee.

**** Cheryl moved that the motion be brought to the Assembly, not voted on today motion is seconded by Jeff G.

Questions; Carol H why are we discussing this amendment? Kelly, it's not a friendly amendment, Judd doesn't have to accept it. Larry, just take a vote at assembly.

Discussion: Mike F, wants to clarify what this IS, it's not guidelines it will help districts.

Vote to take motion to Assembly: passed by Simple majority.

6. Motion to Fund Participation at the East Central Regional Conference

Seconded by Ray M

Questions; none

Discussion: Kappie, would like to amend to say "interested panelists would have coverage for some of the expenses to do this work". Rich, it's to offset registration, conference, lodging. Rich accepts the friendly amendment with the addition of "up to this amount". Mike F, we need to add a line item on PPB since it's a 4 out of 5 year event.

7. Motion by Rich H to make PreGSC a stand alone event in 2013

Standing Committee Reports

Answering Service, Matt J, Chair

We are participating in a couple of workshops in the next 2 months. Monday night Big Book Study in Palatine has asked us to put together a panel to discuss 12 step calls and volunteering. Please come out and join us if you're in the area. We have some flyers on the table. We also have an hour slot at Spring Conference. Hope to see you there! Gary and I are looking forward to a service packed year!

Corrections, Bill W, Chair

Fellow Alcoholics,

It is with great pleasure that I start this report of with the Summit of Hope event held in Rock Falls on the 24th. Summit of Hope is a a re-entry fair for those currently on probation or parole. It offers a complete venue of provider to help wt getting drivers license issue corrected , dental and medical assistance, employment assistance (when there are jobs), community faith and 12 step

Fellowship. We had three tables at this event and we talked with over 150 of 200 attendees. Let me describe how it went. I left Kenosha drove to Waukegan picked up three guys that go to jail a lot, stopped in Hebron picked up a guy (only going to do his Delegate reports) whom goes to jail a lot. One there we set up camp next to the District AA display. In the organized path the attendees had to take the Area's table was first. If you will we were the Icebreaker. Leadin off was "switch hitter bi-lingual, Leslie was our shortstop that prevented escapees, the the old loud mouth greeter, then the "hat" secretary, and then finally our Delegate. By this time we knew them and those seeking local information we referred to the next table (District). This is what we heard as we did that: "Oh Walley" Wally never sat all day. His helper "wheel chair Bill" was all over the room as well. Wally, that was an excellent display of Bridging the Gap 12 step service.

The Sheridan Correctional Facility outside AA sponsor has changed. Welcome aboard to Garrett (31 350 2970). And thank you to John R for his service.

NIA Corrections will be utilizing our Spring Conference workshop time to discuss "How to ensure our volunteers keep the trust of the facility they serve and carry the AA message. Bring your thoughts to the Rock river.

I know several Districts where involvement with Drug Courts are paying dividends. Our role there is as sponsors of the alcoholic clients. Of course it is also good PC work as well. A staffer at the Summit of Hope had questions as Dixon was gearing up and he was a part of the Court.

District 10 will have their CF chair position filled once again Sunday. District 12 is now woking with Veteran Courts as well as Drug Courts. District 11 has been successful with there Step Workshops behind the wall.

The beauty of Correction work is that so often it goes on un noticed. I thank all that are doing the work. Of course the work is the reward.

I am making it point to visit every District meeting at least once this year. Not that I need anything, just nosy about Corrections work.

Treatment, Chris D, Chair

I would first like to take this opportunity to welcome Robert S as the new Alternate Area Treatment Chair! Robert was gracious enough offer his services to the area at the winter assembly and I look forward to working closely with him during the next year.

We have decided that one of the first objectives we have this year is to man the Area's Bridge the Gap website with a list of trusted servants from every district in the Area. We've just begun the process of going through the Area roster of District Treatment chairs and making contact with them to see if they themselves or people on the district treatment committee would be willing to serve in this capacity.

In other news I received a request from District 90's treatment chair asking for a request for funds to purchase some literature for a local treatment center. We do have a primary purpose register line item for this and I am in the process of facilitating this request for her.

We as a committee continue to be available to help this years annual bridge the gap Weekend Workshop in whatever ways we can. Lastly, Robert and I continue to discuss topics for a planned panel at this years Spring Conference.

Concepts, Phil G

The Spring issue of Concepts was recently sent out to about 1,500 people who are in NIA service positions from the GSRs down to the Delegate and to AAs who have requested it.

DCMs please ask your district secretaries to be sure Concepts is on their emailing list, concepts@aa-nia.org. We would appreciate receiving your district minutes for input to the Area Beat and any announcements of district or group activities for the Calendar.

Concepts welcomes articles from every one involved in service on any topics germane to Area business or AA as a whole. Especially welcome are articles on how a group or committee has successfully carried the message.

Thank you to all who have contributed.

Special Needs, Jeff L.

Since the last Committee Meeting I participated in two workshops, one in District 23 (thanks Karen!) which included CPC and Special Needs, talking about what these committees do. That was December 1st. The second was on December 8th, which was in conjunction with Districts 10 and 11. This workshop talked about what are special needs, what it's like to have special needs coming into AA, what it's like to be sight impaired and how to treat people with special needs. Thanks Pat for organizing this workshop. The December 8th workshop was the last allowed on PPM% Special Needs Workshops.

Webmaster, Tom S

- The Domain (AA-NIA.org) is current, next expiring Jan 2014
- The Website hosting is current, next expiring Jan 31, 2014
- Districts 21, 22, 23, 41, 43, 62 and soon IL State Conference and District 72 enjoy free webhosting for their websites courtesy of NIA area 20.
- The website now has a section for anonymity protected reports and meeting minutes located under "information".
- The website continues to have "password protected" capability although the only use for it now is to protect the phone numbers found on the "Concepts" calendar and newsletters.

Committee Appointments

Service Committees

Administrative Committees

Adjournment and Close