



April 17, 2024 District 43 GSR Business Meeting Minutes

District 43 DCM, Laura B., welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced herself, and called the meeting to order with a quiet time followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Laura B. read Zoom protocols to all attendees.

Laura B. read AA Tradition #4 – “Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.”

There were no introductions read. Laura B. asked if there were any new GSR’s or guests attending.

(Secretary note: This Secretary counted 41 participants at the time of the NIA 20 Answering Service Chair’s introduction and discussion with attendees.)

New GSRs

Sandy P., Friday Noon Stick With The Winners

Lenora, 12:05 Monday meeting at WSFC

Guests

David, Area 20 Answering Service Chair

Anniversaries

Lisa S., 7 years on 4/12/24

Alan, 8 years on 3/29/24

Jeff, 16 years on 3/27/24

Madeline, 29 years on 4/1/24

AA Announcements

George C. announced Archives will be presenting the 2nd part of Group History on 5/4/24, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the West Suburban Fellowship Club. Pizza will be served. It will also be on Zoom. (Secretary note: Please see events tab on naperville12step.com for full information.)

George also asked that if anyone has information on two groups that folded, Beginners and Growth in Lisle and Mid Week Serenity in Bolingbrook, they are looking for information on when they stopped meeting.

Special Guest

David, NIA 20 Answering Service Chair introduced himself. He wants to travel or attend all the District meetings to see what each district's Answering Service are using for a third-party vendor call center, if they are doing it some other way, what the costs are, if they feel they are meeting their caller's needs, and obtain any other information that would be useful for other districts consider their options. Laura B. provided some information as she is a recent-past Chair of the committee. She stated we use a specialty third-party vendor for answering and routing of the calls. The service uses our provided scripts. They also provide the committee with monthly statistics such as caller gender and how long it takes for a volunteer to respond.

March 2024 Minutes & Treasurer's Report

The March 2024 Minutes & Treasurer's Report acceptance vote was called for by Laura B. Both passed unanimously.

District Open Positions (Read by Laura B.)

Alt Treasurer – No one was nominated or stood for it.

Alt Accessibilities – No one was nominated or stood for it.

Alt Archives – No one was nominated or stood for it

Alt Bridging the Gap – No one was nominated or stood for it.

Alt Grapevine – Kathleen C. stood for the position and provided her sobriety date, active sponsor, and references. She was accepted.

Alt Groupvine – No one was nominated or stood for it.

Committee Reports

Accessibilities

No committee member in attendance. No report submitted for April.

Answering Service

Chris D., Chair

10 calls were answered in the last week. All were answered appropriately.

Archivist/Archives

Jeff K., Archivist Alternate

The District 43 Archives Committee and Archivist team held its monthly meeting on April 10, 2024, and discussed the following:

1. The District 43 Timeline Workshop (Part 2) will be on Saturday, May 4, at 1:30pm, at the WSFC. The workshop flyer is available on the website.
2. One new Long Timer Interview has been arranged; others are being planned.
3. We continue to study the feasibility of an Archives webpage on or through the District website.
4. We hope to soon fill the open Archives Committee Alternate position.
5. We are working with the Groupvine committee about a recurring Archives contribution to the Groupvine; our current focus centers around recognizing group anniversaries for each month.

We continue to actively collect and preserve pertinent information relating to the history of District 43. Old flyers, directories, and other AA related materials that you are thinking about throwing out may be useful to Archives and we will gladly accept them. Pictures of your meeting place, inside and outside, are also desired. Call the Archivist at 630-903-7626 or email Archives via the District website (archives@aa-nia-dist43.org) if you have anything that might fit the bill.

We'd also like to collect any relevant information from our service committees that goes beyond the monthly committee reports to help fill out the bigger picture of the service work done within our District. Examples could be committee meeting agendas; drafts/works in progress; correspondence with other districts, NIA20, and/or outside (non-AA) organizations; etc., but we'll leave particulars up to you who know best the work of your committee.

We are looking for an Archives Committee Alternate. If you are interested, please reach out to us at the contact information listed above.

Beginners and Growth in Lisle and Mid Week Serenity in Bolingbrook. We are looking for information on when they stopped meeting. Thanks

Keep in mind that “Whenever a society or civilization perishes there is always one condition present; they forgot where they came from.” – Carl Sandberg

Bridging the Gap

No committee member in attendance. No report submitted for April.

Corrections

Bill N., Chair

1. We continue conducting weekly AA meetings at the DuPage County Jail.
2. Just of DuPage County Jail is having a workshop and all County Jail volunteers are requested to attend. The date is 4/27/2024 from 9:30-11:30 am at the training room for the DCCC. Currently the attendees is 25.
3. DuPage County Jail is rescheduling their open house from April to possibly August. This is the meeting all new and interested volunteers must attend as part of DuPage County Jail’s application process towards acceptance into the service.

Events

Lisa M., Chair

The 3rd annual Bingo Night is coming up on April 20th, 6-9 pm, at Community United Methodist Church, 20 N. Center St in Naperville. (Secretary note: The District 43 website calendar shows this info with a downloadable flyer). We are finalizing the date for the next Trivia Night event. The date should be near the end of June. Please watch the District 43 website for date confirmation and flyer.

Grapevine

Michelle H., Chair

Did you know that you can sign up to receive Daily Grapevine Quotes in your email? There is no fee and it is a great two minute AA boost to enjoy with your morning coffee! Often these snippets of wisdom come from one of the many AA publications, such as *Emotional Sobriety* or *Language of the Heart*.

Here is the link to sign up: https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001oGSL6wu1SRbyFplJFVXhsJmfiAT9-c8UsT0fdV_rGWo0nkmyqyZNeqCr7gepkDIDRIYDIBrj6ttjM9Wom4EDDB8yJl8CthuzoJnKQ3qUlp0CvlgGgRGoOKITxJOzyVP1RIKrqxIgSXuW3sVMidP0w0o3wKFt4t9

Currently, I am working on contacting GSRs to see if their group would like to renew their Grapevine subscription provided by District 43. If your group would like a subscription to the Grapevine and does not already have one in existence, please let me know. I would be happy to make that happen for you!

The April 2024 Grapevine Magazine is titled *A Vision For You*.

The cover features a Happy 85th Birthday to the Big Book. In the article, “Black & Blue & Yellow”, the author describes how she went through her Big Book and looked at her various highlighted passages and notations, reflecting on how much she has grown since becoming a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. There are several other articles written by members who share how instrumental the Big Book has been in their sobriety journeys.

Since March is the fourth month, there are also great stories about Step Four “Fabulous Rock Star” and Tradition Four “The Opportunity to Do Better”. The Grapevine is always a terrific resource for finding ideas when leading a meeting!

And Grapevine joke of the month is called “Nobody’s Home”:

“A member recalls all the years he refused to listen to his conscience. He didn’t want to take advice from a total stranger!”

We Are Not A Glum Lot!

Grapevine is continually looking for stories, artwork, and jokes. Please consider sharing at <https://www.aagrapevine.org/get-involved>.

Groupvine, Roxanne H., Chair

Roxanne reminded the GSR’s to continue to print and distribute the monthly Groupvine for their group. (Secretary note: Present and past Groupvine copies can be downloaded from the District 43 website. Link: <https://aa-nia-dist43.org/a-a-members/groupvine-and-archives-corner>.) You will be reimbursed for the printing costs. Please send all detailed reimbursement requests and receipts to groupvineeditor@gmail.com.

Literature Julie K., Chair

What is AA Conference approved literature?

The following is taken directly from the service manual from GSO:

The term "Conference-approved" describes written or audiovisual material approved by the Conference for publication by G.S.O. This process assures that everything in such literature is in accord with A.A. Principles. Conference approved material always deals with the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous or with information about the A.A. Fellowship.

The manual goes on to state that the process to get a book or pamphlet Conference-approved is a "lengthy and painstaking process." The literature is reviewed by our alcoholic peers in the US and Canada to ensure each piece is an accurate representation of AA. GSO also recognizes literature that is not approved also has a purpose in recovery; GSO does not disapprove of other material about AA.

AA.org has a list of conference approved literature. Literature that is approved will also have the following statement:

"This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature"

PI/CPC

No committee member in attendance. No report submitted for April.

Technology **Brad T., Chair**

Still looking at buying equipment to test the new configuration of the communications tech stack.

Treatment **Tom L., Chair**

Tom L. emailed this Secretary that "Treatment has nothing new to report. All is going well, and we continue to grow the sub list."

Treasurer **Richard H., Treasurer**

Bills paid in March:

- Starting Balance \$6,465.55 (PR) + \$425.74
- Contributions \$483.00
- SAS Answering Service / AT&T \$-169.53
- PI/CPC \$50.00
- Archives \$-122.48
- Archivist \$-130.00
- Ending Balance \$436.73

Please remind everyone that contributes via Venmo to include their Group name and Group number under “What’s it for?” If you don’t know your Group’s number, please contact the NIA 20 Registrar or send an email request for assistance to dcm43laurab@gmail.com.

Webmaster

Jeanie L.

The website is up to date with events, Groupvine, District reports, etc. If your group is hosting an A.A. event that you would like to put on the District 43 calendar, please send information to web@aa-nia-dist43.org.

I create email forwarders for all committee chairpeople that are posted on the email. I get a current email address for chairpeople, and any inquires sent via the forwarder will go to that email address. I am still in need of email addresses for accessibilities chair, answering service chair, and bridging the gap chair.

The Technology Team will take over hosting responsibilities for the District 43 business meeting.

LCM WSFC

Kim R. notified this Secretary via email there is no report and she will be unable to attend the meeting.

LCM East & West

Kathy S., Chair

The LCM Committee exists to support the DCM and to help foster a connection between each meeting and District 43, in order to effectively carry the message to the alcoholic. Our committee consists of Laura B., Stephanie H., Mary Ellen G., Aaron V., Kathy S., and Diane W.

Our short-term action items are:

- Verify contact information for each non-WSFC group in D43.
- Order revised DuPage County information cards, as well as meeting guide booklets.
- Continue developing an LCM tool kit – resources to carry with us and make available to meetings in our district.
 - Design a flyer for monthly district meetings to encourage participation.
 - Design a “help wanted” flyer for service opportunities in D43

The new District 43 Meeting Guides and website cards are available. As the print run for the new meeting guides was limited, we ask that you be patient as we prioritize distribution to meetings and locations where the likelihood is high the alcoholic in need does not have cell

phone or computer access to the meeting listing on the District 43 website. Please send your request by clicking on the link for Local Committee Member (L.C.M.) at <https://aa-nia-dist43.org/a-a-members/contacts-for-service-positions>.

DCM Report

Laura B., DCM

- General Service Conference (GSC):
 - It's here! The annual GSC is April 14th – 20th of 2024 in NY.
 - Send prayers to our NIA 20 Area Delegate Erik L as he embarks on this 2-year journey of serving as our Delegate. I've heard it is a life-changing experience!
 - MARK YOUR CALENDARS: June 22, 2024 is the Summer Assembly at Lord of Life Church where Erik will give us his full report of the General Service Conference.

- Recent (Past) Events:
 - Pre-General Service Conference Workshop: This was March 23, 2024 at Lord of Life Church in Elburn. The GSRs carried their group conscience to Erik L, our Delegate, before he left for the General Service Conference. It was a well-attended event and sparked some LIVELY discussion! If you have not attended a Pre-General Service Conference Workshop, I highly recommend you do so next year!

Close of Meeting

Laura B., DCM, closed the meeting asking all to join her in reciting the AA Statement of Responsibility – “I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there, and for that I am responsible.

End of Meeting Minutes.