



Area 59 Quarterly Area Meeting

Panel 65

June 12, 2016

Nittany Valley Activity Center, Pleasant Gap, PA

Melanie S., Chairperson, opened the meeting at 11:02 AM with the Serenity Prayer and a reading from Daily Reflections. The Chairperson made some announcements about the facility and recognized members of District 43 who served to host the meeting. Thanked host district (43) for their hospitality.

Acknowledged Guests –Past Delegate & Current Convention Chairman from Area 59 - Marty S.; Archivist, Donald H., Area 59 Assistant Archivist, Chuck G., Assistant Area 59 Archivist, Greg G., Area 59, Web Servant. The Chairperson also acknowledged the current Area Officers.

Concepts - Three DCM's presented Concept IV (Wayne DCM 43); Concept V (Kathy T. DCM 65); and, Concept VII (Mandy, DCM 23). Three DCM's were selected by the Chairperson to present Concepts at the September 2016 Quarterly business meeting: Maureen, DCM 31 – Concept VII; Serilio, DCM 37 – Concept VIII; and, Sy K. DCM 49 – Concept IX.

Roll Call –All officers present and 40 DCMs (or their Alternate) for a total of 46 out of 54 eligible voting Committee Members present at roll call. (Roll Call tally sheet attached at end of Minutes.)

Approval of Minutes – Chairperson asked for motion to accept or correct the minutes of the previous area meeting held on March 13, 2016. Motion made by DCM 65 to add the DCM report that was listed as “No Report.” DCM 29 offered an amendment to the minutes to correct the spelling of “we” instead of “were” on line 10 under the “Convention Committee Report section. DCM 47 asked for clarification of the version of draft minutes he received via email from the Secretary. Discussion ensued comparing a version DCM 47 had the hardcopy version possessed by the Secretary. It became apparent that the recently emailed file of the draft version of minutes from March 13th was the wrong file. Therefore, the Chairperson called for the Secretary to send the correct file of draft minutes be sent as soon as possible to all members. The Chairperson also scheduled the approval of the March 13, 2016 minutes will be considered at the next Quarterly Area meeting in September. There were no objections.

Convention Committee Report – by Marty S. A written report was submitted to the Area Committee. Also, each District received copies of the 2016 registration form and brochures describing the convention facility (Wyndham Hotel, Gettysburg, PA.) Highlighted points are:

- Discussed two letters inserted into the registration forms
 - Convention Committee Report – they met twice since last quarterly meeting
 - Letter gives reasons for why GSRs should attend

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Convention Committee Report, continued:

- Applies to members as well – it is for Panel 65 & members too. Please address that (in your districts)
- Discussed the event venue – Wyndham Hotel & Marriott – using both hotels for sleeping room
 - Meetings take place in the Wyndham
 - Just about everything will be held in the same area of the hotel
 - Only a couple of meetings will be held in the Marriot (next door).
- The convention registration form – notice on the inside left – there is “Program Only” registration – lot of people thought you could register only for the day – so we avoid confusion
- Please note on the bottom on the second bullet – “program only Saturday for banquet” You must pre-register to come to the banquet on Saturday night. The hotel needs the banquet count a week in advance. They will not allow selling banquet tickets at the convention That does not keep you out of the meeting that follows the banquet.
- Pricing (right-hand Side): a single room will cost you \$439. Double occupancy \$299 (\$14 more than last year)
- It says that includes meals & registration. Check-in 3:00 PM, Check-out Noon
- Deposit is \$100 per person – not per room.
- Deadline is Oct. 7th. Cancellation 24 hours prior to arrival – no refunds after Nov. 3rd.
- Roommate is simpler – three spots for three room mates – put their full name plus a full deposit.
- Roller beds are \$15 per Any special food requests, etc. – write them down
- Payment – by phone by credit to the hotel for deposit – for each individual per room – limited amount.
- It is only your address that the hotel will give us if you check the box – we use it to send you a form next year.
- You have 25 copies of the convention report, GSR letter & registration form. If you need more, see me before I leave – or call me & I'll send them to you.
- Can register by phone, mail or fax.
- No smoking – there would be a \$250 cleaning charge plus a 6% fee.
- There will be a smoking area to the side of the building – not outside the front door.
- There are handicap rooms – about 20 – if you are handicapped take one of those rooms. But if you “think” you are handicapped – don't. Leave them for those who are truly in need.
- We'll have programs later – cut-off date Oct. 7th
- You will “be shocked” at the hospitality room this year – we'll be using the Presidential suite – Steve O. will be leading He'll be contacting DCMs for food – not money.
- The Convention Committee needs you help – DCMs must get involved in pushing the convention to members – we'd love to fill all rooms.
- Trying to do some more fun activities and make it more friendly for all.

Questions: Melanie asks, “On the second page where the room pricing for the initial pricing of the deposit of \$100 per room is required no later than Oct. 7th; and, you're saying that is “per person.”

Answer: “Yes. Please correct that on your forms – it went to print before we could correct that.”

Question: “Is the Marriott the same price as the Wyndham?” Answer: “Yes”

Answer: “Are we allowed to copy? Should we expect another copy in the mail?” Answer: “No.

Members of this committee will not. We will post it online. We will not have online registration. We have already booked 30 rooms.”

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Convention Committee Report, continued:

Question: "How are the hotels connected? Is there a parking lot or walkway?" Answer: "No. But they are very close. Both hotels belong to the same company."

Question: "I am assuming that we can start registering now?" Answer: "Yes. Immediately."

Question: "Do you have shuttle service for handicapped.?" Answer: "We'll help anyone who needs it. But they are so close there is no need for shuttle service. There's ample parking."

Question: "Will they fill rooms at the Marriott first?" Answer: "That is correct. Yes."

Question: "Regarding the Dear GSR letter – I don't think I have – would you send me an electronic copy for Spanish translation – would you send me (Evelyn) a copy?" Answer: "Yes."

Question: "The hospitality thing – the donation thing is for food?" Answer: "Yes." Question: "Regarding hospitality volunteers: as Convention Coordinator, I am responsible for convention volunteers, now is he getting his own volunteers for the hospitality room?" Answer: "One of the arguments that we had was that you're going to be busy as the Convention coordinator. Since we've never had hospitality volunteers before, we're (Convention Committee) going to take on that responsibility. He's (Steve O.) will get a list of volunteers to take on an hour, or so, and he will give you a copy of that list."

Question: "I want to stress that the registration should go to the Convention Committee Treasurer – address on the form. Not Marty. Not Steve S. Area Treasurer."

Question: "On the form is says Area Treasurer EPGSA Treasurer – we just received a check – we'll give that to you."

The Convention Committee members are available to come to your district – contact us at any time.

Secretary's Note: *Copies of full, written reports distributed at the meeting will be posted on the web site www.area59aa.org. Please see the written reports for complete information content. The minutes will attempt to capture any pertinent additional comments or questions relating to those reports.*

Archivist Presentation – Donald H. The Chairperson scheduled no Archivist report for this meeting.

Officer's Reports: *Please note that each Area Officer submits and distributes written quarterly reports to all members of the Committee and the Archivist. The reports are posted on our website: www.area59aa.org. Therefore the notes below are comments made in addition to the written report and not the reports themselves.*

Officer-At-Large (O-A-L) Report - by Curt C. Folders for each DCM included respective Active/Inactive group forms.

- One of my major jobs is Registrar – if your GSR(s) are not getting material from GSO, please let me know so I can help
- As Liaison to PA State Convention – it's going to happen this year. You have a report in your folder and schedule about that.
- Subcommittee members of Area are invited to attend with displays. You must register and pay if you do that.

Treasurer's Report – by Steve S. The Treasurer presented a current P&L (with budget variances) report for the first fiscal year of Panel 65 and Contributions percentages for the current Year-To-Date by home groups per District and Area. His written report included Prudent Reserve and operating checking accounts amounts.

- My report – submitting expenses, when you do work for your subcommittee, please submit those expenses. Some people take their own money to pay but that messes our budgeting process. If you want to contribute later on – you can do that.
- I have the address for contributions: please make checks to: "EPGSA" that's our legal name. The bank doesn't like "Area 59"
- Doing well financially – we have about \$19,000 in checking as of June 9th which is about \$1,000 more than last year.
- Savings \$24,702.11 – that's 30% of our budget – that's our prudent reserve.
- Our checking account is money to use for Area Business.
- Our Profit & Loss: better than budget for Contributions, Sales are Grapevine literature (sold at cost) A couple of items: Expenses \$6,100 is our Office Expenses through June – we're only half way through the year but we've paid for most facilities and the Conference – we will not have to pay in the future. The other budgets are there. Other expenses: is insurance for \$325.
- You can compare the contributions by group to Area with what is sent to your district. A way to compare and let them know we appreciate their contributions.
- The second sheets are summary of what the contributions are for each district – total rate of 29% - only half way through the year.

Questions: Were do you get the "active Group number?" Answer: "Where do you get that number I got 17 forms from Curt. "

Question: "In general why are we over budget on District Orientation event and NERAASA categories?" Answer: "Orientation & Mini-Planning are two categories that have budgets but happen on the same day – they must be added." "NERAASA, we made a guess this year – when I looked at it we did not have any unusual expenses."

Question: "Is the address where we send contributions on the web site?" Answer: "Yes – the first page of the web site."

Chairperson calls for motion to approve the Treasurer's Report – DCM 22, DCM 61 seconded – Ayes have it with no opposed. Report accepted.

Secretary's Report – by Ken D. The Secretary distributed his written report.

- Blank form for DCM report in folder – thank those who submit their reports electronically contact us for assistance
- I bring copies of extra roster – not 60 copies – trying to be judicious – same for the minutes they are sent ahead via email. Let me know if you want it mailed to you. Same as Calendar of Events – at our web side www.area59aa.org
- We are careful about what we post – we get some that are not within the Traditions. If you have questions contact PI or Secretary. Please use the Calendar Form for requesting event postings it makes for accurate information.

Chairperson's Report – by Melanie S. The Chairperson distributed a written report, Pre-Conference Sharing Session flyer, Minutes Tracking Report and Area 59 Service Calendar.

- Please see my written report in your folder
- Please submit subcommittee reports to area officers before the Pre-Area officer's meeting
- Please list all you members of your subcommittees on your reports – not Advisers name's.
- There is a District Minutes grid tracking all minutes it is updated as of Friday. You can always send back minutes to catch up. It is very helpful for us to keep a gage as to how the area is doing.
- Next meeting will be hosted by D68 and will be held in Sept. The contract needs to be signed and is not on the web site – it will be posted in the next week probably. It will be held in Phoenixville at the Black Rock Fire Co.

Statement (Evelyn DCM 68): Some directions as Oaks instead of Phoenixville – it comes up as "Phoenixville" on GPS.

- We have lots of motions today – so at lunch look at the sheet regarding how to handle motions to help you.
- Got volunteers for Concepts for next meeting. (See above assignments in the Concepts section.

Alternate Delegate's Report – by Paul M. The Alternate Delegate presented his written report to the committee. His travel-Log was also distributed.

- Inter-Groups: Lebanon IG is "no longer" it's been dissolved d65 will be picking up phone service and meeting list. We have one less IG – we have 11.
- Lancaster SAD July 2016. York Hanover working on it. ABE – too.
- NEPA – held a cooperation meeting – I received a report that it went well.
- Harrisburg/Cumberland – SAD in Oct.
- YPAA Liaison: all committees active preparing for BIDs doing an awesome job!
- My travel log on the next sheet
- Flyer for the 23rd SAD for Lancaster
- Area Flyer – gives you the information volunteers for the assembly
- Convention Assembly form:
 - This is the form that you take back to your district and copy for your GSRs send to groups and have GSRs got to groups to get volunteers. Important to give to GSRs to go to groups to get volunteers that are not GSRs – especially for the Saturday where elections are held and GSRs will not be available to volunteers.
 - Ill be calling the week before to confirm volunteers and assignments.
 - They can volunteer without attending the whole convention
- Area Day flyer – 10 each – I have pink paper to give you for extra copies – we want it to be visible – the planning committee meets today at lunch time

Question: "Do you have that volunteer form available electronically so we can have a good copy?"

Answer: "I do not but you may do that."

Question: "I have 3 flyers, SAD 23rd in Manheim (correct)" The day of sharing in Lancaster on butter rd. what event is that?" Answer: "That is a planning for the share-a-day."

Question: "Can we use the volunteer sign-up sheet for the volunteers for the hospitality suite?"

Answer: "That's separate – but I'll contact Steve O. to coordinate."

Statement: "That seems easier to have one sheet to sign-up – just a suggestion."

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Delegate's Report – by Pat F. The Delegate distributed written report.

- There is a souvenir pin – I gave one to members of GSC in New York. And the pickle pin – you all get on of those.
- The red folder has my information
- There is a memo from Albin call for stories to update the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.” The deadline is Dec. 30th
- We have a Class Trustee vacancy – July 31st
- Trustee at Large – Jan. 31, 2017
- Vacancy Grapevine non-Trustee Director July 1st.
 - Resume sheet for that
- Letter from Racy (report & Charter)
- My report
 - Thank you for attending pre-conference – your input gave me important guidance
 - I kept all the notes and I gave it thought at every vote
 - Thank you for the greatest experience that I have had. I am grateful for being Delegate And all the reports will be posted on area59aa.org
- Yesterday the first DCR went well – over 85 people.
- Next one June 26th. It's my responsibility that I get the business I do at the conference gets passed on to members, groups and districts gets passed on.
 - Right now Districts 39, 45, 47 & 68 have requested reports – even groups – Ill make a report for them if requested.
 - Final Conference Report should be arriving before the convention before our Sept. meetings o I can get you a copy.
- I will be attending the PA State Convention & the YPAA in Pittsburgh. Room block expires on July 27th
- Marty said it all about the convention – this being an election year – it is important to get registered.
 - I can assure you that the Marriott is really close.
- AA is in need of funding for GSO. It needs help – we need to support them, so I would like to propose a fund raising event as a unity day for General Service – in Area 59 a “Walk/Run on Sunday morning in Gettysburg – I've asked Brian to help me put that together. Please come out & we'll have a walk/run together.
- I would like to receive topics for convention workshops.
- Feel free to contact me if I can help your district besides my sobriety – you've given me the greatest experience of my life.

Question: “About Pre-Conference Sharing Session – I send an email asking for that because my meeting was right after that – four people went to NERAASA and shared on items there. Ken said that the minutes are confidential. If I had known that I would have taped the meeting myself and got the notes from that. My groups want to know what goes on rather to the final reports.”

Answer: “I mailed the Agenda Items as soon as I got them. The secretary did take notes for me. It's not binding that I must vote that way. You see the Delegate has to listen to all the background information that goes on at the Conference. And then takes the ‘Right of Decision’ and decides from what they heard – which is best for AA as a whole. I'm not just voting for Area 59. Area 59 is the voice that I listen to. But, I have to use my right of voting for the whole – the whole Fellowship.” (Cannot understand recording.)

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Delegate's Report, continued:

Answer continues: "The Fellowship gets the results of the Conference on our web site, w mini-assemblies – or personal report." Comment: "Yeah, we get that after the fact. In the groups should get their voice long before. They should be able to tell me what they want and not four GSRs."

Reply: "That's why they are invited to Pre-Conference Sharing Session. And I gave out the Agenda there."

Announcements before Lunch recess: Asked that Area Day Planning get to the front of the lunch line.

The Committee recessed for lunch at 12:52 PM and re-opened business at 1:48 PM.

The Committee was called to order by the Chairperson with the Serenity Prayer.

Summaries & Actions ("S" = summary; "A" = action):

District 26: S-1: Our district would like to know if we can get the recommendations early so that the recommendations that our Delegate – can we get them before the Sharing Session so that our District can take a look at the recommendations? The Agenda Items?" Chairperson, "Agenda Items?" DCM 26 "Yes." The Delegate replies: "Thanks for the question. As soon as I get them from General Service, I send them out. So they did go out before the Pre-Conference Sharing. I sent them out asking for ten suggested topics that you would like your voice given about. So, it did go out before. And as soon as we get them, that's when I send them." DCM 26 replies, "But the recommendations that our subcommittees come up with in reference to all the things that we suggested to send back to – that you should go to the conference with, can we – the districts – get them before the Sharing Session. In other words, before the..." Delegate interjects: "I'm sorry I can't... are you talking about Advisory Actions?" DCM 26 replies: "Right." Delegate replies, "Cause I don't get the background... You know the background's – you know, would be confidential to Conference members. But I do send the Advisory Actions out and they also come out at the NERAASA at the end of February. That's when we get them from New York. So, the Pre-Conference Sharing was in April. So they were sent out right away with a letter from me - some by email. I sent them to all the DCMs. I sent them to all the Inter-Groups. I sent them to all the... everywhere I could to get feedback from people. So..." DCM 26 replies: "My district was basically talking about reference to recommendations by subcommittees – they come up with. Ah, and I guess before the sharing sessions, like, you know, when you bring up the recommendations at the sharing session Ah..." Delegate, "The Advisory?" DCM 26 continues, "Yes, what they are saying is that they would like to have them before the sharing session." Delegate replies, "I wouldn't have them until the sharing session because the committees don't meet until the sharing session to talk about them. Ok?" DCM 26 replies, "Ok." Delegate, "Thank you."

Delegate continues, "Just to give you an idea, every Area does it differently. I had the opportunity to present on the way we do Pre-Conference Sharing at SENY, which is the Southeast New York. And the Southeastern New York Delegate gave out four questions. And wanted a yes or no answer and sent them to the Delegates – er – the DCMs, and wanted them back a week before the Conference. So that's how they do it. When they saw all the things we do, they were really surprised. So every Area does it differently when it comes to getting their Pre-Conference Sharing information.

Chairperson calls on DCM 43 (Wayne), "Wayne, do you have a comment?" DCM 43 replies "Well, I want to clarify – I think what he means is the stuff that we talk about at Pre-Conference, for instance, when we say, 'These are our recommendations.' I think that's what he's talking about - the notes that we have taken and the recommendations from our subcommittees. Not the Advisory Actions at the conference."

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Summaries & Actions (“S” = summary; “A” = action) continued:

Delegate replies, “They’re just notes that the secretary gives to me and I take with me. And this year there were no percentages or anything either said that ‘there was no action taken or ‘it was unanimous’ or ‘substantial unanimity.’ I’m preparing a newsletter like I did last year. And I just told Maureen, I can put in my newsletter reporting highlights – like how the Area – what the Area’s conscience was. If that would be helpful. Ok? But as far as, releasing that information beforehand, that would be up to the next Panel if they wanted to change the procedure.” “What Ken gives me, it no news. It’s just a little summary. It might say ‘no action was taken’ or ‘passed unanimously.’” DCM 26, “So the recommendations that we come up with here...” Delegate, “I take that to the conference...” DCM 26 “Right, but we take them back to our districts and – for, - I mean like –” Delegate interjects: “I am making reports about that and I am also putting in how Area 59 felt about it – if that would help.” “It won’t be out before the 26th of June. Ok?” DCM 26 replies: “Ok. Maybe I’m asking it wrong.” Delegate, “Maybe I’m not understanding.”

Alternate Delegate states, “On the district Meeting – I just attended James’s district meeting, and in their notes, I think what James is talking about here is that the recommendations that come from the subcommittees here at the Area level – ok? – They would like to receive that information prior to it being voted on here. Am I correct, James?” James (DCM 26) replies, “Right.” Alt-Delegate, “Is that what you’re asking? It had nothing to do with Pre-Conference Sharing. I think you got misled there. And we’re going in the wrong direction, Ok? What was in their minutes when I visited their group and they discussed it at that meeting was they would like to have input of – from – the GSRs – or the input of the GSRs on the recommendations that were decided from the subcommittees. Or, any voting here that has to be carried back to the district. They would like to have it back to the district so they could take to their groups and have a voice. Ok? And I think that is what’s confusing.”

Delegate replies, “Sorry. If that were the minutes then they wouldn’t be given to them until they were approved – at the next meeting because that would be captured in the minutes – a summary of the meeting. So it’ll be later but – you know – that information is given out in our minutes. If that answer’s your question.” DCM 26 replies, “It answers, but...” Delegate inserts, “it’s not what they want to hear.” Delegate, “That’s the procedure according to our Structure Manual and our Service Manual. That’s how we operate in Area 59. So, we’ll come out and talk to any of them about what was discussed. We’re happy to do that.”

District 29: “My district was given a single donation from a home group – a backlog of about three-and-a-half years, so they gave a single contribution of about \$2,000. So we have a large amount of money. We made a distribution of literature for the prisons for about \$2,500 and Grapevine subscriptions of \$524.”

District 39: S-1: I attended the YPAA in D40, and on the very same day my ADCM and Treasurer attended a workshop at D38. S-2: Potluck dinner went well. S-4: Thank Steve & Ian for participating. And I went to Ian’s to do a Q&A on GSR Orientation went well.

A – 1 :Our concerns are about D52. We’ve had three groups from that district join D39. And because they are in some turmoil, we would like to help them get going (D52) instead of having those groups come to our district. So, if you have any suggestions, we would like to have them.

Action – 1 replies: “Is this the dark district we went to with Paul: “Yes.”

Paul, “I have been in contact with Martha and the past DCM they are in process of reorganizing right now. They made the decision that since the officers are not showing they are going to reorganize the whole district.” DCM 62, “In reference to your interest in 52, we are a neighboring district. So is 61, 38, Area 59 minutes for June 12, 2016 Final

Summaries & Actions (“S” = summary; “A” = action) continued:

39, 51. And I’ve been in contact with the people of the NE Inter-Group and also with Jason here in discussing a couple things and we’re not to the bottom of our ideas yet. But we are going to be talking with you very shortly about getting a multiple-district workshop together and we have some ideas and we’re going to be discussing it probably at Soberstock. Ahh, so, more information is coming on that and we’re going to try and help out and get 52 back on the map. That’s what we’re trying to do that.”

Action – 2, “The second one is that, does anyone have experience with vaping at their meetings? Reply by DCM 43 (Wayne): “Oddly enough one of our ladies said to me, ‘Huh! Wayne, I noticed that these people vape inside and we have people that vape in our meetings. Why do we allow that and these other places – I said, ‘because your group allows it.’? Have the home group make a decision and ask them to go outside.” Greg DCM 22, said, “We had the same problem a few years ago and in Philadelphia but, ah, the city made it illegal to vape inside because it’s considered a tobacco product. So, we just had all the groups - and let them know that we’re supposed to be responsible and follow laws and things like that. So, we just referred to them to the local law. So, if your community has any local laws on vaping, you can use that as the starting point.”

DCM 40: S-1: We have a workshop coming up in August. It is going to be held on the 6th from 10 AM – 2 PM at Kirby Park. It is near Wilkes-Barre. The topic is going to be on Sponsorship. We have a little trouble getting this posted on the internet because none of our people have anonymous emails. So, we’re in the process of getting this up on the web site.

DCM 45: S-1 We have a district workshop coming up on Sept. 17th District service committee with Inter-Group support. We’re gathering information and intend on making a better group conscience at pre-conference sharing. We are meeting with our Delegate on the 28th Conference Report-back. Then, we are going to discuss the Pre-Conference sharing.

DCM 47: S-1: One of our home groups – the New Dawn group – is celebrating it’s 21st Anniversary on Aug. 13th Huge breakfast outside. This will be the fourth year that we’ve had someone whose story appeared in the Big Book, speaking at the meeting. Bring lawn chairs – some of you have been to it. Flyers on the table in back. Mennonite Church in Quakertown.

DCM 53: A -1: We have a group in our district who expressed a concern. It’s one group with two different days, two different times and two different locations. So, its members are not united. They’re having a hard time. The noon meeting is a little bit rogue and aggressive. And, she was wondering how to get the groups back together. Because newcomers are walking out of the noon meeting. How do you keep the group members moving in one direction?

Reply: Maybe you should split into two different groups.

Reply: My home group has 15 meetings per week. We don’t get the representation from groups but we encourage every meeting to become its own groups.

Reply: My group holds two meetings a week and we don’t have any problems. We don’t have that problem –I don’t know the answer.

Reply: We have a group that has meetings at two different times: perhaps alternating the business meeting on different days to get all members to participate.

Reply: My home group does not meet at separate places but we meet at different times. We announce the business meetings.

Summaries & Actions (“S” = summary; “A” = action) continued:

Reply: We have a group that meets at two places, two different days, 25 miles apart. How they keep together is to have a core group of members to make both meetings and they have one business meeting they attend and are able to keep it together.

Reply: We have a group that is similar – they found that a group inventory was helpful. We talked about group purpose to get more cohesion.

Reply: I suggest that you – at the business meeting – possibly go over the Traditions?

District 54: A – 1: In Delaware County – down by the airport – there’s been a Christmas alcahion for many years. The event has been held at a Boys club but that has been declining. So they moved to a room at the police building. This year they have been required to get insurance. IIN the past rent was \$50, now it’s gone up to \$500. Does anyone have a recommendation to secure the rest of those \$500 funds? Would somebody put out a flyer requesting funds from the rest of the district? Because nobody can’t come up with the rent. And this event won’t be able to happen without help. They feel that they put out most of the rent, plan the meals and most of the food besides what they put out. So they want to know how to make any suggestions to help pay the rent.

Reply: We have a couple groups have insurance problems. Some hold a 50-50. Some have it for their anniversary fund. Another group had an anniversary fund.

Reply: I help with the Freedom Group picnic. We go to meetings that attend that, we ask for money for that event separately. It works.

Reply: Who is the host? Reply: First Things group – You could speak at my district and ask my GSRs for the money.

Reply: Has anyone asked for lowering (the rent) for events? The landlord has strict rules about the rent.

Reply: For the alcahion – we did a separate donation and gave it to that landlord. We are allowed to do a 50-30-10 and you guys can do it differently – you can give the whole thing to them

Reply: Can you find another location? That is the DCM suggestion.

DCM 56: S-1: On Saturday, August 20th we’re hosting a district workshop at Anson B. Nixon park in Kennett Square. From noon to 3-4 POM lunch provided great open space. Bring family -= let your dog run. It’s our annual Summer Workshop. Park has its own web site if you need directions.

DCM 57: S-1: Oct. 1st Districts 57, 37 and A-B-E Inter-Group hosting a workshop on Recovery, Unity and Recovery. It’s going to be held at the Wesleyan Church in Bethlehem from 9PM – 2PM. You can email me for more information.

DCM64: S-1: Past event May 14th D34 held a workshop on What’s a Home Group – the POAL and ADCM and myself shared on the Home group to District and to the Area. Lot of good feedback.

S-2: Upcoming workshop is "Rocketed into a Fourth Dimension: Steps 4 & 5." Sat. July 16th at the 521 Club in Lancaster, PA. Lunch provided. Registration begins at 10 AM.

DCM 66: A-1: We’re revamping our District Visitation – called District Night out. We have a disagreement as to how we should approach the groups. Should it be at an announcement section of the meeting or attend the business of the group. M<y experience is to go and introduce ourselves at the beginning of the meeting. I would like to hear about going to the business meeting – especially in the dark groups.

Reply: As a result of our GSR Orientation – we approach at the meeting.

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Summaries & Actions (“S” = summary; “A” = action) continued:

Reply: Our visitation is running well – we found some meetings were never closed. People have a tendency to freak out if they attend the business meeting. First they attend the meeting and try to get a contact. Keep plugging away. Asking if you can show up works.

Reply: One of the things we have is a local GSRs take meeting to the other groups to give them information about what is going on. They can then contact the district.

Reply: Recently we’ve been visiting groups and found more meetings than business meetings. It’s better to go to the meeting then the business meeting.

DCM 68: Action-1: I have a group that has voted to discontinue contributions to the district. The funds are being used to pay expenses of the district business. We have not spent money on a district anniversary. It’s a cultural thing. Having a party to celebrate an anniversary. In the Latino community each individual and group has a party. They are criticizing the district because we’re not hosting a party. I would like some serious documentation. I will translate that so they might know that seventh Tradition money is for service and carrying the message and not for hosting a party.

Reply: Perhaps it might be helpful, on behalf the Finance subcommittee, that you share the Spanish language Finance packets (I’ll speak about them in my upcoming report) – it could be helpful to bring them back and talk about them. But I have never heard of a district throwing an anniversary. I would like to know if any of our Districts do that? We host an anniversary of AA in Philadelphia, not the district.

Reply: We do but we use separate donations

Reply Our district hosts a Unity breakfast each year. Unity is a way of celebrating our group conscience in D49 and brings everybody together. No we don’t use 7th Tradition money except when we go in the red.

Reply: We have a Big Book Step Study anniversary – and we pass a second basket for personal donations.

Reply: D38 twice a year we have – I forget – we have a gathering of the district and members bring stuff. We have a speaker. We hold our regular district meeting after the celebration. Most stuff brought by the members.

Reply: At NERAASA a couple years ago – when we asked what happens why send money to district. They were asked back how did you get into AA. Why isn’t that 12th step work having a party. Even though our Districts can spend money as they see fit. I feel that something that carry the message. Cake and fun too – I can straddle that line.

Reply: D29 has a unity picnic – District subsidizes some of that because we’re carrying the message – we have speakers all day so we use some 7th Tradition money. But mostly food donations. We had a second event that was a picnic with nothing – no speaker. We felt we shouldn’t contribute to that. It’s a fine line.

Reply: We have a long-timers event that we sell tickets for about \$20 a ticket they should have been \$23 so we subsidize it a little – put a party hat on it.

Reply: Ruth – your district is very unique – its not a geographical district – so you can do something that show them you’re giving them what they want and give them what they need.

Reply: Steve S. The first thing I would do is show them how much your contributions you get and your budget. On the report I did at the convention I did a report on what we spend. I would read the guidelines for Finance that talks about anniversaries and budgets.

Sub-committee Reports: *Please note that each Subcommittee Chairperson submits and distributes written quarterly reports to all members of the Committee and the Archivist. The reports are posted on our website: www.area59aa.org. Therefore the notes below are comments made in addition to the written report and not the reports themselves.*

Archives: (Mandy) Met on for business meeting on March 16th. We have meetings at the storage unit every month – one planned for the 25th of this month. We went over the updated history of Area 59, which was presented at the 76th Anniversary of A.A. in Philadelphia. We continue to scan, file and organize documents. We reviewed Archives workbook. We are evaluating the need for (both) the Archivist and Assistant Archivist to be present at events. Chuck demonstrated ho to use digital voice recorders: process, save and edit recordings. We encourage groups to record group to record people’s histories with 20 – 30 years or more, sooner rather than later. As those people are more likely to be unavailable to tell their story. We have little devices that we can now keep in our purses and obtain oral histories. We also need their oral histories kit from GSO that we are now using to get recordings and make sure people sign the oral history release forms. Donald edited the GSO form for our specific Area purposes. Thank you. Even with this signed release, this form may be only used for by and for Area 59, which Area 59 obtained a DVR fro the remainder of this committee. Contact one of us if you want assistance recording. A van trip scheduled for GSO on Wednesday the 29th will be leaving from Allentown, several hours spend inside the vault research archives – they prepare the items for us at GSO. And info pertaining to committee from 1950 – 1970. Information on and other tidbits, such as pictures have been requested. Thanked members.

CPC: (RiverStone) The CPC subcommittee is a reacting group. And we’ve has a couple of interesting inquiries last quarter. The first one involves the local training staff at a treatment center, carrying – in quotations – the message about A.A. in their treatment facilities. And this member (identified in the written report by name – the name will be withdrawn before I send it to PI for web posting) She was interested in starting a CPC subcommittee in her district – 39. I talked to the DCM about it a little bit and we’ll talk afterward; but, I referred her to the Area web site so she could get information about CPC rather than send her all of the core literature that we have, because it’s all on the web site. I advised her that I’d be willing to consult with her about getting CPC committee at the district level or inter-group. I additionally offered to go out and speak – give a COPC presentation to the group – if she wanted to. And then I advised her to contact SEPIA. And I haven’t heard back from her since. I know that she has talked to her DCM. The second issue was interesting in that a member from District 53 wrote about a breach of our Traditions. Evidently there’s a traffic court that is using – let me see – and treatment center counselors are using the tools of the A.A. program in their programs. For example, the judge is asking the client what Step they’re on; and, what it means top them. The counselor is disciplining a treatment center client for missing a scheduled meeting: having the client write a seven-page assessment of the Step they’re on. This person is really concerned that the tools of A.A. are being in places outside of our group and meetings; and, what can we do about it? I’d like to thank our adviser for supporting us in our handling of this. The thought of mine is that the agreements the clients make with the traffic court for the justice process is between them and the court and the professionals working on behalf of the court. And therefore that’s an outside issue. There’s nothing that we can do about that. They are not guided, nor expected to be guided, by the Fellowship’s Traditions. I’m not sure that there’ much we can do about that. Lastly, a member of (District) 37 wrote asking how CPC requests could support the professional inquiry process. I told them we communicate with GSO and get them out

to the districts that are involved. We got some early on in this panel from GSO; but, we haven't received any recently. That's my report.

Corrections: (Jeff) Our committee has begun to reach out to the corrections facilities within our jurisdiction to identify static mailing address for the 15 Grapevine & 15 La Vina subscriptions the Delegate recommended we distribute. We hope that all are placed by September. The committee has received several requests for information regarding the Pre-Release contact program: specifically, the one for A.A.'s on the outside. While all show a willingness to participate, there's some confusion where they send their contact information. I reached out to GSO for guidance; and, in the meantime, have suggestions that all individual districts and inter-groups maintain a catalog of these submissions for easy reference to Pre-Release when a "pre-release" is made to that area. Seven pre-release have contact requests received this quarter. They were forwarded to A.A.s within the local inter-group: SEPIA, A-B-E, and Harrisburg/Reading; as well as, Districts 36, 46 and 48. The entire subcommittee attended the Pre-Conference Sharing Session. They reviewed the Correspondence pamphlet lead to an insightful discussion that produced, what we believed, to be a meaningful recommendation for our Delegate. It was an enriching event and we happy to be a part of it. Thanked all members.

Finance: (Caroline) I have given you a written report – in front of you. Most importantly, this morning we set 25 of these Seventh Tradition packets (at you place.) So, please send them back to your GSRs, so they, in turn, can take them back to their home groups to pass out to their group Treasurers. There's a lot of great information in there on self-support and the Seventh Tradition. There's a green card that talks about talks about the 7th Tradition that can be read at the home groups. We have a small green card that talks about at work here in the Area. On the reverse is a pie chart with a suggested split percentages. Then we also have contribution envelopes so you can submit your contributions to the Area, to the GSO; and, there's a second envelope in there for the Anniversary Plan. If every member were to contribute a dollar on their anniversary for each year that they've been sober, we could become much more self-supporting without relying on literature costs of our book sales going up so much each year. So please bring those back to your groups. There are helpful guidelines that talk about how to set up bank accounts, for learning about tax laws: sometimes groups have those questions as well. So, if you could bring those back, that would be great. Other than that, we have implemented most of the Delegate's recommendations by now and just need to be available to come to your workshops, groups or district meetings pleas call us; and, we are happy to show up. The last thing is the Delegate's Recommendation to compile recommendations for the next Panel. About the budget planning process – from this year or last year – if you have any suggestions for improvement, please reach out because we would like your input. We'd like to get them into the Delegate by November so the next Panel has what they need to get started. Thank you.

Grapevine: (Jim) The Grapevine subcommittee has been busy educating our membership about the importance of the Grapevine: our meeting in print. There's a challenge in 2016: "Grow Your Grapevine." Ann Marie has copies of this Arbor Card. It's available online too, to track Grapevine sales. I, myself, attended our workshop with a Grapevine display that's the combined workshop with 31, 48 & 44. It had literature for sale. Kathy attended the 30th Anniversary of the 521 Club and District 65 as part of their Speaker Jam on April 23rd. And, Kathy also did the district 34 workshop in April, too. Books and things are available for sale; as they are today. So, if you need to fill out your library, we gave some books here available Each Area basically has a Grapevine Rep. I cover Chester County, Ann Marie covers Delaware county, Mike, Mac and Kathy cover the other three counties. So, if your having an event in your county, Area 59 minutes for June 12, 2016 Final

and you would like a Grapevine display, please contact one of the Grapevine members or get a hold of Ann Marie and she will get the information to us. Just remember to grow your Grapevine have your cards; and, thank you.

Public Information: (Brian) The written report is in front of you. Thanks to all members who serve on the subcommittee. Their names are listed on the report. I appreciated all the hard work that they do. Chair-people for the subcommittees; please submit your reports to Public Information so that we can review them to get them on the web site. I'm going to stick to two reminders: If you don't submit the report, it just doesn't get put on the web site. But, we'd ask that – in answer to some completion and transparency, that you'd get the reports to Public Information. Ideally, it's (I'm not going to mention Microsoft by name, oops, I did.) But, it's ideally it's in a format that can be reviewed. If you put your report in some kind of file place where you need passwords and usernames, and it's not (easily accessible) we're just not going to get to it. You know, scanning reports is a last resort. You can't make corrections to them when they are scanned and sometimes the quality is poor. So, please submit it- if you're not computer savvy, find somebody in your district that maybe can help you get the report sent as a straight email – attached to an email would be preferable. If you have questions about how to do that, contact me and we can move from there. As usual, invitations are accepted for events. It's been a busy quarter for PI. So, if you have a workshop or event where you'd like Public Information to be a part of it, please ask. It's best to use publicinfo@area59aa.org. The email helps remind me to assign the date and find someone to cover the event. We did co-sponsor the multi-committee workshop in March. That's a first item – under the summary. The only thing I want to note is that the performance by two individuals. PI did skits about PI in the community: Bob B., as himself, was spot on; and, he was so very helpful to us. And, our Treasurer, Steve S., as the eager answering service employee – he personally saved me from drinking again. The only thing I would like to mention is that I was at an anniversary meeting recently – and pamphlets get old in the rack – but I found this was something from the 1996 Membership Survey. The recent Membership Survey is from 2014. I was interested to see, well, how far has A.A. come? You know because we talk about A.A. diversity and getting to the young people and everybody's heard this; but this is not the most scientific survey. They do randomly poll groups; but there is no emphasis in one Area. It's a limited source or supply – so, it's not the most scientific thing; but it's the most we have in A.A. So, I was curious. In 1996, the composition of members was 86% white. Now, I was like, man, I already knew the answer; but, I wondered how far we'd come since then. In 2014, the white membership is 89%. So we are not getting more diverse in that area. Further, in 1996, specifically in ages 31 through 40, we'd be getting younger now, I would think – in the ages of 31 to 40, in 1996 it was 30%. In 2014 it's 14%. Ages 41 -5 0 was 29% back in 1996. It is now 21%. And, so on. The average A.A., that's gone from 44 years old to 50 years old. Again, I'm not drawing any conclusions – you know, you look at that, to me in PI means we have some more work to do of reaching out as a whole. And, maybe as an Area. So, any ideas what we could do to make our membership more representative of the population, please let me know; but, it was a good anniversary too, good food; but, I loved the pamphlet the best. That's the end of my report. If anybody has any questions, let me know.

Structure: (Evelyn) You all have my report in front of you. Some of it may be irrelevant; but, I'm going to go through with what I wrote at this point. I first want to apologize for adding full names to the Structure committee there. I took it off the minutes; but, I didn't take it off this report. I won't take it off in the future. (Reads written report. Referring to the recommendations in passing. Please refer to that document.) The District list is still in process. Please let me know if there are any changes.

Treatment/SN: No Report presented.

Ad hoc Literature: (Serilio) This last Quarter has been kind of hectic for the Literature committee. We have had quite a few changes in personnel. We had people with health issues and career changes. We had a secretary step down. We have a new secretary: Ian. We have been moving forward with the recommendations from the Delegate's list. And we're still working on the projected listing of projected list for 2017. We have worked with the Structure committee, Public Information event. We have attended the Speaker Jam. And, we have some upcoming events where we have been requested to bring our display. I would like to say that recently I had an opportunity to go to a meeting in another Area and – a pamphlet meeting. One of the pamphlets they discussed is about Jack Alexander's article. A lot of people had no knowledge what this pamphlet had in it. And what it demonstrated was that the actual force of that day (1937 – 38 – 39) demonstrated how some alcoholics used any kind of ingredients to get alcohol – like shoe polish and other kind of perfumes. That's just goes to show me that pamphlets still have a wide range of knowledge to pass on. This commitment has showed me there is work to be done and I believe that we have met this commitment. And, I'm honored to be part of this. I'm sorry we're moving away from this.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Items of business:

1. The Guest Observer Nomination: (The Chairperson referred to two resume's distributed to each member. One for Abimael Montanez, nominated by District 34. The other was Pastor Stephen Ritchey, nominated by District 64.

The Chairperson called DCM 34 to the microphone to nominate:

DCM 34 (Jeff) I move to send both of these – so, that we have more – the outside community has more visibility of us. It was seconded by Kenny R.

The Chairperson replied, "As the Chair, I would like to step back a bit to give a little history. We as the Area pay for the Guest Observer. It is budgeted into our finances. So what you're asking is (based on the already budgeted funds) to come up with additional funds to pay for it. So, it's not just simply a motion at this point. I am going to our Treasurer for his input."

Treasurer (Steve S.) states, "I was at the Area meeting that voted for it the last time. And found out later that it doesn't come out of the Area funds. It comes from the Convention Committee. So, if we pass this, we're spending money that isn't ours. Does that make sense?" "The Convention Committee pays for the Guest Observer. not Area 59. Those are two, separate budgets. They have their own budget. The registrations for the convention goes to the Convention Committee, not to us."

The Chairperson states, "I'm going to hand this (microphone) over to Paul. I'm going to discuss with the Area Officers. We're in conflict with who does pay. Paul."

Alt-Delegate (Paul) replies, "If that is the case, can we as a committee vote to finance?"

Chairperson, "Anyone else?"

DCM 25 (Cort) states, "Let's hear something about these people before we say to send either of them."

The Chairperson declares, "OK."

The Chairperson recognized DCM 43 (Wayne): "I would actually like to amend the motion to sponsor a second Guest Observer. I think that would be appropriate. The Area is doing fine with funds. It wouldn't hurt us to sponsor an extra observer.

The Chairperson declares, "With that being said, I would like to not be decided now because we're putting the cart before the horse. At this point, You might look at all of these and for our members here who have no idea what we're looking at – remember, we're representatives of the members of A.A. So we, need to keep that in mind at this point. So, before any motion is discussed, we're hitting a 'pause button' – because we do that in A.A. It's a really good thing – hit that 'pause button.' And we're going to follow the agenda here and look at the resumes. I'm going to take one last comment from Ian and we're going to the Guest Observer resumes."

DCM 61 (Ian) states, "Just so we know, do we know what it costs to send each person to the convention?"

Chairperson states, "I'm going to have our Treasurer look at that so when we discuss it we will have the information. Ok. Let's go to District 34."

DCM 34 (Jeff) Enters Abimael Montanez for Guest Observer. "I've know Abe for 9 years. He is the Spanish-speaking pastor at our church. He would like to know more about A.A. so when he gets an alcoholic parishioner in, he can guide them in our direction. And he would like to know exactly how we operate – and so would his wife because basically they area team. So, they would both be interested in seeing how this thing works. You know, I could not put him more on a pedestal because he is bilingual. He does do the Spanish and the English things at my church also. So, that being said, he's has a lot of major good points going here – you know – with his communication skills, he's very astute."

DCM 64 (Kenny) "My nomination is Pastor Stephen Ritchey. I have the honor and privilege of knowing Pastor Ritchey for several years. Not only knowing him, I've known a lot of people that I've sponsored that I sent to that rehab that works with Pastor Ritchey. I have the opportunity to go into this rehab with alcoholics and share my experience, strength and hope with them. I like the section at the bottom of his resume (Kenny reads the last two sentences where the Pastor is impressed by witnessing the life transformation of A.A.) As a non-alcoholic, he did the same thing that we did. And that shows me his passion and curiosity towards alcoholics. I would appreciate if you would nominate Pastor Stephen Ritchey."

The Chairperson asks, "At this point, does anyone have any questions for either Kenny, or for Jeff?"
ADCM 39 (?) Melissa, I would like to call the question for the Guest Observer."

Chairpersons, "I get called Melissa more often than Melanie – for my entire life. Guest Observer. So the Guest Observer qualification is basically, our goal is to enhance the performance of a person's professional duties by their attendance and the knowledge that they will hopefully gain about Alcoholics Anonymous. This should be someone outside the treatment field. That is what we have listed as qualifications."

The Chair recognizes DCM 25 (Cort) "That actually is my question to Kenny (DCM64) – did you say something about a treatment facility? I didn't quite get..."

Kenny replies, "Treatment facility."

Cort, "What is his involvement?"

Kenny, "Sorry, he's a Pastor. He's just a pastor, not treatment – at the treatment center."

Chairperson asks, "So he is a pastor that works in a treatment facility?"

Kenny, "He does service at the facility."

Chairperson, "He volunteers?"

Kenny, "Right."

Chairperson, "Ok."

Chairperson asks, "Anybody else? I just have a question as Chairperson: do both of these potential nominees know the weekend of the event? And, do they know that it is a full weekend event? And they're willing to give away that whole weekend, Friday through Sunday?"

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Replies (Jeff & Kenny), "Yes."

Chairperson, "ok. Alright, so, at this point, no one else has any questions – we have another question coming to the floor."

DCM 68 (Evelyn) "I heard this question before. Since this person has done service in treatment before, does that qualify him for...? Just a question.

The Chairperson replies, "The guide that we have is that our goal is to enhance the personal performance of the professional duties and it should (with emphasis) – it's that lovely word, 'should' – that person should be. Because that is our goal at E.P.G.S.A. is that someone has very little knowledge. It doesn't say, 'Must not have...' it says 'should.' So, it's left to you, at this point, to decide. I'm going to ask that you consider that for a moment or two: the two resumes. And, I'm going to get on the same page with the Area Officers about the Guest Observer, so that we can get back to you. So, look at your resumes. Think it over. I just need to convene here, OK?"

-Short Recess –

Chairperson (Melanie): Recognizes Kenny:

Kenny R. – When I was talking about this being a rehab or not being a rehab...

Chairperson, "Kenny, is this place you refer to on his resume?" "Would that be the Lighthouse Assembly of God, or...?"

Alt-Delegate, Paul M. "I know the Pastor as well, the rehab is separate from the Lighthouse Assembly of God. The Revolution of Freedom ministry is a community ministry that many churches are attached to."

Question by unidentified DCM: "Does he apply pastoral skills as opposed to alcoholic recovery skills?"

Kenny R., "Yes, that's what I said."

Chairperson: we have two nominations, depending on how you vote on that, we'll decide how we proceed.

Larry D63, "Who Pays?" Chairperson, "Area pays."

Show of hands for Mr. Montanez: 21 votes; Chairperson – "Not 2/3rds."

Show of hands for Pastor Ritchey: 17 votes

Chairperson, **At this point, no nominee has two-thirds majority. So, an amended motion from D43 was, "to sponsor a second guest observer to the EPGSA Convention."**

Paul M. "I second."

Vote on the amendment: 32 for; 4 against.

Minority Opinion: "Can we get a little more information on the cost?"

Chairperson recognizes Finance Chairperson, Caroline. The budget we past covers the Guest Observer. (Reads the Budget Narrative) estimates that the cost is about \$760 person.

Caroline, we have that plus in our accounts.

Chairperson, "the Guest Observer – we pay for their guest, too." "These are averages – you are talking 2 – 4 people; put that in your calculation."

Cort, "We don't have a lot of specific information... it would be helpful if we had a specific amount."

Chairperson, "Seeing no other comments – No member wishes to change his vote? Seeing none, the motion carries."

2. Proposal from the Treasurer: “The Treasurer, on behalf of the Area Officers, proposes that the Area Committee authorizes the Delegate to purchase a new laptop computer, Office software and printer-scanner within a special budget, not to exceed \$1,200.00.”

Ken D seconds the motion.

Steve S, Background: For the past year or so, I hear about problems with her computer. – (Lists several problems.) I was surprised that our Delegate doesn’t have a computer. So we all agreed that we buy the equipment – it would be passed along to next Delegate. It would save on printing and probably pay for it.

Questions: Ian, DCM. “Did you price the laptop, I think that is a low budget.”

Steve S. Replies, “No we made estimates and believe that \$1,200 would be adequate. For what we need to do here, it’s OK.”

RiverStone, DCM: “Are we incurring an ongoing cost for the software?”

Steve S. “No, you buy the software once.”

Pat F. “When I spoke at the PA State Convention, the computer was dropped on the floor when a maintenance man stepped over the cord. When my computer was down, I have had a hard time keeping up. So, there is a need for the Delegate to have a computer.”

Wayne, DCM 43, “Could you do a small summary of the officer’s equipment – it’s not that this is the only Area equipment.”

Steve S. “I have a laptop and printer and the secretary and the OAL all have computers.”

Jim B (DCM56) “I move to call the question.”

Chairperson, reads the motion.

In favor 34 for; 2 against.

Minority opinion:

Ira: “My district would, they wouldn’t allow it.”

Doris, “My opposition is the wording so it’s clear that the computer gets passed on.”

Chairperson: “The equipment is purchased by the Area and therefore it is assumed that it belongs to the Area and will be passed on.” “All our equipment gets passed on.”

Chairperson: “The motion carries.”

3. Public Information recommendation: Brian K. (DCM) states: “The PI subcommittee (after consideration of Delegate’s recommendation #11) recommends creation of the Web Servant assistant; a. This would be an appointed, non-paying service position, with no fixed length of commitment; b. with the potential for expanding the capabilities for the website, it is thought that the current Web—servant could use the support; c. Further, in the event that the current Web-servant cannot continue with his duties and responsibilities, the Assistant Web-servant could be considered to step into the position, thus ensuring a smooth and seamless transition, and continued operation of the website.”

Brian K: “Technology is booming and we only have one person dedicated to servicing our website. So, the idea is to get somebody else involved for the reasons stated in the motion.”

Jim B. DCM: “Have you discussed with the current Web-servant?”

Brian: “Yes.”

Ken: “I speak for the member – There are times where we pay the current Web-servant for duties, has the committee considered whether the assistant would be paid in those circumstances?”

Brian: “As it’s worded, it is a non-paying service position, with a non-fixed length of commitment – that’s what has been submitted.”

Maurine: “Do we get a computer for them to? That work has to do with the work?”

Brian: “No. The goal of the proposal is to create the position.

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RiverStone: "I move to refer this back to the committee for additional discussion."

Chairperson: "Are you referring?" RiverStone: "Yes, to answer these questions."

DCM 57 seconds the referral motion. Open to discussion:

Ken: I speak against the motion to refer back the subcommittee.

Greg: My concern – what happens if we have no Web-Servant?"

Pat F. "The Delegate would choose one. I want you to know that this was a recommendation from the previous committee. I submitted it to PI."

Brian: "We have considered for 18 months. The Delegate would make the selection in long-term absence anyway. It only means that the assistant would be considered in case the Web-servant position is vacated."

Motion to refer fails. No Minority opinion.

Brian – reads the original motion.

Chairperson calls for vote – the vote in favor was unanimous – the recommendation carries.

4. Chairperson addresses the previously submitted Structure subcommittee recommendations: "You have a separate sheet with 4 items from that subcommittee. It was with the agenda."

Chairperson: "It pains me to say this. I'm going to invoke the right of the Chair to remove this from today's agenda. The reasons why: all agenda items are given to the officers for the Pre-Area meeting. This – I like to voice to be with the people – not the Chairperson. I need to just say this. It was debated at the Pre-Area Officers' meeting. However, what came to me today was to find out that these motions here were not with the majority of the subcommittee. And we in A.A. - We follow the Conference Procedure of AA World Service. And AA World Service: All matters of Policy (Structure is Policy – structure is our Bylaws) requires substantial unanimity. There are 6 people on the Structure subcommittee. We did not have 2/3rds majority with this paper. I did not know that when I put that on the agenda. So, with this new information... I am asking at this point that it be removed from today's agenda and I would like the Structure subcommittee to meet before our next Quarterly Area Meeting in September and come back to us with what the subcommittee with a 2/3rds majority of that subcommittee... I would like to see that presented to the Area. Any discussion? The microphones are yours."

Cort (DCM 25): "I support that (action by the Chair) If the Chairperson believe that it should go back to the subcommittee – and the subcommittee mentioned in their report that there were still questions about that, take it off the table and go back to the subcommittee to get 2/3rds majority for the motions they are putting forward."

Evelyn (DCM 68): "I just wanted to apologize to the Area Committee if I, in any way, I attempted to mislead you. And, since the last Area meetings we had two meetings. Three people attended the first meeting. Two people attended the second meeting. It seems to me that – ah, you had mentioned that we have six members. One of our six members has not attended a meeting for 18 months – since the last convention. It seems to me that if committee members decide not to attend meetings then there's nothing we can do. In our Structure Manual, it says that all subcommittee recommendations are submitted in writing by any member of the Area Committee. So, any single member can propose to the Area Committee, if they follow... 'Shall include the proposed amendment and submit it on the agenda.' And I respect you, as our Chairperson, and I accept your recommendation completely; but, it feels a little bit uncomfortable... over the last two months, I've reached out to all my committee members; and, not once did I hear say, 'I don't agree with that.' How am I supposed to work with that? But they wait until today to present that? I respect all of you."

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Doris (DCM): "I did reach out to my committee Chair and I requested conference calls through 'freeconferencecalls.com' and I was overlooked and shot down and meetings were scheduled on days I could not attend. I wanted a conference call that involved everybody – and I was put out. I live three hours from where they wanted to have the meeting. I shared in an email with the committee why I can't travel for that type of thing right now. 'Freeconferencecalls.com' we used it once, we enjoyed it and the next time a meeting was scheduled, I asked for the same and I was told, 'No' and I was told today that another committee member was scheduled in – you tell me."

Evelyn (DCM): "There is an error in that information. Ian was not Skyped in. He was given a phone call and we talked. That same day we did call Doris. And as I said, I respect the decision that was made by our Chair. I think that maybe principles are not coming before personalities."

Chairperson: "At this point, know that by doing this, it will allow the subcommittee to come up with a solution.." Chairperson recognizes Alt-Delegate, Paul M.

Paul M.: "I make the motion that this goes back to the Structure subcommittee for them to prepare for the September Quarterly Area Meeting."

Evelyn (DCM 68): "I want the committee to know that if we postpone the motion to the September meeting, then there basically not going to happen. If we bring it to the (Area) committee in September, the Committee has to take it back to their Districts to December and then it's over. None of these are able to take place. Including #2 where it says 'update Treatment Facilities so that the Treatment Committee is mentioned in our Structure' – right now there is nothing in there – so, this is considered a change in the Structure so if we do not begin today, I understand that the changes will not take place until next Panel. So, maybe we can make them to the next Panel as recommendations?"

Chairperson, "Do you have anything to add to the motion?"

Larry (DCM): "I think the motion is out of order. You already made a decision to remove it from the agenda."

Chairperson: "I did make that decision. I also offered it up to all of you because I'm uncomfortable making an 'I-decision' I wanted a 'we' – We did have a refer to committee here. And that's what I would like to see that happen."

Caroline (DCM 27): "Clarification please?" "At the Sept. meeting, we would be able to vote on these amendments."

Chairperson: "We would want you to take that information back to your groups for their input. What we decide here (our policy, bylaws) we need to take it back to the groups and then vote in December."

Caroline, "Could we vote at the convention in November at the Area Assembly?"

Chairperson, "It's a voting, an election year."

Caroline, "I'm just trying to understand the next steps so I know what we're talking about."

Chairperson: So, The next time that I would project that it would be talked about would be the December morning meeting and then, hopefully, it's already in the recommendations for that new Panel coming in. It would not be an action prior.."

Caroline, "So, I guess there the Finance subcommittee recommendation to amend the description for the Budget planning process which is not in the Structure Manual. Because, do we have to take them all or nothing – What I hope for is that the Finance subcommittee wanted it to make it into the revised and updated Structure Manual – we started this process last October for Finance."

Chairperson, "Right. At this point it was the decision of the Chair to appeal the whole. All four motions because I don't know what items they agree on. What I can tell you is that they are not in agreement."

Ruth (DCM): "I want clarification, the reason why you're invoking this is that these motions that are – were not voted on with substantial unanimity?"

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Chairperson, "That is correct."

Ruth (DCM) "So that means that these 6 people on the committee there was not 2/3rds – was that a majority."

Chairperson, "There was not 2/3rds."

Ruth, "Evelyn mentioned that someone had been MIS – is that person included on that list – that doesn't seem fair, that person is not participating..."

Chairperson, "I do not know that the person had not been coming. I've called this; does anyone have a motion to appeal my decision? If not, may I have a motion to adjourn?"

Larry (DCM) "Motion to adjourn" – seconded. No objection...

Announcements: The Chairperson announced upcoming Mini-Assembly and the next September 11 Quarterly Area Meeting, D68 hosting. Also, please note Area Day Oct. 16th in D58; Convention November 4 – 6th. In Gettysburg and the Panel Changeover Day on Dec. 11th hosted by District 51. Expressed gratitude to District 43 for hosting our meeting.

Next Meeting: The next Area Committee meeting will be held on Sunday, September 11, 2016. It will be hosted by District 68.

See www.area59aa.org for posting of confirmation and details for upcoming Area 59 events.

Meeting adjourned – moved by & passed unanimously.

The Committee concluded with the "I Am Responsible" declaration.

PANEL 65, EPGSA (Area 59) Roll Call, June 12, 2016

Officer or District	Title	Summaries & Actions	Officer or District	Title	Summaries & Actions
Delegate	Present		Secretary	Present	
Alt Delegate	Present		Treasurer	Present	
Chair	Present		Off-At-Large	Present	
21	ADCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	45	DCM	1 G/2 S/0 A
22	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	46	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
23	DCM	1 G/0 S/0 A	47	DCM	3 G/1 S/0 A
24	ADCM	1 G/0 S/0 A	48	DCM	1 G/0 S/0A
25	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	49	DCM	1 G/0 S/0 A
26	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A	50	Absent	
27	DCM	1 G/0 S/0 A	51	Absent	
28	Absent		52	Absent	
29	DCM	1 G/1 S/0 A	53	DCM	3 G/0 S/1 A
30	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	54	DCM	0 G/0 S/1 A
31	DCM	1 G/0 S/0 A	55	Absent	
32	ADCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	56	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A
33	DCM	2 G/0 S/0 A	57	DCM	0 G/1 S/0 A
34	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	58	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
35	DCM	1 G/0 S/0 A	59	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
36	DCM	1 G/0 S/0 A	60	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
37	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	61	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
38	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A	62	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
39	DCM	2 G/4 S/2 A	63	ADCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
40	DCM	1 G/1 S/0 A	64	DCM	0 G/2 S/0 A
41	Absent		65	DCM	0 G/0 S/0 A
42	Absent		66	DCM	0 G/0 S/1 A
43	DCM	20+G/0 S/0A	67	Absent	
44	DCM	1 G/0 S/0 A	68	DCM	0 G/0 S/1 A

40 Districts represented 6 Officers present for total voting maximum of 46.

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District	Registered Groups	Represented Groups	District Highlights
21	47	12	No Highlights. Upcoming/Future Events District 21 planning workshop in October 2016.
22	37	16	Revised Traditions & Concepts #3.4.5. Set district prudent reserve. Sent Excess money to Area 59 & G.S.O.
23	82	19	Visitation Com. good going forward. GSO Bust Trip in Oct. Longtimer's Brunch – Oct. (tentative) Workshop in Sept. All committees doing well.
24	42	16	Visitation: Almost complete.
25	40	15	DCM attended NERAASA. DCM attended Pre-Conference Sharing. New District Treasurer – Candy. Upcoming district workshop: 25, 26, 27, 28 & 60 in August.
26	21	12	DCM attended a planning meeting for our combined workshop. To be held with other districts.
27	39	23	“What is General Service?” meeting held at Sober & Gay on Mar. 31 st . Two anniversaries of groups celebrated: Bring Your Own Big Book and the Hope groups. Oct. 7 th GSO bus trip planning began with a subcommittee. Motion passed to always have guest speakers from Traditions and Concept talks each month (rather than GSRs) Aug. 27 th combined districts workshop planned.
28	22	8	No report.
29	37	20	DCM reported 44 attended district meeting. Distributed \$521.40 for Grapevine magazines. Donated \$2,497.95 for other literature to be dispersed to county/state prisons through SEPIA.
30	37	18	Report submitted – nothing written.
31	53	12	Held combined workshop 31,32,55,54. Attendance estimated between 75 – 100. Went very well.
32	38	17	Combine workshop with Districts 31,54,55 Meeting was changed to 7:00 Upcoming/Future Events Bus trip to GSO
33	17	7	Planning workshop for Oct. 2 nd .
34	20	14	District 34 held a workshop on may 14 2016. We now have 11 GSR attending the District meeting. We are looking and may have treasurer next District meeting on July 14 2016. I already have the District looking for a DCM for the end of the year. Upcoming/Future Events District 34 is working with Area 59 and the Lancaster Intergroup, District 63, District 64 to put on a combined Share-A-Day.
35	36	20	Upcoming Workshop, Our Primary Purpose, on Saturday, June 25, 2016 from 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
36	59	28	Workshop - "Many Paths to Spirituality" Workshop - "Self-Support Where Money and Spirituality Mix"
37	42	16 - 20	
38	57	25	Formed a new committee for remainder of panel Special Events Committee We have 4 special events left 2 socials prior to the August and December meeting. A planned Bus Trip to GSO Transportation to the convention for the day on Saturday We are also starting to plan a Fall Workshop

District	<u>Registered Groups</u>	<u>Represented Groups</u>	<u>District Highlights</u>
39	45	19	DCM attended a YPAA event @ Frances Slocum State Park last month. ADCM and Treasurer attended Dist. 38 workshop. We had our annual GSR orientation and potluck. Steve Schmidt (area) and Ian Law (dist. 61) both made presentations. DCM attended Dist. 61 district meeting and presented on GSR responsibilities. The Scranton Marathon Committee had their Memorial Day Marathon meeting @ the Ice Box complex. Upcoming/Future Events Actions: Concerns regarding District 52. We've had two groups join our district in the last several months from 52 due to inactivity at the district. The groups in that district are starving for information. Is there anything we can do as neighboring districts to help get the information to them until they have an active panel?
40	43	22	Mini-Assembly 6/11/16 NYC bus trip May 28 th . Planning workshop August 6 th on Sponsorship. Kirby Park, Wilkes-Barre, PA.
41	17	12-15	Voted unanimously to charter bus for GSR,S for Convention Upcoming/Future Events: Annual Grapevine Picnic Saturday July 9th 2016 110 High Acres Dr. Rte. 447 Canadensis Pa.18325 Contact: Adrienne (570) 216-4633
42	36	18	
43	40	15	*Held "They Kept Coming Back" even and recorded oral history of District43 from old-timers *researched ways to spend our District money, as we're sitting on some funds that need to be put to use *researched PSAs being played on local radio and television stations *held an AA dance and looked into the cooperation between District and a "fellowship" committee Upcoming/Future Events July 4th Freedom Picnic, Bald Eagle State Park, Pavilion 6. 10am-Dusk. Lunch at Noon, Speaker at 1.
44	32	14	Working to update Home Group Information Sheets Had two actions from District Home Groups. 1. Concern that the spirit of rotation was not being followed in a home group. We discussed the information available in the Second Tradition 2. One group was concerned that checks written by their treasurer were written and did arrive at the District. We ensured that the mailing address was correct and reviewed our records to look for the checks. We did not find any and new checks were issued. We conducted a District Inventory in May. The proceedings have been forwarded separately. Several action items came from the inventory and will be included in future District 44 Business Agendas. Upcoming/Future Events Combined workshop with Districts 30 and 29 for September 2016
45	48	16 - 20	York BID committee held Bowling night & picnic. Setting-up combined event with Shippensburg BID Committee (Pennscypaa) Will be placing PENSCYPAA Bid in Aug. Held workshop "History of AA" 125 attended – went well. Oct.: Share-A-Day planned – combined with Hanover. District workshop Sept. 17 th with Inter-Group support. D45 intends to make a motion "Better Group Conscience for Pre-Area Conference Sharing Session." Will discuss wording with Delegate on June 28 th .

District	<u>Registered Groups</u>	<u>Represented Groups</u>	<u>District Highlights</u>
46	23	10-15	We held our annual sponsor/Sponsee bbq on May 21. Considering the poor weather the turnout was pretty good. On June 4, we had a small work session to assemble 200 7th tradition packets, as part of the 1200 packets the finance subcommittee will be bringing to the June Area meeting. Upcoming/Future Events Our next District sponsored event is the July 21st bike ride along the Pine Creek trail.8
47	44	26	District made swift and inspiring recovery financially. Upcoming/Future Events A New Dawn celebrates 21st Anniversary with annual pancake breakfast, Aug 13th. 4th year in a row speaker with story in Big Book, Beth H, Empty on the Inside. Workshop planning continues for a fall (October) workshop
48	30	21	Report submitted, nothing written
49	23	7-10	-April 10, 2016: Bi-Annual Cooperation Meeting with NEPAIG and Districts 39, 40, 49, 52, 53, 59, 62 and 68. -May 6, 2016 Bob Marley DCM stood down due to geographic job changes. -May 14, 2016: District 49 Unity Breakfast -May 28, 2016: Greater Lehigh Group presented a "Bridging the Gap" Workshop with Area 59 Archives, P I and Treatment/Special Needs Sub-committee Chairpersons, NEPAIG Corrections Chairpersons and District 49 Archives, Grapevine and Corrections Chairpersons.
50	13	1	
51	66	35	
52	41	3	
53	18	4	
54	21	17	Area 54, 55, 32 and 31 held a combined workshop May 2nd. The turnout was great. We had 102 members in attendance. Special guest speakers Melanie, Area 59 Chair and Elaine J. fro Sepia. Upcoming/Future Events No events planned at this time.
55	18	8	
56	26	12	Hosted workshop on Anonymity in the Digital Age. With Districts 30 & 44. 75 members attended. Rehearsing sketch for June Mini-Assembly. Summer workshop August 20 th at Anson Nixon Park in Kennett Square.
57	45	16	Reviewing Structure manual. Upcoming/Future Events October 1st. district 37, 57, and Lehigh Valley Intergroup will be hosting a joint workshop on Recovery, Unity, & Service.
58	16	4	Workshop in Pottsville went well. 70 in attendance.
59	18	12	Report submitted. Nothing written.
60	22	8	We are planning a combined workshop with District 27. Planning meeting was at SEPIA on June 11. The tradition meetings are continuing on Sundays at 6:00 PM at Greater Northeast Club. SEPIA, our intergroup, has been more willing to purge defunct meetings in our district from the meeting booklets.
61	23	20	Our Spring Workshop was canceled due to unresolved issues and incomplete planning. We Had a mini GSR Workshop/Meeting along with our District Meeting Ed Z. from District 39 was kind enough to drop by and help with the Meeting. Upcoming/Future Events District 61/41 Grapevine Picnic July 9th at High Acres Park Canadensis PA, Complete information on website

District	<u>Registered Groups</u>	<u>Represented Groups</u>	<u>District Highlights</u>
62	18	10	Through recent interaction with NEPA intergroup, I became aware of the DCM abuse in D 52, our neighboring district. And we would like to try to help. We are currently discussing a multi-district workshop with 53, 62 and 39. And possibly 61 to be held in 52. More on this soon. We are trying to create or re-create awareness in 52.
63	31	15	Voted in a new secretary, Larry George is a dcm and has been attending area for me because of my work schedule. We started reading concept and traditions every month. We have a great turnout of gsr's and visitors every month. There are quite a few mistakes on our groups information and continue to work on this with the groups.
64	26	18	Participated in District 334 workshop on May 14 th Share-A-Day. Rocketed Into a Fourth Dimension of Existence is a workshop we are planning for July 30 th .
65	13	9	Held a Speaker Jam April 23rd with about 75 in attendance. Members from 9 different groups spoke on various topics District Picnic August 13, 2016 South Hills Park, Lebanon
66	30	20	March meeting was a district inventory. 30 participants. Results were summarized and 3 goals set for remainder of the year. 1. Institute District Night Out for the remainder of the year. 2. Developed training program for new GSRs. 3. Develop ways that GSRs and District can encourage financial support to GSO. April joint district meeting with D33 to plan Oct. Sponsorship workshop.
67	26	10	
68	19	10	We had another group opening in Hatboro. Its el Grupo Unidad. Our La Viña Committee won a workshop led be the La Viña editor for helping Delaware sell the most new subscriptions. We are looking forward to hosting the next Area meeting and expressing our Latino Hospitality. Upcoming/Future Events Our District workshop is scheduled for July 17. More info. will be coming.