

(Unapproved) District 24 Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2008

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. with the Declaration of Unity. Introductions were made. 16 GSRs in attendance. A total of 28 people at the meeting. A plan of the agenda was discussed. Derek B. presented Concept 4. John H. volunteered to present Concept 5 next month.

Officer Reports

Secretary's Report: Annette W. prepared the minutes for last month's meeting and they were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Chris P. reported \$_____ in deposits; _____ in expenses bringing the available balance to \$_____.

Alt. DCM (Alt. District Committee Member) Report: Kent H. - Gopher State Ad Hoc Chair for Chaska groups – wants to pass the commitment on to the Groups to handle for next year. Asking the GSRs to bring this back to their groups. Attended the new meetings in Chaska. Proposes an Activities Committee for the District for such things as a Mid-winter chili feed, etc. Suggested to Ben P. to add a weblog to the District 24 website for the Chairs to communicate on.

DCM (District Committee Member) Report: Frank B. – Discussed what our primary purpose is in the District. Encourages attendance at the Delegate's Workshop on April 19 in Red Wing where the General Service Conference Final Agenda Items will be discussed. Talked about the new website which Ben and Karl set up, www.district24aa.org. If your group has an activity or function, shoot it off to Ben P. in an e-mail and we can get that info. onto the site under "upcoming events." Want some discussion activated? We can put it on the site, but keep in mind that it has to be in accordance with the Traditions. Talk to your groups about whether they want District 24 to sponsor a Gopher State hospitality room or whether there should be an Activities Chair. There will be a vote on these two topics next month.

GSR (Group Service Representative) Sharing - Frank B. asked GSRs to share how they give a GSR report to their group:

* **Julie H.** - Thurs. night **Happy, Joyous and Free - Shakopee** - Talked about the upcoming Sponsorship workshop and Gopher State Roundup, Gratitude night and the new website; * **Susan S.** - Mon. night **Bridges – Shakopee** - summarizes the newsletter; * **Annette W.** – Wed. night - **Worthy Women's Big Book Study – Chaska** - encouraged attendance and service work at the Workshop, had a gp. conscience mtg. about the conference agenda items; **John H.** – Sat. morning **Oasis Group – Shakopee** – talked about Workshop, about 2 Comm. Chairs that are open; discussion re: the Russian literature to distribute and the newsletter; **Jay S.** – Fri. night **River City Roundup - Chaska** – talked about the upcoming events; **Derek B.** – Thurs. night **5-Stars - Chaska** – announced the upcoming Study in Action seminar & sponsorship workshop, dance in May; **Shawn H.** – Sun. night **Valley View Assisted Living - Jordan**; **Paul G.** – Tues. night **Railroad to Sobriety - Jordan**– explained Remote Communities and talked about the Russian literature – that AA available in various languages, also talked about the Sponsorship workshop; learned about the website – advised that it was really workable to navigate on his phone; **Marty T.** – **New Prague Tri County** groups – still working on getting an interest in gp. conscience mtgs. - **Terry F.** – Wed. night **Solution Seekers - Shakopee** – discussed Remote Communities, new website, sponsorship workshop; **Lonnie M.** – Mon. night 6:30pm **Lakers Alano – Prior Lake**; **Randy N.** - Fri. night 6:30pm **Lakers Alano – Prior Lake** – sponsorship workshop and website; **Karen Rebecca C.** – Mon. night **Savage Unity** – talked about upcoming functions – encouraged filling out Carry the Message forms; addressed questions for Delegate's workshop; **Kevin W.** – Mon. night **St. John's - Chaska**; **Mary K.** – Tues. night **Candlelight Chaska** – discusses current events and makes copies of flyers for her group; * **Ray K.** - Sun. am **Carver Church by the River** – requested ideas from his group about how to carry the message as a group.

Area 36 Assembly Report - **Marty T. – New Prague Tri County** - Attended Area Assembly on March 15 in Burnsville. A Group Records presentation was done. DCMs shared what is going on in their Districts; There was also a GSR sharing session. Delegate Scott Ahlgren discussed the conference agenda items and opened up for Q&A. Item re: Intergroup liason reports at Area Assemblies was not passed. Andy from Intergroup gave a presentation about the Temporary Contact desk; Website committee Chair talked about statewide online directory – which will be discussed at the next Area Assembly. Item re: ASL funding was not passed. Area Inventory findings will be discussed at the next Area Assembly.

GSR (Group Service Representative) Orientation – **Frank B.** - Question: What is the GSRs job and how do you do it? The GSR is the most important person – he/she carries the message between their Group and the District. Frank gave an example of how concerns have come up from our Area, ended up being discussed at District and was voted on favorably ultimately at the GSO office in NY. A GSR also communicates things back to the Group. We don't do anything without Group approval. The Groups have the voice. The Group's voice is presented at the District mtg. and so on and so forth. Ben S. from Intergroup has a packet re: the GSR. Costs a \$1. Very informational pamphlets are included in the packet. It is very important that the group's GSR attends the Area Assemblies. Only the GSRs and DCMs have a vote at the Area Assemblies. Everyone has a right to attend, but the GSR is the only voting body. It's important to carry the message from the District meetings and Area Assemblies back to the Groups.

Dave Butler – Area 36 CPC (Communication with the Professional Community) Chair - Dave talked about AA and Professionals, the court system, employers, treatment centers. He explained that the CPC job is to inform professionals what AA is and what AA isn't. We don't do much with NA, but we cooperate. Same as Al-Anon. "About AA" comes out twice a year – on different subjects, i.e., bringing up the touchy subject of a patient's drinking to Drs., a college 1st yr. medical student going

to AA meetings to learn on hand what AA is about. Discussed how to sponsor your professional. There are Intergroup packets for Drs., employers, law enforcement professionals, clergymen, dentists and one for the media, etc. Also available for reference is a CPC powerpoint presentation on cd. What works is to go to the professional. For example, all the Clergy in our area meet on a certain day and so we ask to have 5 minutes of their time. Same with law enforcement. Cheaper to inform this way too. You can gear your presentation to the profession you are talking to. Bring a list of open speaker meetings in the Area – and ask that they check them out. Bring a lot of packets that Intergroup makes. GSO has AA guidelines available which are also available on our new website.

Committee Reports

Correctional Facilities: Dave E. – Will be sending out new schedules. We need more volunteers from within our District. Susan S. stressed that the meetings in the jails are very much needed.

Public Information: Karl E. – Nothing to report.

Group Outreach: Marty T. – He reported that he gave an outreach presentation for the Thurs. night Tri-County group in New Prague.

Newsletter: Susan S. – provided March 2008 publication. Her contact info. is added to bottom of the newsletter.

Cooperation from the Professional Community (CPC): Greg J. – Absent. In Florida. Presentations are scheduled at probation center in Scott County.

Treatment Facilities – Kent H. – Haven doesn't want a stand-alone type AA meeting. Made contact with Salvation Army about opening up a program for AA. People from treatment centers are seeking temporary sponsors. Spanish big books are available to Districts at a bargain price of \$25 case shipping included (\$1.25 a book). The purchase of a case was proposed, nominated, seconded, and passed on unanimous vote.

InterGroup Liaison: Ben S. –. Brought "Questions about Sponsorship" pamphlets. Presented a resume form to be an Intergroup Board member. Voting day is the 4th Thurs. of Sept. Brought GSR packets; Intergroup's hospitality suite for Gopher State is on the 2nd floor; Foreign languages literature is available – a lot of Russian people getting the book, and also French versions have been requested. Provided the April MIRUS, flyers on "The key to Unity and Self Support" on June 14. Steps are summarized in the each month's MIRUS.

Website: Ben P.: Website is up and running. Presented the idea of committee chairs having their own e-mail address. Doesn't cost anything extra. Trying to get archives together to attach to the website.

Remote Communities - OPEN – Hispanic meetings are needed in this District. Russian meetings as well. Frank would like to get a Committee started that will do this (not just a Chair). Great 12-step work for this District. We have a Native American population in this District. Valley View Assisted Living is an example of a Remote Community.

Literature: Julie H. – Got the key to the closet! Will take inventory this week. If you need any literature, let her know.

Grapevine and Archives: Both Committees are OPEN.

Sponsorship Workshop Committee: John H. talked about Sponsorship Workshop – room for 120-150 people. Panelists – Bring dessert.

Group Outreach – Bring General Service Conf. Final Items back to your groups for discussion; Gopher State Roundup; Spanish \$25/case. E-mail addresses – If you want to have an e-mail address for your group, Ben will create one, but needs your personal e-mail to forward it to.

Meeting was closed at 8:30pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

Calendar Outlook

May 10, 2008 – Area Committee Meetings (9:30am – 5pm), Best Western, Mankato, MN

June 28, 2008 – Area Assembly Mtg. (9am – 5pm), Best Western Victorian Inn, Hutchinson, MN

Next District 24 meeting - Monday, June 2, 2008, from 7:00-8:30pm. See you there!

Responsibility Pledge

"When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there, and for that, I am responsible."

District Monthly Meeting – When: First Monday of the month Time: 7:00 pm Place: St. Johns Lutheran Church 119 8 th Ave, Shakopee, MN District Contact Info – Mail: P.O. Box 551, Shakopee, MN 55379 E-Mail: dcm@district24aa.org Phone: 952-233-0167
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