

# Unapproved Minutes for District 18 Business Meeting: December 8, 2016: 6:30-8:30pm

Location: Plymouth Congregational Church 1900 Nicollet Ave Mpls, MN 55403



**Greeters:** (Dennis & Malcolm)

- 1) **Serenity Prayer (6:30)**
- 2) **Introductions (6:32)**
- 3) **Welcome New GSRs and Others (6:40)** Mike, David W - Mpls 12&12, Mike- GSR Bridge to Shore
- 4) **Intergroup Liaison Report – Jeanne, District 18 Intergroup Liaison (6:42)** Not in attendance
- 5) **Introduction and Announcements (DCM (Riki) 6:47)**

**Open Committee Chairs:** Newsletter, Treatment (Dave has been serving in a temporary capacity)

- **Dec 8<sup>th</sup> District 18 meeting** – Voting on 2017 proposed budget.
- **Dec 31<sup>st</sup> Pass it on Marathon:** De La Salle High School: 1 de la Salle Dr. Mpls 55401. 8pm speaker meeting; 9:30-12 dance, AA topic meetings, & games; 11:30 Candlelight AA meeting; 12:30 cleanup. Tickets: \$7 in advance/\$10 at door
- **Jan 17<sup>th</sup> GSR Chat** - Tuesday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, at the Dunn Bros 3348 Hennepin Ave S.
- **Jan 20-22<sup>nd</sup> RUSC: Recovery, Unity Service Conference: THIS HAS MOVED to:** Mankato City Center Hotel, 101 East Main Street; Mankato MN - ~~Best Western Hwy 169, North Mankato MN~~ **GSRs & Comm Chairs**, Please attend!
- **Feb 18<sup>th</sup> Area Committee Meeting (New date!)- THIS HAS MOVED to:** Mankato City Center Hotel, 101 East Main Street; Mankato MN - ~~Best Western Hwy 169, North Mankato MN~~ (9:30-11:30, 1-5 pm)
- **Feb 18<sup>th</sup> Gopher State Tape Library Fundraiser (5<sup>th</sup> Annual).** Dennis & Roger speakers. \$25 donation at door (scholarships avail) Wayzata Community Church – Mithun Hall; 125 Wayzata Blvd East; 8:30am reg. (9am-3pm)
- **Feb 25<sup>th</sup> Trusted Servant Leadership Training (TSLT)** Bethel Lutheran Church 1321 North Ave, Northfield, MN 55057 (9am - 4pm). Excellent to learn any trusted servant position if you're new.

- 6) **GSR Sharing (6:52)** Time for GSRs to share problems and success in their groups and also ask questions.  
**Malcolm** (Bridge to Shore) We just did a group inventory and it takes the whole meeting. Our group will then discuss them at their business meeting 2 or 3 at a time.  
**Jeanette** (Continuous Action) – We just elected a secretary. The position had been left vacant until just recently. A demonstration of patience that allowed us to be open to having the position not filled.  
**Ryan** (Promises at Knox) Our group has gone from resistance to a business meeting to wanting to do one quarterly. Does anyone have experience with dealing with how things get voted on and then forgotten about?  
**Marissa** (Chunks & Measures) Hold people accountable. My group is unorganized but we still manage to get things done through accountability.  
**Brad** ( Foundation Stone) Two of the meetings I belonged to had monthly business meetings. At those meetings the unapproved minutes from the last meeting were sent out or shared at the meeting and then they were approved by the group. That way everyone has a chance to see what was done and what still needs to be addressed.  
**Carla** (Bridge to Shore) - When someone wasn't doing their job the group voted to replace them as soon as possible.. We hold them and ourselves accountable.  
**Flow** - At my Sun morn tradition meeting the group determines whether a brief group conscience is needed that week and what needs to be discussed.  
**Donn O.** (This Simple Program) We will set short-term dates as opposed to waiting until the next business meeting (ours are monthly).

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### 7) Officer's Reports (6:57)

- a) **DCM (Riki);** [d18dcm@gmail.com](mailto:d18dcm@gmail.com) (3 minutes) Submitted report at the end of the email version
- b) **Alternate DCM (Open);** [d18AltDCM@gmail.com](mailto:d18AltDCM@gmail.com) (3 minutes)
- c) **Secretary (Brad);** [d18secretary@gmail.com](mailto:d18secretary@gmail.com) (3 minutes) Amended minutes approved by no objection
- d) **Treasurer (Jason);** [d18treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:d18treasurer@gmail.com) (3 minutes) not in attendance - Brad filled in

**8) Concept 12 (Jeanette) (7:09) Riki** – This is about not being personally punitive. A good example of this happened when a past District 18 officer made off with all of the District funds and the District decided to not go after the person from a legal or financial standpoint.

**Donn O.** – Unqualified authority

**Flow** – Democratic thought and action. As close to unanimity as possible. Minority opinion is a way to show respect for the body and ensure that we do not rush decisions.

**9) What is the role of a Committee Chair (Carla N.) (7:14)** Our committees are an extension or expansion of our 12 step work in a general manner. How do we get this out to a wider audience outside of our home group? A committee is more than one person. A committee works on topics related to that committee. There are workbooks for every committee that explain what kinds of goals a committee can set and work on. For Grapevine the workbook can be found at [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org). It is important to set goals that are obtainable. Focus on a few and if you are able to complete them then move on to others. There are four Area committee meetings per year. They are held to help District committee chairs connect with other Districts and the Area to get a better understanding of what others are doing on their committee and to share ideas of things that might work in your District.

### 10) New Business ( 7:19)

#### a) **Flow** - Motion to request \$770 back from Area 36 (6 min )

- *Background - \$770 was originally approved by D18 to be given to D7 for the MTC bus sign campaign they were heading. D7 gave money to the Area (idea was that an Area sub-committee would reach out to other Districts to fulfill the remaining funds needed for the campaign). Currently, no other funds have been collected. We need to request it back.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> - Malcolm**

Discussion: **Don**- All we have to do is call up Karl and he will send the money to us. The bus thing is dead. Get the money back in our budget.

**Donn O.** – What will the Area do with it?

**Ryan** – Is the bus thing dead?

**Tyler - D7 PI chair** - D7 was ready to do it but was uncomfortable holding all the money needed to get this done. (\$3000) The concern was brought to Area committee. The Area committee said we will hold on to money to get this going.

**Carla** – With rotation – everyone involved in this will rotate out. Goals do not carry over from one committee to another.

**Donn O.**- What can't we just get it back.

**Riki**- It was a district motion to give the money to D7. We need to have a motion to get it back.

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Vote Approved 27 Opposed 0 motion passes

## 11) Old Business (7:25)

- a) **Tabled Accessibilities Chair Motion (Troy).** **Motion:** I propose we add a new “line item” to proposed budget for ASL interpreters at meetings and workshops. Deaf AA members need to have the opportunity to go to these events to learn more about AA. Many deaf alcoholics don't have the money to pay for their own. We don't have the authority to spend more than the business meeting and committee meetings that are part of the current proposed budget. **Discussion:**

**DCM:** This came out of committee so it is a seconded motion. **Troy-** Ask Carla to share about difficulties with getting interpreters **Carla –** For the planning committee for the 2015 joint workshop. We didn't have funding for the pre-planning of the workshop and all planning meetings. It was poor planning. We found the dollars.

A line item will help with all kinds of needs that come up. Unexpected expenses cannot always be paid for workshops, conferences because there is no money for interpreters.

**Flow –** Clarification- Is this for meetings at the District or Area, workshops, or general meetings of AA? **A -** For committee members and the Area.

**Riki –** This is not for actual meetings only service

**Don-** I'm in favor of getting rid of all lines in the budget due to the funds required.

**Donn O.–** I'm in favor of the line item – 1- make it possible to vote

**Matt-** As long as it is for District – Area should provide for Area.

**Jeanette –** I'm against this. I think this could become part of the Accessibilities budget. Maybe it should be part of other committee budget. Itemized.

**Don-** Too much money (20%) going to one person to attend events. This is too much being going away from helping still suffering alcoholic.

**Charlie-** I'm for the line item in the budget. I don't know what the dollar amount is. This is just a line item without an amount. It muddies the water between a pool and an itemized budget.

**Flow-** Opposed to separate line item. The general Accessibilities. budget should be for that.

**Malcolm –** This line item is confusing. We have a pooled budget for a reason. The pooled allows for committees to vye for the funds. In 2016 – 20% of the budget was for one person.

**Donn O.** Can we amend this?

**Marissa -** I like the line item because it protects the money. It might get used more if they know it is there.

**Ryan -** I would support this more if there was a \$ amount.

**Jeanette –** What we are doing is itemizing line items for one committee that are ASL only. It can always be requested at the beginning of a rotation. It is not about funding. I oppose it due to we have a pooled budget.

**Don-** With a line item the funds are locked into the one thing. They are not available for other things.

**Carla -** If a group wants to provide a service they are responsible for it whether that be child care or ASL. None of the ASL community have come forward to participate at the District.

**Motion to end discussion –** simple majority passes

**Vote** Favor 4 Opposed 16 **Motion does not pass**

Minority opinion – **Donn O.–** The assumption that committees are equal is a fallacy. There is a larger needs for Accessibilities. Spirit of participation- There is a not a large community but Troy can share this message and info about District.

No one wants to change their vote after hearing MO.

**Motion does not pass.**

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- b) **Proposed 2017 Budget Discussion (Riki)** Expenses down, contributions are up. Check from D8 2015 was never received but came in later in 2016. Discussion - **Jeanette** – Motion from the group Continuous Action

*The Proposed D18 Budget (2017), as required by our Finance Policy, includes funds to reimburse Officer and Committee travel/accommodation as follows: a) for all Officers (DCM, Alt-DCM, Treasurer, Secretary) to attend the Recovery, Unity, Service Conference (mileage & room), and b) all Officers and Committee Chairs to attend the Trusted Servant Leadership Training (mileage only). Reimbursing travel expenses for these events is required by our Finance Policy. [FP, Sections XII.11.c, XII.11.f, & XVII.5]*

### **Ryan 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Riki** - The finance policy only has hotel for DCM and Alt for Rusc. Mileage to TSLT already in budget.

**Charlie** - Passing this will not change the FP. It doesn't go against the policy.

**Jeanette** - I was reimbursed to go to Rusc during the 2013-14 rotation. RUSC is to help us understand what we are a part of and help the officers to work with other officers and committee chairs and learn the principle by which the District can run.

**Ryan** - What is the difference between RUSC and TLST?

**Carla**- RUSC is to train tomorrow's leaders - many people at RUSC learn from broader spiritual perspective as it deals with the steps, traditions and concepts. TSLT is the ABC's of service positions like GSR, Committee chair and DCMs.

**Marissa** – Could we just two at time 2 this year/2 next year?

**Riki**- The policy currently reimburses for single occupancy so that is what the budget reflects.

**Donn** – What is the need for this? **Riki** – To put RUSC back in the budget it involves a motion to change the budget.

**Jeanette** – We now have the money to do this.

To end discussion - Favor all no opposed

**Motion vote** -Favor - 17 Opposed 6

Minority opinion - **Matt** – It is already in our policy - does it need to be a line item? Keep it as the Finance Policy says

**Ryan** - There is no value in sending people to something that others already go to. I don't think we should be paying for officers to attend an event that could benefit all the GSRs as well, but the GSRs have to pay out of their own pocket.

### **Motion passes**

Next motion from Continuous Actions

*All line items be removed from the Proposed D18 Budget (2017). The ASL Interpretation and Archives Line Items should become part of the "committee pool" and each committee chair should "prepare an itemized budget for [their] projects," as per our Finance Policy (FP, XII.4). The District 18 Workshop should be listed under "Operating Expenses" as it has been until this year. Coffee/Water should be listed within Room Rent & Coffee/Water.*

**Jeanette** - This motion is to have all line items removed from the budget. ASL/ archives

**Don - 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Discussion:

**Charlie** – This is arbitrary – I would vote no.

**Carla** – Coffee and water has been moved

**Ryan** – I don't look at these line items as a committee expense. These line items are a necessity. I think they should be listed in the budget.

**Flow**- Concerned about striking archives. Do not pull it

**Donn**- What is a line item?

**Malcolm** – motion to table simple majority tables motion

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**12) Committee Reports (If time permits) (2 mins)** No reports given CPC/PI report at end of email version

**13) GSR Highlights (Malcolm) (8:26)** not given

**14) Request for Volunteers for next meeting (8:28): Greeters ( Jeanette / Dennis ) Concept 1 (Maggie )  
GSR Highlights ( Emily )**

**15) Close with Responsibility Statement (8:29)**

### DCM report

Thank you to current officers and committee chairs for your service. We cannot do this work without you!

I have attended the Area 35/36 Workshop, the Area Committee Meeting, 2 GSR Chats and our Officers Steering Meeting. I also visited one group. I intend to have GSR Chats about once a month, and am interested in attending committee transition meetings. Please coordinate with Carla and I.

I have been working on finding committee chairs. I am more interested in forming strong committees than I am in filling all the committee chairs. All GSRs and any interested members are welcome to serve on our committees, and are needed.

There is a proposal from Area regarding an Assistant Treasurer position, it was emailed out, please review with your groups. We will discuss briefly in January as I will likely be voting at February ACM as to whether or not this proposal goes to the Assembly, or back to committee for more work.

There was a Technology proposal this past ACM: to share the meeting time/location information from our files with a Meeting Guide app that is proving popular, for one year as an experiment. Denny was skeptical of the app but is now on board to such an extent that he proposed this. We debated, Right of Decision was questioned as to whether this was our decision or should go to groups through GSRs. I voted yes on the proposal for these reasons: no expense, no anonymity breach, time limited experiment, and our Intergruop is already sharing our meeting info with this app.

Grateful to be of service, Riki

### **December 2016 CPC/PI Report**

- While we had low attendance for the 2016 CPC Breakfast on November 15<sup>th</sup> I think it went really well. The professionals in attendance were very interested and had several questions for the speakers. I hope that the next CPC Breakfast has more participation.
- Just as a reminder, these events are part of how we help carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic on a scale that the individual or group cannot do alone. These events are for you and your groups to attend and participate. This is part of how we fulfill the Responsibility Statement.

Now that I am rotating out, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve the District as CPC/PI Chair.

Sarah S.

### **District 18 Business Meeting Agenda**