

**Area 59 Panel 71 June 12, 2022  
Third Quarter Area Meeting Minutes  
Jackson Township Volunteer Fire Co  
2176 PA-715 Stroudsburg PA 18360  
Host District 61**

**Meeting Opening** - Chairperson, Curt C. opened the meeting with a moment of silence and reflection and continued with the reciting of the Declaration of Unity. Secretary, Susan did a reading "Opening Up to Change" Page 10 – As Bill Sees It - and a today's reading from the book "Daily Reflections".

Chairperson then gave the housekeeping rules; also explaining that please put on the registration table any event flyers that are not pertaining to business of the Panel. Also, when going to the mic please make sure you are wearing a mask. A special thank you to District 61 for hosting this Area Meeting.

**Acknowledged Guests** – Past Delegate Marty S, Past Delegate Paul M, Past Delegate Hugh H, and from outside of our area, Panel 65 Darren F. Welcome to our Trusted Servants - Donald H, Area Archivist, Scott our Web Servant. Our Technology Servants - Fred S. and Deb S. who is helping today. In addition to, our Spanish interpreter Sandra P. We also have NEPA Intergroup Chair – Kate S.

**Concepts** – DCM Volunteers were asked to present readings on Concept 4 - Ray M. D32, Concept 5 – Jim L. D29, Concept 6 – Ian L. D61. Next quarterly meeting volunteers; Concept 7 – Judy M. D58, Concept 8 – Bart T. D48, Concept 9 – Joe L. D49.

**Roll Call** - Area Secretary conducted the roll call with 6 Officers present - 45 Districts represented for a total of 51 voting members. Any Summaries, please send email to Area Secretary [secretary@area59aa.org](mailto:secretary@area59aa.org) with your summary announcements. Any Actions with District issues, please announce how many and we will cover Actions later in this meeting.

- March 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 Second Quarter Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**Convention Committee – Report Given by Michael S, Convention Treasurer** – They had five members of the Convention Committee in attendance today; Hugh, Marty Paul, Caroline & Michael. The EPGSA Convention will be held November 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 2022, at the Lancaster Wyndham. This is also a voting year. The hotel will be separate this year, which will make it easier to track everything this year. Online registration is available on Area Website; the cost is \$35; however, the hotel fees have increased slightly. Hotel fees includes Saturday/Sunday Breakfast, Friday Dinner, and Saturday Banquet. The banquet cost will be \$65 which is also included in the hotel registration fee. They are in the process of making the hospitality suite food healthier, along with the usual regular snacks. Thanks to all the Districts and Homegroups who supported the hospitality suite last time, the convention committee would like to have your support again this year. The convention team will be visiting Districts over the summer to spread the word about the EPGSA convention and to answer any questions. Last year EPGSA had a little roll out of an in-person event for 700 people, and now the Committee will have to buckle down and have an election this year that is seamless, coordinated, and organized.

**Archivist Comments Donald H** - Presented Information about our anniversary, which is June 10<sup>th</sup>. Since 1980, in the last 42 years, five times the Area meeting actually took place on the anniversary date. Donald told the story of Bill's trip to Akron in 1935 where he was offered an opportunity to take over as CEO of a National Rubber Machinery company. Bill invited his investors from New York, to go check out the company and they attended the proxy vote that was to take place in May, which failed. The investors returned to New York and left Bill W. in Akron at the Mayflower Hotel; where he ended up wanting to drink. He eventually contacted a prominent surgeon, Dr. Bob at the gatehouse. Bill spent four months in Akron still trying to obtain the proxy votes needed, which failed again; however, Bill was sober for those four months. June 10<sup>th</sup> was the alleged date of Dr. Bob's last drink, so that's the anniversary date still used.

## **Officers Reports:**

**Officer-At-Large/Registrar Report - Alicia S.** – The Mini I and Mini II Delegate's Conference Report is now history and Alicia thanked everyone who participated to make them successful. Alicia also has brought her laptop with her today for anyone who would like to access Fellowship Connection to check out anything relative to your District. There have been increases of individuals who are submitting their group changes directly to GSO; we encourage you to please make your changes through the Area 59 website.

Alicia continues to meet with peers from the US and Canada using Zoom on the first Sunday of each month. Quarterly meetings with GSO staff regarding Fellowship Connection are still being held. This is a great opportunity for registrars to gain new information from the source, as well as, ask questions or voice frustrations honestly and openly.

You can access Alicia's detailed report electronically at [Area 59 Business – Officers & Subcommittees – Area 59 of Alcoholics Anonymous \(area59aa.org\)](http://Area59Business-Officers&Subcommittees-Area59ofAlcoholicsAnonymous.area59aa.org) Officer-at-Large 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2022 report.

**Treasurer – Dan B.** – Dan gave the financial status for Area 59. The prudent reserve savings account, has \$29,312.53; and in the checking account, our operating funds, has \$23,586.78. Our expenses for this year are 56% of budget, and that is due to in-person service events. The contributions are about 52% of budget which is right on target for the budgeted amount of \$84,000. Dan presented the Profit & Loss Report to the Area in detail. Area Archives Storage expense remains paid through March 31, 2023. Liability insurance will be renewed at end of June. PA eTides semi-annual tax filing due 08/20/2022; The audited federal income tax preparation will begin in July. You can access Dan's treasurer's report electronically at [Area 59 Business – Officers & Subcommittees – Area 59 of Alcoholics Anonymous \(area59aa.org\)](http://Area59Business-Officers&Subcommittees-Area59ofAlcoholicsAnonymous.area59aa.org) Treasurer 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2022 report.

You may also contact Dan at [treasurer@area59aa.org](mailto:treasurer@area59aa.org). Subcommittees, please remember to send in your expenses for reimbursement, which can now be completed online.

**Secretary's Report – Susan M.** – If you have any summaries, which are the announcements, please send them to the Area Secretary [www.secretary@area59aa.org](mailto:www.secretary@area59aa.org). If you would like to have an event listed on the Area Website Calendar; an electronic request form is available on our website, [Events Calendar – Area 59 of Alcoholics Anonymous \(area59aa.org\)](http://EventsCalendar-Area59ofAlcoholicsAnonymous.area59aa.org). If there is any questionable content, the Area Secretary or The Area Web Servant will contact you prior to posting. We need to maintain anonymity on event fliers; therefore, please do not list full names on your email contact information or anywhere on the flier. Please check for anonymity, use an email address that is not personally identifiable. Also, phone numbers break anonymity, as you can do a reverse phone number look up and see who it is, though if the phone number is for an intergroup office that would be fine.

DCM reports can also be submitted online [Area 59 Business – Service Resources – Area 59 of Alcoholics Anonymous \(area59aa.org\)](#)

Remember Area 59 does have a lending library, just let me know if you would like to borrow one of the CDs or tape recordings of previous Area events; the contents of the Area Library are included on the back of my report; in addition, the Literature Subcommittee also is keeping track of the Area Library contents.

Area Secretary is also liaison to the PA State Convention – which is cancelled this year. Hopefully in 2023 the PA State Convention can be held again.

**Chairperson's Report – Curt C** – Curt reminded everyone to please look at the Area Service Calendar; that has a listing of the Area events that you are expected to/or should attend. If your District has been chosen as a host and if you cannot host that event, please let Curt know as soon as possible. The only event location that has not been chosen is the December turn over meeting where we transfer from one Panel to the next. There is a tentative location for that event and detailed information will be sent out as soon as possible.

The EPGSA Convention Guest Observer will be nominated at the September Area Meeting. If you have a nominee, please have copies of their bio in English and Spanish for everyone. Even though all Area information is sent out electronically, Curt does have hard copies available if needed. Also, if you're not receiving Agendas, along with any other information, but in particular the Agenda for our Quarterly meeting electronically, please send Curt an email. Please feel free to contact me [chairperson@area59aa.org](mailto:chairperson@area59aa.org).

**Alt-Delegate's Report – Pete B.** – Please continue to announce at your Districts that Area Day is October 8<sup>th</sup> 2022. Committee Chairs have been given the word that in your subcommittees, you are to select one member, not the Chairperson, to sit on the Area Day Planning Committee. EPGSA volunteers are also needed; please bring that to your Districts as well. There is a digital volunteer form that Pete used last year that is available. Scan the QR code at the top of Pete's Alt-Delegate's Report and that will take you to a Google Drive that has Pete's report and other Area information.

As Intergroup Liaison, Pete attended the SEPIA Roundup in Cape May and had a wonderful time. There were approx. 1100 attendees, and total donations raised was \$23,000. SEPIA Unity Picnic will be held at Neshaminy State Park. Reading Berks Intergroup Summer Unity Picnic is September 25<sup>th</sup> at Jim Dietrich Park.

As District 68 Liaison, Pete attended Hispanic State Convention where all attendees received an issue of La Viña, representing strong support for the meeting in print. There was a presentation by an appointed committee member to the Trustees Literature Committee on the process for collecting new stories for the 4th edition of Alcoholicos Anonimos. Sandra P. also shared her powerful story at the convention.

Pete is also the liaison to YPAAs; PENNSCYPAA will be held July 15<sup>th</sup> –17<sup>th</sup> in Williamsport PA. ICYPAA - Sept 1st – 4th in New Orleans LA. There are young people's committees all over the state which go through a bidding process. Pete had the opportunity to host the state conference of the young people in AA. These committees are busy all year; they hold events to raise not only money which offsets the cost of attending the conference, but also promotes unity in AA communities. If there is a group of young people in your District that might be interested in forming a YPAA committee, please reach out to Pete and he can put you in touch with the Advisory Council to help with that process as well. Contact your Alternate Delegate at [alt-delegate@area59aa.org](mailto:alt-delegate@area59aa.org) with any questions.

**Delegate Report – Caroline N.** – Caroline stated that she is grateful to be serving as your Panel 71 Delegate. There is a draft November EPGSA program included in Caroline’s report. This is an election year, all DCMs and GSRs should be requesting support to cover the cost of your participation at your District and home group business meetings. In addition to, guidelines of an announcement for the Class B Regional Trustee vacancy for the Northeast Region will be selected to elect a candidate. EPGSA speakers are Bob W. GSO General Manager, will also serve as our Election Chairperson; Michelle Mirza, GSO Archivist; Vera F. Non-Trustee Director, AAWS. On EPGSA Saturday afternoon, there should be time for subcommittees to present their workshops. Subcommittee Chairs, please submit your workshop titles at the September 11<sup>th</sup> Area Meeting.

Caroline thanked Area 59 for allowing her to attend the 72nd General Service Conference in New York; where she attended week-long gatherings, which included committee meetings, presentations, reports, sharing sessions, workshops, discussions, and voting, on behalf of AA as a whole. Area 59 is one of a few Areas that not only support the Delegate’s participation; and it’s a source of pride to be self-supporting like that. Caroline hoped that members were able to attend one of the two Delegate’s Conference Reports, but if not, you can find the Conference results posted on the Area website at <https://area59aa.org/area-59-business-officers-subcommittees/>. Caroline is also available, upon invitation, to give a report at your District or Workshops over the summer and through the end of the panel. The PowerPoint presentations are also available.

NERAASA 2023 will be hosted by Area 48 in Albany NY. Area 59 will be hosting NERAASA 2024 February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> 2024 in Hershey PA. Planning meetings began in May at the Hershey Lodge. Please take flyers back to your Districts and Groups. Email [neraasa2024chair@area59aa.org](mailto:neraasa2024chair@area59aa.org) to get involved. There is a fact sheet or frequently asked questions for the 2025 International Convention in Vancouver Canada. Some Members had questions about border crossing into Canada requirements. Information is available at <https://www.aa.org/news-and-announcements>. Please share with your Districts.

**District Actions:** - No District Actions submitted.

### **Sub-Committee Reports:**

**Archives – Matt** – Archives Subcommittee has a virtual meeting Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, and a work day at the Area Storage Facility on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Archives Subcommittee has verified two Long-timers who would like to share their stories via audio recording for Area 59 Archives. One AA member with 43 years sober, and the other with 57 years sober. Formatting of the recordings will follow the Area 59 Archives Workbook Interview Format.

The subcommittee is currently undertaking a project to replace all District history binders. There are 48 existing heavy-duty binders which are no longer available in the same color, therefore a decision must be reached whether to change colors, or change binder style. Measurements of existing binders have been taken and quantities of each size have been allocated. This will be emailed to members today. The next Subcommittee virtual meeting will be June 16<sup>th</sup> and the next work day is June 26<sup>th</sup> at the Area Storage Facility.

**CPC – Tim S.** – The CPC Subcommittee discussed how to get recharged for the remainder of Panel 71. CPC is getting a list of CPC literature that can be used by Districts to spread the word about the CPC subcommittee. They are putting together a pamphlet pack to distribute to the Districts for CPC efforts in their District and get some involvement from GSRs to distribute literature to the local doctors in their area.

The subcommittee is also pursuing a joint venture with SEPIA to educate and spark interest on medical students escorting them for the other Intergroups in Area 59. Also, the CPC Subcommittee is working on Delegates Recommendations #10 – Subcommittee members are charged with ideas on how to approach work on this recommendation for next CPC subcommittee meeting.

**Corrections – Melissa** – The Corrections subcommittee has been working mostly with Bridging the Gap; due to the current climate of not being able to get into facilities. They're hoping that's going to change soon. The Corrections subcommittee would like to do the recommendations from the Delegate, which was to develop strategies for bringing awareness into correctional facilities, while coordinating with local Intergroup offices. Also, one of their recommendations is working with the CPC subcommittee and they are partnering to do that.

There are new materials for Bridging the Gap; because that's been a very big part of the work that they've been doing for the past year and a half. Much of the last six months for the Bridging the Gap Steering committee has been spent doing education through presentations to Districts. Corrections has spent time to develop the complete database of all correctional facilities within the Area of 59 Districts. There is also going to be a new table banner on display. If you don't see your facility listed on the report, it may be because Corrections didn't get the information that was requested through the email.

The Steering committee worked several months to edit the material in their service workbook, which was also distributed to develop the second edition as stated in the Area 59 Bridging the Gap responsibilities. Note that the PDF is located on the Bridging the Gap page on Area 59 website. [Bridging the Gap – Area 59 of Alcoholics Anonymous \(area59aa.org\)](http://www.area59aa.org). The PDF contains active links to all supporting BTG information, sample letter signup forms, Request Form brochures etc. Additional copies can be obtained from the Bridging the Gap coordinator. Thanks to Fred, the Technology, and Digital Communications subcommittees for all their assistance; they were fantastic at orchestrating the preparation and details of the materials needed to develop the new website. They look forward to continued service as members of the Area 59 Corrections Subcommittee.

**Finance – Tara** – The Finance subcommittee has gathered information that they needed for the Finance page and the new Area 59 website; which is now available. They would like to thank Web Servant and the Technology Servant for their work in bringing that together. They are working towards having a virtual option of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition packets; they'll be available soon and you will be able to find them on the Finance website page.

Finance also reviewed mileage reimbursement information and found it in the best interest of the Area to submit a Motion to increase the rate. Extensive research, past Panel decisions, the actual costs of vehicle operations, and what other Areas are reimbursing assisted us in making this decision.

Finance subcommittee has also selected a workshop theme for the upcoming EPGSA workshop. “The Importance of an Informed Group Conscience of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition”. They are looking forward to educating members of Area 59 on the importance of being informed as an AA group member, especially concerning the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition; and how some Tradition funds are spent.

The subcommittee is also researching ways to prevent funds from accumulating in Area 59 operating account in the future. Since the Pandemic the accumulated funds in the operating account requires sustained action to get the account into a manageable number. They are also researching how other Areas have handled this situation and what remedies could be used within Area 59 to prevent this from happening and future.

The Finance subcommittee is working to update our displays for future events. What's next for the subcommittee is working on recommendations for the incoming subcommittee members, preparing for EPGSA, and investigating new tax laws surrounding Venmo and PayPal.

**Grapevine/La Viña – Vicki** – The subcommittee meets monthly to review the Delegate’s recommendations, and to make sure they have completed all the requirements. They are working on the final design of a table banner and are close to making the purchase. Grapevine/La Viña has finally been able to get rid of all but two of the “Carry the Message” Certificates from Panel 69.

The subcommittee prepared the final documents for submission of the proposed Agenda Item for the 73rd General Service Conference; which was sent to our Delegate, Caroline for her review and comments. Also, thanks to the Digital Communication Subcommittee for assisting with the Grapevine/La Viña webpage on the Area 59 website that was designed. They continue to get Grapevine/La Viña list information into their database as the information is received.

Grapevine/La Viña Literature Project - 41 orders have been placed totaling \$7,685.50 leaving a budget balance of \$2,314.50. Each literature order consists of 3 Grapevine (English) and 3 La Viña (Spanish) as well as 30 back issues each of Grapevine and La Viña. To track our progress at any time during this campaign please use the following: <https://tiny.cc/gvilit2022>. They will continue to find organizations that may be interested in receiving the literature.

**Public Information – Melissa** – Melissa gave the statistics from Public Information’s first digital campaign along with some information on logistics. Melissa started with the email campaign statistics and during that two-week span, they did a web page banner. The subcommittee did mobile banners, and websites that were banners. There were simple images; for example, “Have a happy and safe St. Patrick's Day” aa.org. “If you want to keep drinking that's your business, if you want to stop that's our business” aa.org.

These are the results: the 1st one, Stay safe for St. Patrick's Day, they had an audience of 75,000 people. Of those 75,000 people - 50,288 actually opened the email. 20.38% view rate with the national average at 13%. 237 people clicked through; which is to say of that 237 people actually clicked on [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). The national average is 1.18%. The second week was a little lower, 14,722 people. It says 152,430 emails out of 150,000 emails ordered; they just try to send it out to as many people as they can and 34 people went back and clicked through again.

The subcommittee wants to do Facebook, and Facebook needs to set up some information on what they call the “Certification Process” that entities what you have to go through in order to know you are legitimate. District 37 Jonathan has really been trying to corner Melissa to get something up on the webpage about Public Information; which will be coming soon.

**Structure – Bart** – The Structure subcommittee held meetings via Zoom on 3/07/22, 4/11/21 and, 5/02/21 with all members present. Subcommittee members were in contact with each other via email, phone, and text throughout these months to assist as needed for events. The Subcommittee Structure members bring Literature and a retractable display to Area workshops, events, and any requests. The Subcommittee secured maps, and are ready to distribute in November at EPGSA, they saved money in the process by early ordering. They worked with the Area Treasurer to order new literature for Structure to have available at all the events and workshops we attend with our displays.

The Structure Subcommittees main emphasis this quarter were Panel 71 Delegate’s Recommendations to the Structure Subcommittee Item # 22 - Research and consider allowing ADCMs and other non-DCM members of AA to serve as members of standing subcommittees with or without a vote, and report findings to the Area Committee for discussion. They also had Steve W. the Treatment and Accessibilities Chair join the Structure subcommittee to discuss his needs and assisting in bringing the motion forth to the Area. Jim worked on the following up with Finance subcommittee to ensure Area 59 had the funds for motion. Structure Chair Bart, put a brief questionnaire for all the Subcommittee Chairs to find out if this will benefit them or not.

The Structure subcommittee is working on condensing gathered information and forming 2 separate motions. To make it so that ADCM's could sit on Area Committees. If you want to get someone enthusiastic about service get them involved. If ADCM'S could participate we could get a lot more done. The Structure Committee is grateful to everyone in Area 59 who took their time to allow them to ask questions about this subject.

**Treatment/Accessibilities – Steve** – The subcommittee met with Ad Hoc Literature subcommittee to develop a joint accessibility workshop. They also met regularly with the Bridging the Gap committee for the BTG monthly forum. The committee has continued working to provide every District with the tools, knowledge, and understanding, of Bridging the Gap; what it is, and how to move forward.

The subcommittee is working on completing a list of all inpatient treatment facilities in Area 59. BTG Coordinator wanted to ask or to talk about the development of two very important pamphlets and brochures that BTG found to be very successful the past five years. Ralph and Steve started using these brochures in a Word document years ago and they’ve had great success.

Scott F came up with a design for the service workbook; the committee came up with having a uniform consistent quality image for the purpose of the BTG program. The subcommittee has provided each District with 75 copies of the temporary contact volunteer “outside” brochure today. They have also provided DCMs with about five copies of the new members guide “inside” brochure. This is a sample brochure that has been used for facilities in York County for years and have had remarkable success.

Thanks again to Scott for creating a fantastic vehicle system; your service and creativity is much appreciated. The subcommittee understands that Scott is waiting for the final database to develop a banner and flyer. On a side note; if your committee needs to developing a different web image for materials to produce “Carry the Message”, please don’t hesitate to ask Scott.

## **Ad-Hoc Committees Reports:**

**Digital Communications Committee – Claire** – The subcommittee has improved and replaced the “New Group Form” and “Group Change Form”. They now include the ability to opt-in directly to the Area 59 mailing list. A confirmation email is automatically sent when the forms are submitted. For the Group Change Form, if there is a new GSR, they immediately receive a link to the digital “New GSR Kit” on [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org).

The following Subcommittees now have a dedicated page on the website: Finance, Grapevine/La Viña, and CPC-Cooperation with the Professional Community. Links to these pages can be found on [Area 59 Business – Officers & Subcommittees – Area 59 of Alcoholics Anonymous \(area59aa.org\)](http://Area59Business-Officers&Subcommittees-Area59ofAlcoholicsAnonymous.area59aa.org). Area 59 Business under the “Officers & Subcommittee” pages.

The Subcommittee website’s listing of meetings is the most complete it has ever been with 12 different Intergroups and Districts participating. There has been a lot of activity on the “back end” as they sort out technical issues getting all the meeting lists to feed properly into the Area’s without errors.

The Subcommittee has sent several e-blasts this quarter; NERAASA 2024 Planning meeting plus two reminders at the request of that Event Chair, Mini-Assembly I & Delegate Conference Report, and the “6.06 Campaign” at the request of Finance. Literature has provided the “We” newsletter in English and Spanish which will be sent shortly.

Officer and Subcommittee Reports continue to be posted to the website. Email PDF reports to [digitalcomm@area59aa.org](mailto:digitalcomm@area59aa.org). Although there is a Spanish translation tool on our website, it will not translate uploaded attachments, please include a Spanish language version when sending your PDF reports. You can also find a template and instructions on how to “translate” a document and save it with the proper name.

**Literature Committee – Neill** – Neill wanted to thank everyone for allowing him to be a part of the Literature subcommittee. The subcommittee meets monthly and they are more than happy to come out to your Area events and put up our Literature display. They have attended several Area events this quarter.

The subcommittee would like to thank Claire; she helped the Literature subcommittee out quite a bit with the last “WE” newsletter. The subcommittee has been working on partnering with the Treatment and Accessibilities committee and they are putting on a combined workshop Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup>. Literature and Accessibilities Hybrid Workshop; Saturday August 6, 2022 Noon - 5 PM; at the Malvern Center Clubhouse 225 Lancaster Avenue Frazer PA. The Accessibilities committee and Literature committee can come together to help carry the message to communities that struggle with accessibility. The workshop will also be on Zoom.

One of the Delegate’s recommendations is for Literature subcommittee to work on a digital binder. They have completed the binder and apparently GSO reviewed the binder and loved it; they want to roll out our Area 59 digital binder.



**Technology Committee – Jeff** – Technology subcommittee meet on Zoom the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, and they continue to receive updates on the progress of the new website from the Web Servant and the Technology committee.

The subcommittee has sent email account migration instruction to all Areas 59 email recipients. Migration is important to reduce future cost; in addition, any new email accounts are being setup through the Google workspace. There are approx. 10 email accounts still using GoDaddy or Outlook email which need to transfer over to Gmail or Google workspace. GoDaddy changed how you receive email. If you've only got Google workspace and you're not getting email in your Google inbox, you will need to update the server address within the mail settings. If you need assistance, please send me an email at [TF@Area59aa.org](mailto:TF@Area59aa.org). The subcommittee also received confirmation from the vendor about the remaining audio equipment ordered last year, which will arrive soon.

### **Unfinished Business – None**

**New Business – Motion submitted by District 61** - DCM Ian presented this motion - District 61 feels that the proposed budget be presented in a timely manner, so that the membership can review and ask questions prior to being voted on at the Q1 quarterly meeting. **The Motion was seconded by Steve District 45**

Per DCM Ian - This motion was actually brought up back in January. The reason Ian waited till now to bring this to the Area Committee was basically knowing that they were gonna have the District meeting here. I was hoping that more GSRs would be here. Ian wanted them all to see how this whole process works at the Area Committee level.

Ian contacted several Areas in the Northeast region that presented their proposed budgets to the Groups in advance, and is voted on by the Groups at their final Assemblies. He contacted Areas 11, A30, A49, A13, A44, and A60; Ian spoke to the delegates at these Areas. They all bring their proposed budgets to the Area for review prior to be voted on. It's still in keeping with our inverted triangle of the conference structure.

District 61 felt this was brought up as a result of the two Motions for the excess of funds; expenditures of \$10,000 for Public Information and Grapevine Committees. Then it led into the budget, and why don't we get to see the budget prior; because it is their 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition basket money that we are all referring to.

Comments from the Area floor – Vicki D27 – asked “what is meant by a timely manner”? Ian answered, that still needs to be figured out; hopefully this Motion vote will deal with that. Ian stated that probably, it would refer to the amount of time that DCMs would be able to give it to GSRs to take to their Groups and bring it back to the District meeting for any discussions or questions.

Vicki D27 made a Motion to send this Motion right to the Finance subcommittee to see if this is even feasible.  
**The Motion was seconded by Dan, Treasurer**

**Vote was taken - 42 In Favor - 3 Oppose - Motion Carried**

**Motion submitted by the Finance Subcommittee** - The Area 59 Finance Subcommittee recommends that the mileage reimbursement rate be increased to \$0.47/mile to reflect the increasing costs associated with Area related travel.

Comments from the Area floor – Matt D23 – He noticed that the national average total for gas estimating 40 miles to the gallon at \$4.25 per gallon, the national average is already above that and seems to be increasing from there.

Finance Chair Tara commented that the cost of the mileage reimbursement is not just that. There are other things in the background information that are added the cost of the mileage reimbursement. Actual expenses for us would be depreciation of our vehicles, gas, oil, and the tires. We took an approximate cost of tires and how often you would need to change them, and estimate of an oil change. And filter every so many 1000 miles, the depreciation of your vehicle, and the cost of gas, we estimated gas at \$4.25 a gallon. The cost of all of those comes up to .47 cents per mile. Its also the wear and tear on our vehicles. This Motion would become effective immediately. **Vote was taken - 47 In Favor - 1 Oppose - Motion Carried**

**Motion submitted by the Structure Subcommittee** - That Area 59 changes its current structure to allow ADCM's to be full members of standing committees.

The Motion was opened for discussion by the floor - some of the comments:

Per Comments – Chris D64 - He supports this Motion and thinks that all of us on subcommittees are lacking in participation. We could allow more people to get involved; and Chris thinks if there are ADCMs that are willing to sit on committees, we would have more action in our committees. On his subcommittee there are only four members and it's hard to get things done. If we allow ADCMs to get involved earlier, they would probably continue and become DCMs.

Per Chairperson Curt - Just to let you all know this would be a Structure change. Therefore, voting in favor of this Motion sends it back to the groups for comments. And then we vote on the actual change or not; at our September quarterly meeting.

Per Comments – Vicki D27 - The motion seems kind of vague to Vicki, because it seems that it would be a text change to the structure manual. But the motion does not suggest that. So, Vicki is not sure what exactly we will be voting on. If it's the wording or the Motion as it stated. Curt stated that we are voting on the Motion, as it is written.

Per Jim of the Structure committee - The intent of the committee was to allow the ADCMs to participate in the committees. As of now on the committees, they cannot participate. If we vote and it goes back to the fact that we're allowing the ADCMs to sit on committees, then the Structure has to be changed.

Per Comments – Steve D45 - We have three members including me, we struggled this entire Panel to get a lot of work done with three people. We believe that having more people, and getting them involved early will help them as ADCMs with more responsibilities. Looking at the Literature subcommittee working on their upcoming Workshop, Steve can see how well they work as ADCMs.

Per Comments – Steve D28 - The Motion says it allows for ADCMs to be full members of standing committees. Every District doesn't necessarily have a ADCM participating. So, it creates an opportunity for one District to two votes instead of just having one vote. The committees need extra help, but allowing ADCMs to be on committees isn't a nice idea. It says that as far as the District's meanings; they won't have a vote, but they will have a vote in the committee. That's my concern.

Per Bart of Structure committee – I just wanted to remind everyone that on the background page it states: Once the Area Committee is in session however, only current sitting DCM's may participate or approach the microphone. No current DCM and ADCM from the same District may sit on any one committee at the same time. ADCM's would be asked to serve on specific committees at the discretion of the Delegate based on availability and need.

A question was asked about the finances associated with this “who would pay for the ADCMs travel mileage”? Jim stated that they did reach out to the Finance committee if they felt the Area could handle this or not. Finance responded that the Area 59 Treasury as it's currently situated, could handle any additional costs such as mileage reimbursement for these additional ADCMs. The additional costs would be covered under each committee's fiscal budget. This issue keeps getting passed on from Panel to Panel without any resolution.

**Vicki D27 made a Motion Amendment that - Area 59 change its current structure to allow ADCMs to be non-voting members of standing committees as needed. This motion was seconded by Candy D25.**

**Vote was taken - 2 In Favor - 43 Oppose - Motion does not carry – Motion failed**

**Back to the original Motion submitted by the Structure Subcommittee - That Area 59 changes its current structure to allow ADCM's to be full members of standing committees.**

**Vote was taken - 28 In Favor - 18 Oppose - Motion does not pass due to not having 2/3 votes – 51 total Substantial Unanimity**

**Motion submitted by the Structure Subcommittee - That Area 59 create a group of “special servants” called Committee Aides, to be selected from the previous panel's DCMs to help with continuity between panels.**

Per Comments – Vicki D27 stated that usually the previous “outgoing” committee Chair is willing to answer any questions and assist the “incoming” Chair in performing their new Area 59 commitment & duties.

Per Comments – In terms of the Finance subcommittee; at least they had the Area Treasurer who was the last Finance subcommittee Chair to assist the incoming Finance subcommittee.

Per Comments by our Delegate - Caroline did a reading from our AA Service Manual page 107 - APPENDIX E: THE PRINCIPLE OF ROTATION - From The A.A. Group (pamphlet): Traditionally, rotation ensures that group tasks, like nearly everything else in A.A., are passed around for all to share. Many groups have alternates to each trusted servant who can step into the service positions if needed. To step out of an A.A. office you love can be hard. If you have been doing a good job, if you honestly don't see anyone else around willing, qualified, or with the time to do it, and if your friends agree, it's especially tough. But it can be a real step forward in growth—a step into the humility that is, for some people, the spiritual essence of anonymity. Among other things, anonymity in the Fellowship means that we forgo personal prestige for any A.A. work we do to help alcoholics. And, in the spirit of Tradition Twelve, it ever reminds us “to place principles before personalities.” Many outgoing service position holders find it rewarding to take time to share their experience with the incoming person. Rotation helps to bring us spiritual rewards far more enduring than any fame. With no AA “status” at stake, we needn't compete for titles or praise—we have complete freedom to serve as we are needed.

**Vote was taken - 3 In Favor - 42 Oppose - Motion does not carry – Motion failed**

**Motion submitted by District 45** – Per Steve D45 - A person who is an outgoing DCM of Area 59, or a person who has served at least one full (2 year) term as a DCM or an Area officer of any Area in the US or Canada, is eligible to stand for any Area 59 office. A person may not run for the same office after being elected to that office and serving for a full (2 year) term. A nomination must come from the floor by any voting member of Area 59 for each candidate for each office and be seconded by another voting member of Area 59. The candidate must be present in the Assembly and accept the nomination. If the nominated candidate accepts the nomination to stand, their name will be added to the ballot posted to the body. Each candidate will be allowed 2 minutes to present their qualifications to serve. **This motion was seconded by Ian D61**

**Vicki D27 made a Motion Declining to Consider this Motion - This motion was seconded by Steve D28.**

**Vote was taken - 36 In Favor - 11 Oppose - Motion Passes having 2/3 votes – 51 total Substantial Unanimity – No Minority Opinion**

Announcements: 1) 4th Thursday of each month, Bridging the Gap Forum, digital. 2) July 15- 17, PENNSCYPAA XXXIII, Williamsport, PA 3) September 11, AQ4, D35

**Adjourn** – Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting – **We Closed with Responsibility Declaration**



Area 59

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY  
[WWW.AREA59AA.ORG](http://WWW.AREA59AA.ORG)

Area Officers All Present	District	DCM/ADCM Other Position	Guests	DCM Report Online or Basket	Summaries - Announcements	Actions - Questions	District	DCM/ADCM Other Position	Guests	DCM Report Online or Basket	Summaries - Announcements	Actions - Questions
	21	1	1	Online			45	1		Online		
Officer-at-Large	22	1	1	Online			46	absent				
Alicia	23	1		Online			47	1		Online		
Present	24	1	1	Online			48	1		Online	1	
	25	1	1	Online			49	1		Online		
Treasurer	26	1		Online			50	1	1	Online		
Dan	27	1	2	Online			51	1	2	Online		
Present	28	1		Online			52	1		Online		
	29	1	1	Online			53	absent				
Secretary	30	1	1	Online			54	1		Online		
Susan	31	1		Online			55	1		Online		
Present	32	1		Online			56	1		Online		
	33	1		Online			57	1		Online		
Chairperson	34	1		Online	1		58	1		Online		
Curt	35	1		Online			59	1		Online		
Present	36	1		Online			60	absent				
	37	1		Online			61	1	6	Online		
Alt-Delegate	38	1		Online			62	1	1	Online		
Pete	39	1		Online			63	absent				
Present	40	1		Online			64	1		Online		
	41	1		Online			65	1		Online		
Delegate	42	1		Online			66	1	1	Online	1	
Caroline	43	1	2	Online			67	1		Online		
Present	44	1		Online			68	1	1	Online		

Area 59 Roll Call Sheet - June 12, 2022