

**District 34
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2022
Apex Masonic Lodge
& ZOOM
408 E Williams Street
Apex, NC 27539**

Members Present

DCM	Craig H.
Alt. DCM	Brie G.
Registrar	Lili O.
Treasurer	Jasen H.
Secretary	Paul S.
Web Master	James C.

Group GSRs:

Apex	Mark E.	Lakeside	Jeff H.
Arch to Freedom	Lisa M.	Last Call	
Basics for Beginners	Donna C.	Let Go, Let God	
Be Still Morning Meditation		Living Now	
Cary Twelve Step	James C., Lee C. (Alt. GSR.)	Log Cabin	
Cary Young People		Maynard Road Group	
Change Agents	Michael R.	Morning Meditation Group	Matthew Y. (Alt GSR)
Design for Living		New Freedom Group	
Early Birds	Lisa L.	One Chapter at a Time	Barbara B.
Experience, Strength and Hope		One Day at a Time	
First One Hundred and Sixty-Four	Eric N.	One More Chapter at a Time	
Fuquay-Varina	David J.	One Noon at a Time	
G2	Jasen H.	Promises of a New Beginning	
Garner Big Book	Paul S.	Sunday Morning Spirituality Group	
Gateway	Sue B.	There is a Solution	Jonethen S.
Green Level		West Cary Noon	

Greenwood Forest	Karlis M.	Willow Springs Step	Tony S.
Holly Springs		Women's Paths to Serenity	Natalie M.
Keep It Simple		Women's Steps to Serenity	Kristi S.

Call to Order

7:30 pm – Craig H. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Readings

Long Form of Tradition 1 – Donna C.
District Purpose – Jeff H.

Joke & Concept 1

Friends of Bill's – Jonethen S.
Our Ultimate Authority! This is about the Triangle!
Next Month: Concept 2 and a Joke – Michael R.

Introductions

Welcome new GSRs and Alt GSRs!

Mark E. GSR, Apex
Karlis M. GSR, Greenwood Forest
Tony S. GSR, Willow Spring
Jonethen S. GSR, There is a Solution

AA Anniversaries

Congratulations to:

Lisa L. – 8 Years!!!!

Birthday Envelopes are available from Intergroup or can be ordered from AA.org.

Registrar Report

GSR and Alternate GSR Contact Information:

If you are a new GSR or Alternate GSR, or someone who has not received their GSR packet, please send your name, email, mailing address and phone number to Lili - D34Registrar@gmail.com, if she does not already have it. You can choose to receive your GSR packet via email or the USPS.

The contents of the GSR kit are listed at:
https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/en_GSR_list.pdf

- Lili is our new District 34 Registrar.

- Lili is getting contact lists updated not only for District 34 but also for Area 51 (North Carolina). Lili is also working with the Area 51 Registrar.
- If Lili reaches out to you it means your information may need to be updated and/or is missing. The goal is to get all contacts and names updated at the Area 51 level.
- New GSR's will get a packet in the mail containing pamphlets and the AA Service Manual, updated for 2022.
- You need to get your information over to Lili (district Registrar) if you haven't received your packet.

Secretary Report

- December 2021 District 34 Meeting Minutes distributed via email.
- Reviewed December 2021 District 34 Meeting Minutes.
- Motion to accept by Karlis M., Second by Natalie M.
- Motion passed with none opposed.

Treasurer Report

- December 2021 Treasurer's report was distributed via email.
- Expenses for Fall Conference and Alcothons were highlighted.
- According to Jasen H., Treasurer, there is a discrepancy in the budget and/or spreadsheet. Per Jasen, we'll look at it more closely and figure it out; there is approximately \$2000 less in the account vs. what is documented in the spreadsheet. This may be attributed to many subtractions and additions.
- Jasen found an actual balance of \$7484.22.
- Barbara: 2020 ending balance was \$7436.19; "We changed numbers for some reason, but we do not remember why – we had a good reason for it, the problem is, we can't remember it!"
- Jasen and Barbara: "let's get a handle on what's in/what's not."
- Craig: "We will have an ad hoc budget committee assigned tonight and will meet this month to put this topic to rest."
- As we report back to our groups – we should report there is an accounting error and it's being figured out via an Ad Hoc committee to review the budget and locate the discrepancy.
- Motion to accept Treasurers report by Jonethen S. and David J.
- Karlis M. opposed.
 - o Karlis: How can we approve the report if there is a known error?
 - Craig: We will delay the approval of the report pending the outcome of the audit.
- Motion to accept delaying the Treasurers report pending outcome of audit, by Jonethen S. and Karlis M.
- Motion passed as amended without opposition.

Webmaster Report

- James C., our District 34 new Webmaster: We have some issues with the website. We were going to lose the website domain. James worked with the provider to secure the domain for 2 years and paid for it out of pocket.
 - o James should submit an expense report to host the domain for 2 years with the District 34 Treasurer.
- Several new flyers have been posted to the website.
- December 2021 District 34 Minutes posted.
- Eric: There are older flyers on the website, can we clean those up?
 - o James: Yes, we can take a look at those and clean them up.
- Michael R.: What is the plan to prevent the issues with the website again?
 - o Jeff: Can we put the domain name under a name, such as James?
 - James: We cannot do this as an entity. We (District 34) cannot own a domain; it needs to be under a name.
- Sue: We can speak with District 71. They have a lot of knowledge about websites.
- James: I will also look into what's possible in terms of registered domain names.
- Craig: Let's put something on the agenda for this fall so we do not lose track of this.

Alt DCM Report

1. Brie: GSR School - New GSR Orientation: It is recommended to attend the GSR school if you are a new GSR or a new Alt GSR to become more familiar with your role and to ask any questions. Please call Brie G. (919) 561-7153 or Craig H. (747) 229-7302 to set up a convenient time and place!
2. January 23, 2022 @ 3 PM will be the next GSR orientation on Zoom.
3. Brie: Will send out the Zoom link once we get everything updated with our Registrar.

DCM Report

1. Craig: I'm getting my feet on the ground; big shoes to fill. He's grateful for this opportunity to serve and is in awe!!! Great opportunity to learn.
2. Done in the past but got derailed by the pandemic is to visit other groups in the district to help groups feel like they are in the community. We want to identify groups that do not have a GSR to make sure their groups are being heard. We'll ask when group business meetings are being held so that the DCM and alt DCM can attend.

Old Business

1. Craig: How did the Alcothons go?
 - o Brie: In general, they went great! Maybe this year we can – the groups that volunteer for an hour, they can bring food instead of us trying to cook for all. It can be something small, potluck style dish. There were issues with getting stuff cooked, stuff was frozen.
2. Sue: Temperature at the TAC was too hot. Sue was informed that the person in charge of regulating the temperature at the TAC was in Missouri.

- Action Item for our District as we plan Alcothons in 2022: Whoever signs the contract needs to make sure this is happening.
- 3. Karlis: TAC will not be in the same space after September. No new space has been identified. We would need to find an alternate location. If anybody knows of a place, please let Karlis or the TAC know.
- 4. Craig: We should start talking about the Alcothons in September.
 - Let's put an agenda item into the July agenda for us to start looking for a new site and planning the Alcothons.
- 5. Dave: How many people attended?
 - We'll have a contribution count. Every meeting, the 7th Tradition collection is split 50/50 between the TAC and District. From that we can somewhat determine the number of attendees.
 - Dave: The reason for the ask is to determine the size of the room/venue needed to replace the current TAC?
 - Natalie: I was more involved with Christmas vs. New Year's Alcothons - in general Christmas was much less attended.
- 6. Natalie: We need to have some sort of instruction sheet for the leader of the group, job description, e.g., what to do, when to do it, topics, meeting format, etc.

New Business

1. 2022 Budget
 - a. Craig: Budget Process – appoint budget committee, review 2019, 2020, 2021 budgets.
 - i. We do have a surplus policy in place. It is located on the back page/email sent out. The policy governs what we do in case we have a surplus and was revised in 2021. Unless there is an interest to change it, Craig recommends not to change it.
 - b. Craig: We made good use of the scholarship fund in 2021. It was provisional for one year - Craig suggests keeping it in place for 2022.
 - i. Steve: We're not here to change surplus policy? Craig: No
 - ii. Steve: We need to resolve the budgetary issue. Jasen: The discrepancy in the budget doesn't impact the surplus policy.
 - c. No opposition to change the policy – let's keep it as written.
 - d. Craig: We need a committee to get together, find the error in the current budget, and set the budget so we can vote next month.
 - i. Jasen will be on the committee along with Craig. Other Budget Committee members will include Michael R., Barbara, Matthew for Ann, and Sue will sit in on the sessions.
 - e. Jasen: Budget meetings will be in person.
2. Both Brie and Craig have made reservations for the Winter Committee meeting(s) in Durham.
 - a. Winter / Summer are Committee Meetings and Assembly Meetings are traditionally held during the spring and fall.

3. Discuss a second proposed agenda item from D34 to Area 51. Proposal is the sponsor this motion at the District 34 level so that it becomes an agenda item at the next Committee and Assembly meetings.
 - a. The motion and background read as follows:
 - b. **Motion:** That the Area 51 Chairperson be responsible for the translation of documents into Spanish. This includes materials sent to the membership or posted on the website. The responsibility may be delegated to an appropriate trusted servant to perform the translation.
 - i. Materials to be translated include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - ii. Notices of Area 51 Assemblies and Committee meetings
 - iii. Proposed and approved Area 51 budgets
 - iv. Summaries and Minutes of the meetings of the Area 51 Assembly and Committee
 - v. Other documents and materials posted to the Area 51 website pertinent to the District Committee Members, General Service Representatives, and groups in North Carolina.
 - c. **Background:** Area 51 has a spiritual obligation not only to ensure the voice of our Spanish-speaking members is heard, but also to guarantee the hand of AA is there for all our fellowship in North Carolina. To fulfill that obligation Area 51 needs to be inclusive in all communication, but without a translator our efforts are impaired. The positions of Spanish-Language Translator and Spanish-Language Interpreter were created in the Fall of 2014, with the positions to be held by AA members bi-lingual in English and Spanish. The position had been filled until the summer of 2019. Since then, it has remained vacant. Currently Google Translate is being utilized as an interim measure to ensure the content we distribute is available in Spanish. An investigation into hiring a professional translator revealed the cost was prohibitively expensive. Budgetary Impact: With the elimination of the Translator position as part of the Area 51 Committee, the Area will no longer need to allocate resource funds, lodging, meals, or mileage for that position. The 2022 budget allocates \$2,665.00. There would also be a consequent reduction in the prudent reserve of \$1,333.
 - d. Karlis: There is a Spanish AA hotline!
 - i. Is there a need for a translator?
 1. Craig – the intent here is for the general service representative to have the ability to appoint a translator vs. trying to translate herself using Google Translate, which has proven to be very time consuming, inaccurate, and cumbersome at times. There are 3 Spanish speaking districts. All materials currently are in English. The translator would translate the documents into Spanish. This would facilitate participation for the Spanish speaking people. The previous translator moved out of the area in 2019, so the position has been vacant since then. This would empower the area chairperson with authority to designate a chosen trusted servant.
 - e. Sue: It would be great for district 34 to step up and support this. It would be ideal to find a bilingual AA member.

- f. Brie: Is this something we need to vote as a group to approve this or bring it back to our groups.
 - i. Craig: Deadline for the area is 1/31. We would need to vote on this tonight. We would need to exercise our ability as trusted servants to vote on this. However, we would need to go back to our groups and tell them what we did. We do have the right of decision.
- g. Tony: What is the budget impact?
 - i. Craig: There are 2 budget impacts. Annual line item is \$2600, so half that is \$1300, which goes to prudent reserve. Passing this motion at the area level would free up \$2600 in the budget.
- h. Barbara: “When these types of scenarios come about, can the GSR’s be made aware as soon as possible so we have an opportunity to bring the item(s) back to our group?”
- i. Sue: Here is a point of clarification! Should we (District 34) pass this motion tonight, and it becomes an agenda item at the next Area Committee and Assembly meeting(s), we can still give this a “no-go” from the floor if our groups do not approve of this.
- j. Mark – if we don’t do this, it will be a line item in the budget
 - i. Craig: YES
- k. Motion to accept by Michael R., Second by Jonethen.
 - i. Clarification Asked – it is a time-consuming process to use Google Translator?
 1. Craig and Sue: YES
 - a. It would be better to find somebody who can do it; it’s a good growth opportunity and could be expanded to additional people.
 1. There are other districts that have significant Spanish folks, why district 34?
 - i. Sue – there is a need; we have the ability as an active district to propose this motion.
 - ii. Motion passed. With substantial concurrence; 1 abstained
 1. Karlis: Abstained
- m. We can take this back to our group and share what we did and why we did what we did.

History Fact

The January History Fact was presented by Brie G. Brie shared that President Nixon received the 1 millionth copy of the Big Book printed, the 25th million copy was presented at the International Convention in Ontario, CA, and the 30th million copy went to the Medical Association in 2010 – it was this organization which declared alcoholism a disease.

February History Fact: ?????

Home Group Announcements

- **There is a Solution (TIAS):** Anniversary Jan 15th. 6:00 catered dinner. 7:00 speaker. Shellie S. is speaker

End of the Meeting

Closed the meeting with the AA Responsibility Pledge.

Adjourned at 8:53 PM

Next meeting: February 8, 2022 @ Apex Masonic Lodge and via Zoom

6:30p – New Service Manual Study (also via Zoom)

7:30p – District meeting

Addendum – Helpful Mailing Addresses. Websites and Area 51 Events

Emails

DCM	d34dcm@gmail.com
Alt-DCM	d34dcma@gmail.com
Treasurer	d34treasurer@gmail.com
Secretary	d34secretary@gmail.com
Registrar	d34registrar@gmail.com
Webmaster	d34webmaster@gmail.com

Websites

<http://www.raleighaa.com/district.php>

<http://www.d34a51.com>

<http://aanorthcarolina.org>

User: 34

Password: notglumlot

Mailing Addresses/email

Area 51 Treasurer

NCGSC - Treasurer

PO Box 7337

Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

treasurer@aanorthcarolina.org

Area 51 Registrar

NCGSC - Registrar

P.O. Box 480004

Charlotte, NC 28269-9598

registrar@aanorthcarolina.org

Area 51 Archivist

Archivist
PO Box 1252
Morrisville NC, 27560
archivist@aanorthcarolina.org

Area 51 Chair

chair@aanorthcarolina.org

GSO

AA World Services, Inc.
PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
(919) 870-3400
<http://www.aa.org>

D34 Contributions

PO Box 271
Cary NC 27512

Schedule of upcoming Area 51 events

2022	
2022 xxx Committee Meeting	TBD, 2022 Venue TBD
2022 xxxx Assembly	TBD, 2022 Venue TBD
SSAASA VII	TBD, 2022 Venue TBD