**District 34**

**Meeting Minutes**

**July 11, 2023**

**Apex Masonic Lodge**

**408 E Williams Street**

**Apex, NC 27539**

**Members Present**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| DCM | Craig H. |
| Alt. DCM |  |
| Registrar |  |
| Treasurer | Jasen H. |
| Secretary | Paul S. |
| Web Master | James C. |

**Group GSRs:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Apex | Mark, GSR |  | Last Call |  |
| Arch to Freedom |  |  | Let Go, Let God | Rick G., Alt. GSR |
| Basics for Beginners | Donna C., GSR |  | Living Now |  |
| Be Still Morning Meditation |  |  | Log Cabin | Guiri, GSR |
| Cary Twelve Step | Erinn K., GSR |  | Maynard Road Group |  |
| Cary Young People | Andrew B., GSR |  | Morning Meditation Group | Terri P., GSR |
| Change Agents | Charlie K., GSR |  | New Freedom Group |  |
| Design for Living |  |  | One Chapter at a Time | Liz H., GSR |
| Early Birds | Debra L., GSR |  | One Day at a Time | Jim M, GSR |
| Experience, Strength, and Hope |  |  | One More Chapter at a Time |  |
| First One Hundred and Sixty-Four |  |  | One Noon at a Time |  |
| Fuquay-Varina | David J., GSR,  Yuriel, Alt. GSR |  | Principles In Action (APEX) | David, GSR. |
| G2 | Benny M., GSR, |  | Promises of a New Beginning |  |
| Garner Big Book | Paul S., GSR |  | Sunday Morning Spirituality Group |  |
| Gateway | Nancy B., GSR |  | There is a Solution | Jonathan S., GSR, |
| Green Level |  |  | West Cary Noon |  |
| Greenwood Forest | Karlis, GSR |  | Willow Springs | Tony S., GSR |
| Holly Springs |  |  | Women’s Paths to Serenity |  |
| Keep It Simple |  |  | Women’s Steps to Serenity |  |
| Lakeside | Jeff H., GSR, Mark E., Alt. GSR |  | Anonymous Forces |  |
| Recovery at Noon |  |  |  |  |

**Call to Order**

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

**Readings**

* Long Form of Tradition 7 – Read By: Jim
* District Purpose – Read By: Andrew

**Joke & Concept 7**

* Concept 7 – Debra

**Next Month: Paul S., Concept 8 and a Joke.**

**Introductions**

Went around the room and introduced ourselves.

Welcome new GSRs and Alt GSRs!

* none

New GSR’s and Alt. GSR’s, please provide Lili O., District 34 Registrar, your contact and group information.

**A.A. Anniversaries**

Congratulations to:

Jeff – 7 years July 7

Mark – 4 years May 22

Debra – 3 years May 26

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

**Registrar Report**

* Continuing to update group list when necessary.
* Please make sure to let Lili know if your information has changed, e.g., address change, name change, phone number change, group change, etc., so records can be updated.
* You can make your own updates to the master list on Google Drive, but please inform Lili! The information will also be shared with the Area 51 Registrar.
* If you are a new group, please have your GSR go to Lili to update the systems with your information. The information will be sent over to the Area 51 Registrar.
* When providing Lili with updates, your information will be shared with Area 51, District 34, but NOT with Intergroup.
* You can also make changes on the intergroup website, but those changes will not take at the area and district levels.

**Secretary Report**

* If you are not receiving emails, please let us know ASAP!
* June 2023 District 34 Meeting Minutes distributed via email.
* Motion to accept Secretary report (1st) Jim, (2nd) by Jonathan.
* Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer Report**

* These are lean months.
* We had our spring assembly and rent expenses.
* Information is always available to share.
* Motion to accept Treasurers report (1st) made by David., (2nd) by Benny.
* Motion passed unanimously.

**Webmaster Report**

* Please continue to send James (District 34 Webmaster) flyers and news about your groups, e.g., anniversary parties, unique events, etc., so it can be posted on the District website.
* District 34 Webmaster email address is: [D34web@gmail.com](mailto:D34web@gmail.com)
  + If you have flyers just go to the website and post or send them to James. <https://District34area51.live-website.com/>
* Not too many flyers are coming in right now.
  + Andrew – Is this a District website or Intergroup?
    - James – It is District.

**Alt DCM Report**

* 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!
* If anybody wants to attend new GSR orientation, please inform Brie so she can set up a convenient time to meet which works for everyone. Otherwise, Brie will hold off on scheduling anything this month.
* GSR school is this Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 5PM.

**DCM Report**

* Plain and Simple language Big Book – update.
* Reminder - 76th North Carolina State Convention
  + July 20-23, 2023
  + <https://www.aancconvention.com/>
* The Area 51 Chair of the Budget and Finance Subcommittee has put out a call for ideas on how best to spend our current surplus toward our primary purpose of helping alcoholics achieve sobriety in North Carolina.
  + Area 51 has a general fund surplus of $572.00.
  + Ideas must be submitted by October 31, 2023.
  + Submit your ideas to George S. our Area 51 Treasurer at [treasurer@aanorthcarolina.org](mailto:treasurer@aanorthcarolina.org).
  + It must be a one-time expense. (Cannot be recurring.)
  + Recent past examples in this price range:
    - Purchase Grapevine Subscriptions for Prisons.
    - Purchase replacement computers for the Area.
  + Ideas will be collected by the Budget and Finance Committee and presented to the Area chair.
  + Motions approved by the committee will be put on the agenda for the 2024 Spring Assembly. Any surplus funds not allocated at that time will be contributed to GSO.
  + Take to your home groups to discuss
* Registration for the State Convention is now $40 dollars.
* The hotels are all booked up at the conference center. You can stay at surrounding facilities, but you will not have the benefit of the group discount. There is a flyer on our website for the convention.
* Craig H., District 34 DCM, received an email from our Area 51 Delegate. One of our Trustees, Dr. Al Monny, was in a horrific car wreck, along with his family. They are in hospital. Prayer requests are being asked for. Al is a long time member of Alanon; his dad started NA.
* Plain and simple language version of the Big Book
  + Craig H. felt a little blind sighted! The way the concept of the translation was stated, it is going to make the Big Book accessible to someone with a 4th or 5th grade reading level. The Big Book is not being re-written and/or this will not be an edition of the Big Book. It is simply a translation of the fourth edition.
  + There are a lot of alcoholics who do not read at a certain level. This is the purpose of the translation. This has been Criag’s understanding.
  + What has also been communicated recently is that the new translation will have all gender related references removed from it. There are people who have strong feelings about this. This is FYI so we, as a District, are aware of what the translation entails.
  + A.A. in the 80s, instituted a rule that all existing literature undergoing translation of a particular edition will have all gender references removed. In keeping with what the conference and subsidies have decided to do, the translation, as stated, is what it will be.
    - Rick – They are talking about gender – what about race?
      * Craig – I do not know.
    - Andrew – Regarding the advisory in the 80s, does the new translation fall under the advisory from the 80s.
      * Craig - Yes
    - Jonathan – Is there proof of the advisory action?
      * Probably
    - Craig will take an action to investigate the advisory actions from the 80s.
    - Mark – I assume this does not encompass a new version of the big book.
      * The 5th edition is coming out, that will be the same (164 pages). The changes being discussed pertain to a new translation of the fourth edition of the Big Book only.
    - Karlis – it was presented as a study guide last summer (A.A. for Dummies).
      * Craig – this will be a translation of the 4th edition. There is separately a 5th edition coming out. There is also a Spanish (4th edition) coming out.
    - The A.A. Advisory Action was first instituted in 1986 and then affirmed in 1992.
  + Craig – I encourage the trustees to get in front of this because this is going to be a mess. We need to communicate to our Board and Trustees what we think about all this.
  + Dave – I got sober in 1988, I have been a GSR, my first sponsor was a DCM. We feel like we have hoodwinked.
  + Jonathan – We discussed this last year at preconference. There was no mention of it – an A.A. Advisory Action.
  + Jason – Asked if this is really documented? (gender issue). Original idea was to bring it down to a fourth grade level, but because of the advisory, gender neutrality will be applied as well.
  + Jonathan – Who types the agendas for the GSO conferences?
    - Craig H., - agendas are based on letters received, group feedback, members, etc.
    - A committee person writes the agenda.
  + Andrew – are there examples of literature being updated as a result of the 1986 advisory action?
  + David – at the March 2022 , text was passed out as examples, no references to gender neutrality.
  + Craig – every advisory action can be undone. If you feel strongly about this, or something else, we need to speak up.
  + Karlis – we are presenting to our groups, we are not trying to sell anything.

**Old Business**

* Update on Intergroup
  + Non-conference approved literature being sold (other 12 step fellowships IE: Coda)
  + Religious memorabilia being sold at the intergroup office (necklace with a cross)
  + Need for a liaison
  + Last month we sent out information about Intergroup, asking groups about their opinion about having a Liaison between the District and Intergroup.
    - Dave – They do a good job separating non-approved and approved conference A.A. literature. Ingergroup seems to be very responsive on making you comfortable with what it does. All in all, Intergroup provides a great function.
    - Rick – Last month we discussed wanting to have a member of Intergroup on our board and vice versa for better understanding and clarity. This would be a great solution to a lot of the issues.
    - Jonathan – We (homegroup) support the concept of having an Intergroup Liaison. We have 4 group members that go to Intergroup meetings every month.
    - Erin – My group was supportive of having a District 34 Intergroup representative. We talked about assessing how we are spending money. Half our money goes to Intergroup. The wishes of A.A. need to be communicated at the Intergroup level.
    - Jasen – We have a strong Intergroup position at G2. They pushed back a lot, stating that anyone can attend an Intergroup meeting.
    - There is lots of discussion about what is in the Intergroup account. It is about 30K in a Money Market and 5K in checking / cash at hand.
    - Craig – Intergroup in our immediate area handles all our committee related activity. This is normally handled by the District. These are A.A. committees being governed by a non A.A. entity. Intergroup answers the phone, provides meeting guides. Criag feels strongly we should be a part of the conversation since they are handling A.A. business and activity by a non A.A entity.
    - Intergroup is an independent entity not affiliated with A.A. that we entrust to perform certain tasks.
    - Adrew – Intergroup came into being at the same time as the District.
    - Errin – Have we had conversations with other District about how Intergroup serves their Districts and how it interacts with them?
    - Criag H., Please continue this conversation with your home group. We will dig up examples from other areas about how they are handling things. We’ll continue the conversation in the following months. This is not an urgent matter. We want to cultivate a friendly relationship with Intergroup.

**New Business**

* Gratitude Dinner – Discussion deferred to next meeting.

**History Fact**

* None provided this month.

**Next Month – Jeff**

**Home Group Announcements**

* None

**End of the Meeting**

* We passed the basket.
* Closed the meeting with the A.A. Responsibility Pledge.
* Adjourned at 8:30

**Next Meeting : August 8, 2023 @ Apex Masonic Lodge**

* 6:30PM – New Service Manual Study (also via Zoom)
* 7:30PM – District meeting

**Addendum – Helpful Mailing Addresses. Websites and Area 51 Events**

**Emails**

DCM [d34dcm@gmail.com](about:blank)

Alt-DCM [d34dcma@gmail.com](about:blank)

Treasurer [d34treasurer@gmail.com](about:blank)

Secretary [d34secretary@gmail.com](about:blank)

Registrar [d34registrar@gmail.com](about:blank)

Webmaster [d34web@gmail.com](mailto:D34web@gmail.com)

**Websites**

[http://www.raleighaa.com/District.php](about:blank)

[http://www.d34a51.com](about:blank)

[http://aanorthcarolina.org](about:blank)

User: 34

Password: notglumlot

**Mailing Addresses/email – needs to be changed.**

**Area 51 Treasurer**

NCGSC

PO Box 17271

Raleigh, NC 27619

[treasurer@aanorthcarolina.org](about:blank)

**Area 51 Registrar**

NCGSC - Registrar   
P.O. Box 480004   
Charlotte, NC 28269-9598

[registrar@aanorthcarolina.org](about:blank)

**Area 51 Archivist**

Archivist   
PO Box 1252   
Morrisville NC, 27560

[archivist@aanorthcarolina.org](about:blank)

**Area 51 Chair**

[chair@aanorthcarolina.org](about:blank)

**GSO**

A.A. World Services, Inc.

PO Box 459

Grand Central Station

New York, NY 10163

(919) 870-3400

[http://www.aa.org](about:blank)

**D34 Contributions**

PO Box 271

Cary NC 27512

**Schedule for upcoming Area 51 events****:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Summer Committee Meeting 2023 | August 18 - August 20  Blowing Rock Conference Center 1818 Goforth Road, Blowing Rock, NC 28605 |
| Area 51 Fall Committee & Assembly Meeting | October 20-22, 2023  The Hilton Raleigh North Hills  3415 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 27609 |
| 2025 International Convention | July 3-6, 2025  Vancouver, B.C., Canada |