

Panel 61 Area 53
Minutes of the Area Assembly
Sunday March 11, 2012
Salt Fork Sate Park

Opening: The afternoon session of the assembly was opened by Panel 61 Chairperson, Kristi Kay H. The assembly opened at 1:15pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, and the reading of the short form of the Twelve Concepts by Sharon F.

Panel 61 GSR Reports and DCM Report by DCM Chair

Groups that were represented at the assembly by a General Service Representative or a GSR alternate:

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| 1. | 2 for 1 Group | 20. | Pomeroy Serenity Group |
| 2. | After Work Group | 21. | RenoldsbergTwelve and Twelve |
| 3. | Athens Sunday Night Lead Meeting | 22. | Serenity Group |
| 4. | Clintonville Big Book | 23. | Shawnee Group |
| 5. | Early Evening Faith & Hope Group | 24. | Singleness of Purpose |
| 6. | Fairway Group | 25. | Stop and Grow |
| 7. | Friday Night Zane State Group | 26. | The Choice Is Ours |
| 8. | Gifts in Recovery and Lasting Sobriety | 27. | The Dirty Dozen |
| 9. | Hand in Hand Group | 28. | The Solutions Group |
| 10. | Hillsboro Closed Discussion | 29. | The Sunset Group |
| 11. | How and Why 12&12 | 30. | Three Legacies Group |
| 12. | Jackson Monday Night | 31. | Tradition Three Happy Hour Group |
| 13. | Listening Post Group | 32. | Tri-County Group |
| 14. | Lodestar Group | 33. | Tuesday Rope Holders Men's Group |
| 15. | Maynard Promises | 34. | We Agnostics |
| 16. | Minerva Park Group | 35. | West Side Beginners Group |
| 17. | Monday Night Steps and Traditions | 36. | Westerville Women's Recovery Group |
| 18. | New Beginnings Group | 37. | Women's New Hope Group of AA |
| 19. | Pleasant Valley Group | 38. | Women's Sobriety & Serenity Group |

This was a record number of GSRs at an Area 53 assembly! You are all doing an awesome job, keep spreading the word to other GSRs in your Districts.

Districts that were represented at the assembly by either a district committee member (DCM) or an alternate: Districts 4, 7, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 28.

Panel 61 Standing Committee Reports

CPC/PI Committee:

Chairperson, Nita S. (614-395-8703) cpcpichair@area53aa.org

The committee continues to take an information session into Netcare. / We continue to have a literature and information display at the Adult Parole Authority of the O.D.R.C. and hope to facilitate an information session for parole officers in 2012. / We continue to place business cards with COGF contact information in places where alcoholics might go before they find A.A. We continue to place A.A. business cards in the lobbies of several central Ohio libraries.

At our committee meeting, when time allows, we review literature relevant to CPC/PI so committee members become familiar with the traditions that govern our committee's purposes. / Our committee continues to cooperate with the COGF PI Committee. / In 2012, we intend, with the COGF PI Committee, to staff a booth at the Addiction Studies Institute. We brought the updated display we use to help us look professional at conferences, health fairs, member and other information sessions. Please check it out.

The CPC/PI committee hopes to prepare a workshop about Anonymity in the New Media to present to the districts or individual groups. / We are placing literature at Ohio Wesleyan University and Ohio State University and are pursuing information sessions there. / We are pursuing information sessions for professionals in the Delaware Court system.

Group Services Committee:

Chairperson Bill Y. (614-270-0593) or gschair@area53aa.org

Committee Meeting: No regular committee meeting at this time.

Group Services Committee keeps the area website updated and responds to requests for GSR school. A GSR orientation for district-level service work was given at the 2012 Mini-Conference. The committee continues to seek additional volunteers to help with website work and continuing the GSR school workshop. The committee is not currently meeting on a regular schedule.

Correctional Facilities Committee

Chairperson: Peggy A. (614-678-2512) cfchair@area53aa.org

Thanks to everyone who attended the quarterly meeting, and for your support. We have seen a big jump in GIR attendance. Please let us know if you would like us to bring the committees meeting display and speak to your groups. In regards to what CFC does with the jug money, it goes directly to the purchase of literature for the outside sponsors to take behind the walls. Donations collected from the jugs this quarter was \$4,592.41. The committee will be spending \$4300.00 on literature. The basket was passed for rent and we are asking the Area for \$43.75 for expenses. The 9th annual workshop will be held at the Maple Grove United Methodist Church on April 21, 2012 from 9am-3pm. Flyers are available. We need correspondence volunteers, and volunteers to take meetings into CBCF. Please contact me at Area53CFC P.O. Box 1201 Col. Ohio 43216 if you are interested.

Special Needs Committee/Accessibility:

Cathy H. (614-205-8491) or specialneedschair@area53aa.org

Committee Meeting: COGF at 10:00 AM

The committee has decided to refocus its efforts on making presentations about special needs/accessibility issues to district meetings and groups. In support of this goal, we determined to have quarterly, rather than monthly meetings. Meetings will be held prior to each quarterly assembly. In the intervening time, committee members will have more time to make presentations and participate in other committee projects.

The committee has purchased braille, ASL, and voice recordings of the Big Book and Twelve and Twelve (2 sets of each), in addition to a number of pamphlets targeted to special need AAs, and pamphlets describing how AAs can assist those with special needs. These will be displayed and distributed at AA events and meetings where the committee is providing displays and/or presentations.

The committee has developed a trifold brochure describing committee activities, providing committee contact information and meeting dates, and also providing a volunteer form. / The committee chair provided a brief presentation at the mini-conference, which will be developed into a script for future presentations. The new materials described above were displayed and distributed at the mini-conference. / The Special Needs/Accessibility display board and brochure will be at the Spring Round-Up.

Panel 61 Officer Reports

Secretary Report:

Debbie R. (740-274-1185) or secretary@area53aa.org

Distributed December 2011 Assembly Minutes, which was approved as presented.

(Available on the Area 53 website)

Treasurers Report:

Jim F. (740-357-8996) or treasurer@area53aa.org

Distributed March 2012 Treasurers Report. Report was approved as presented.

(Available on the Area 53 website)

Registrar Report:

Kelly C. (740-568-9140) or registrar@area53aa.org

Since our last meeting, there have been five GSR and one DCM updates in Fellowship New Vision. As we know, GSO wants to once again update in the Eastern Directory. In January and February district packets with information of individual groups were distributed. As of today, District 17 has returned updated information. Hard copies of updates should be received at GSO records department no later than May 4, 2012. If you would like me, or your alternate registrar Dan H. to make the updates we should receive them by April 30, 2012. If there are further questions about this, please get in touch with me. We are compiling an email list if you would like to receive Minutes from the Area 53 Assemblies. We are also compiling a snail mail list, for those who would prefer to receive the minutes by U.S. mail. Please Dan H. or I know if there are any further questions or concerns regarding group changes or personal information changes so we can be as accurate as possible. You can reach me via phone, or email.

Chairpersons Report:

Kay H. (740-797-3126) or chairperson@area53aa.org

The last quarter's activities were concentrated on the Mini-Conference: Mini-Conference Committee Meetings, Site Visit, Hotel Management, and Committee Chair Training. I intended to participate in the Delegates Conference: Past and Present but several things prevented me from doing so; however the area was well represented. / I conferred with Chris T., new COGF

Board President regarding cooperative endeavors between the Area and COGF. / Now that the Mini-Conference is complete I have commenced planning efforts for the 2013 State Convention.

Alternate Delegates Report:

Dave C. (614-882-0036) or altdelegate@area53aa.org

The three months of December 2011 through the 2012 Mini Conference in March 2012 were very busy and I found that the members of the Mini Conference Committee, Area officers, especially Glen P., the DCMs (district committee members) and Standing Committee chairs were all extremely helpful in all the work that I participated in. / My schedule of commitments included four (4) Mini-conference meetings January 12, February 9 and 26, and March 1. I also did chair the 2012 Area 53 Mini-Conference during the weekend of March 9 – 11.

My other commitments included participation in the January 8 Area Committee meeting in Lancaster, the 39th Annual Conference of Delegates Past and Present held February 10 – 12 in Miamisburg and the Area 53 Corrections Committee quarterly meeting March 3 in Columbus.

Delegate's Report:

Glen P. (740-983-6693) or delegate@area53aa.org

During the past quarter I have attended Special Needs-Accessibilities committee meetings (2), Mini-Conference committee meetings (3), the annual Conference of Delegates and Past Delegates and the Area 53 Committee meeting. Most of the quarter was consumed with preparations for our mini conference and for the 62nd Conference in New York coming up in April.

The February trustees report contained the following figures for AWS at year-end 2011 total contributions amounted to 6.266 million or 2.2% less than last year and 234,000 less than budget gross profit literature sales was 7.9 million. Total revenue for AWS for 2011 was 14.2 million for the expenses of 13.4 million in income of 800,000. The reserve fund has a balance of 14.5 million or approximately 11.3 months of operating expenses.

Don M, the chief financial officer for AAWs, gave four scenarios of budget projections for 2013 and 2014. They range from minimal profits to significant losses in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The Grapevine, for 2011, showed a profit of \$22,800 on a paid circulation was 88,200.

Grapevines 2012 budget reflected net profit of \$34,000. Even though the Grapevine board says they are losing about 4000 subscriptions per year they hope to offset those losses by publishing new Grapevine books each year. They will be coming out with three new books in 2012 possibly a fourth the Grapevine also asks for approval of a possible drawdown of \$100,000 from the reserve fund in 2012. This was granted by the finance committee.

Old Business:

1. **Mini-Conference Update** Committee Report: Steve C. (614-323-1150)

At this point there are 114 participants compared to 128 last year. Eighty-eight people have signed up for the banquet this year compared to 80 last year. The mini conference committees' annual budget annually is \$5,000.

2. **IRS Application** Jim F. read the letter the IRS sent to the assembly acknowledging receipt of Area 53's application and informing us of that a determination will be made within 90 days of the date of the letter. There was some discussion regarding what the letter meant and else would be required of us to comply with the Internal Revenue Code

3. **Guideline Revision Request** was submitted on 9-11-2011. The existing guideline is as follows: The full Area 53 Assembly will meet on the second Sunday of the months of March, June, September, and December. The new proposed guideline is as follows: The full Area Assembly will meet on the second Sunday of the months of March, September, and December, but will meet on the first Sunday in June.

There was a lengthy discussion. Peggy A. called the question: There were 50 in favor of the motion to call the question, and 1 opposed.

VOTE: The voting results were 32 in favor of the guideline revision, 22 in opposition; the motion failed.

The assembly heard the Minority Opinion. When asked whether anyone changed their vote as a result of the Minority Opinion, several people claimed that their vote had changed. Steve s. made a motion to re-vote: Mark S. seconded the motion.

Considering to RE-VOTE: 34 in favor of re-vote, 15 opposed to re-vote.

More discussion prevailed. The chairperson closed the discussion and called for a vote.

RE-VOTE of Area guideline change: 32 in favor, 17 opposed; motion failed.

New Business:

- 1) The **Ohio State Convention 2012** will be the weekend of July 20, 21, and 22. It will be held in Beachwood, Cleveland at the Hilton East, and will be sponsored by Area 54.
- 2) The **2013 Ohio State Convention** will be sponsored by Area 53, the first committee meeting will be held on April 18, 2012 at Sonic in Athens Ohio on Stimson Ave.
- 3) Area 53 welcomes our most recent Panel 61 Officer, Dona C. She has agreed to serve as our **Alternate Recording Secretary**.