

# CENTRAL NEW YORK AREA 47

AACNY.ORG, P.O. Box 18063, Rochester, NY 14618

## Area Assembly Minutes for November 9, 2014, Ithaca, NY

*These Minutes Are the Actual Confidential Reporting of the Recorded Business of Central New York Area 47 Assembly.*

*Please respect the anonymity of those members found within these reporting's.*

November 9, 2014

Volume 1, edition 1



**Assembly called to order** by Chairman, Debby R. @ 1:04 pm. A brief explanation was given by the chairman about the agenda for today's assembly and locations of committee meeting rooms, locations of the Ask-it-Baskets, and exits, and rest rooms about the building. As always, Area Assemblies are non-smoking meetings. Debby explained that due to the amount of old business today, we are not expecting to get to any reports.

**Past delegates present:** Jim D. (35), Bob W. (37), Rosemary P. (39), Lisa H. (47), Paul W. (53), Liz O. (57), and Tom T. (61)

**New GSR Introductions:** There were 5 new GSRs and 1 new Alternate GSR introduced at the mic.

**Break for committee meetings:** Locations of committee meetings throughout the building were given.

**GSR School:** Conducted by Dave and Bob W. No DCM school today.

**GSR Workshop** called to order @ 2:15 pm. It was led by Lisa H, Past Delegate, Panel 47. The topic was: How we do business at area assembly and how information flows throughout AA. It ended @ 2:55 pm followed by a 15 minute break. Returned at 3:10 pm

**Voting procedure explanation** was given and the standing count of eligible voters was 78. (51% = 40, 2/3 = 52)

**Third Legacy Procedure to elect a Northeast Regional Trustee Candidate from Area 47:** The candidates were: Jim D., Bob W., Lisa H., Tom T. and Paul W. Each candidate was given two minutes at the mic to offer their AA experiences. The winner was Bob W., Past Delegate, Panel 37. Congratulations to Bob W. He will be our Area 47 candidate when the Northeast delegates vote for the next Regional Class B Trustee at the Conference in April 2015.

**Treasurer Report:** given by Tom S., treasurer. The month of October was presented in detail which can be seen in complete entirety at the end of the minutes. **A motion to approve** the Treasurers Report was made, 2<sup>nd</sup> and a **show of hands approved**.

**Secretary's Report:** given by Rosemary P., past delegate: Bill reported he had Peter G. over and we went through how to set up the CDs for listening. He watched as we pulled the information from the CD, put together and edited the body of the minutes for the month. Some of the reports are handed in which makes the work easier; others still don't think that their reports need to be handed in, therefore, we have to go to the CD and listen for them.

We mailed October minutes on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There were 255 pieces; postage was \$67.66. Then we went on the website and sent out the minutes from the email base on October 24th. I had 50 extra copies printed for the hand-out table. We got back 14 non-deliverable emails which were forwarded to the Registrar for correction. For Cindy S.: I did go back to the previous month CD for the Minority Opinion vote count change. It was not on the CD, however, I looked at my written notes for that day and the Minority Opinion count change is what I had in my notes. So, there will be no changes to last month's minutes. The secretary's note in this month's minutes after the Finance Report is to correct dollar amounts which were not accurately reported. When we make reports we assume we are being given accurate information. Since this report was not handed in, the CD was used and quoted.

On the table up front are my itemized financial records. I made 40 copies. As a result of putting this together we found that \$419.07 was carried over from the previous fiscal year's printing costs. I believe this to be an honest error, but, this report for the fiscal year July 2013 through June 2014 needs to be corrected as a mistake has been made which makes it inaccurate. This cost report will be made available on the website for future use.

Peter G., Secretary-elect will be sitting in for me today as I am still recovering from a bad virus.

**A motion to approve the minutes was made and 2<sup>nd</sup>, a vote of hands for approval.** Two Minority Opinions were heard. Tom S. asked whether we should approve the minutes without the Secretary present. Area chair put issue to rest.

### **Old Business:**

**Item One:** Secretary Elect, Peter G. **made a motion**, "that I be allowed to attend, as Secretary, NERAASA 2015" **The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Discussion at mic by 6 people, also noting that the funding was already in the Secretary's 2015 budget. Comments centered about all the officers should go to NERAASA 2015 and amend the handbook to cover this. This keeps coming up year after year. **The question was called** by chair seeing no one at the mic. A hand count vote of a **majority of hands approved the motion.**

**Item Two:** Tom T., Past Delegate, Panel 6, asked the "Area to form an ad hoc committee for the purpose of looking at language that was removed from the service manual during the process of formulating "The Plan" and, part II, to look for ways

to help the Grapevine.” He would like one rep from each district. Area Chairman, Debby R. **with the assembly’s approval appointed** an ad hoc committee to look into these matters with Tom T. as chairman of said committee. A question was raised from the floor about the Area Chairman’s role as to making a motion to form an ad-hoc committee. The response is that it is the chairman’s responsibility to APPOINT ad-hoc committee with specific job descriptions and it is done with a simple applause of area approval. It is not a motion.

**Item Three:** Barb C. (0680 & 0670) put **forth a motion** and was 2<sup>nd</sup>, about changing the way and how often the Assembly meets. The entire motion is printed below. A Point of Order was called about an assembly having hold on future panels. It was noted that we have a handbook that we try to follow and it does guide future assemblies in their direction based upon past experience. It was pointed out that in 2008 an ad hoc committee presented a complete report of many different ways to change how we meet, but, nothing was ever done. So, Districts 0670 and 0680 wanted to at least present to assembly a choice. This motion also addresses Standing Committees meeting at the same time as Area Committee; a long standing complaint. Nine people addressed pro and con to the motion. Tom S. called for **tabling the motion; a majority show of hands tabled it.**

**The Motion:** *District 0670/0680 makes a motion that starting in January of 2015 that the number of times Area 47 holds their assemblies be reduced from the presently scheduled 11 in a calendar year to a total of 6 in a calendar year. The scheduled meeting times of these assemblies shall be as follows: Area Assembly will be held in February, March, April, September, October, and November. February's Assembly will have the primary emphasis of conducting area business i.e. standing committee reports, area officer reports, district reports, and discussing motions. March and April's Assemblies will be devoted to discussing Conference Agenda items. September, October, and November, [with the exception of the September Assembly falling in even number year) will be held to conduct area business, i.e. standing committee reports, area officer reports, district reports, and discussing motions and possible Agenda items to be submitted for consideration at the General Service Conference.*

*The September Assembly of even numbered years will be devoted to elections of Area Officers.*

*Area Committee will meet one-hour prior to the beginning of all Area Assemblies.*

*Area Committee will also meet, independent of the full Assembly, in January and July to discuss any business that may need to be addressed between Assemblies.*

*Standing committees will be held during the first hour of Area Assembly, with Area business to follow.*

*The GSR workshop will be a 1/2 hour and held at the end of the Assembly. The Chairperson can elect to have the GSR workshop discussion run concurrently with dinner if Area assembly has run long.*

*Our Delegate's Report will be given in the month of May or June at either an Area Convention or a Day of Sharing. Area Committee and standing committees will also meet during this event at separate times.*

**Schedule:** *January-Area Committee, February-Area Assembly, March- Area Assembly, April -Area Assembly, May- Convention/Day of Sharing (Delegate's report), June-none, July-Area Committee, August- None, September-Area Assembly, October-Area Assembly; November-Area Assembly, December-none.***Agenda:** *1:00 to 2:00 – Area Committee; 2:00 to 3:00 – Standing Committees; 3:00 to 5:00—Reports and Business; 5:00 to 5:30--GSR Workshop*

**Item Four:** John H., Website Chair, presented **a motion to** “Switch over the Area 47 test servers to production servers website for the New Area 47 Website. This will be done quickly and without interruption.” **This motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Two questions were asked and answered by John as to how quickly this will be done. **A motion to call the vote** was made at the mic, a simple majority to call the vote. **A majority of hands approved to call the vote.** Voting on the motion was an over whelming show of hands **to approve the website motion.**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Item One:** Area Chairman Elect, Karen McL., with the **assembly’s approval** put forth her selection of four members for Standing Committee Chairpersons for next year as follows: Literature, Rob S., Public Information, Laurie S., Treatment, Peter B. and Website, Colleen K. All were **approved by applause** from the assembly floor. Congratulations on new **appointments.** More appointments will be coming in the future. If you are interested in chairing a Standing Committee, please contact Karen McL. (585-747-9696 or karen@QBcomm.com)

**Item Two:** GSR Workshop for December: Three suggestions were: 1- Holding our servants accountable, 2-**How does the area carry the message to the still sick and suffering alcoholic** and 3-Fulling commitment within the group and within area. Number two won with 30 votes.

**Item Three:** Literature Chair Elect, Rob S. **brought forth a motion** “to support ESCYPAA with literature support at their Empire Convention on August 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015.” The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion followed. ESCYPAA asked for literature

support for the young people's event. Mike S. called for motion to table and it was 2<sup>nd</sup>. A show of hands turned down the motion to table. The question was called and a vote was taken to call; motion was called to vote. A show of hands overwhelmingly showed support for this motion. Minority Opinion was heard; 3 votes changes. No motion to reconsider called for, the motion passed.

**Item Four:** Peter G., Secretary Elect, made the Motion and it was 2<sup>nd</sup>, "that Area 47 make available \$1365 dollars for the purchase of a printer, paper, rubber stamp, toner cartridges, and stickers for printing Area 47 Minutes." Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion followed: *The cost of the ~ Printer spread over 2 years would be ~ \$550. Year; with monthly material costs of: 7 Reams of paper at ~\$10= \$70.; ~ Ink Toner Cartridge = \$150. One and a Half months; \$9 dollars for double stickers to hold Minutes together; rubber stamp ~\$7.(one time Cost), and ~\$60 to \$70 monthly for United States Postage; Stickers for sealing \$6.25. Printer: ~\$550.Toner: ~\$600. (One and A Half Years), Paper: ~\$800. (84 Reams per Year-7 reams monthly), Postage: ~\$720. (~\$60. Per month). A Motion to table is called. Simple majority show of hands approved tabling. Motion was tabled.*

**Item Five:** Mike S., Finance Chair, put forth a motion, and 2<sup>nd</sup>, "To change the language of calling the Area Projected Expenditure change to Proposed Budget using every day language." Seven people discussed both sides of the motion at the mic. A call to vote was made and 2<sup>nd</sup>, a vote to call the motion was taken, 36 hands in favor, no hands opposed. The motion was called. A vote of 41 in favor, 8 opposed. The Motion Passed. With minority opinion heard. No votes changed.

**OPEN FORUM:** (two minutes at the mic)

Pat, GSR for Love and Service Group, said a member of my home pointed out to them that some officers gave letters of written support to a convention coming to Rochester Area using their Area Titles in doing so. These support letters were never brought before Area for endorsement or acknowledgement. My group had an issue that some officers stepped out of their bounds, this we thought you might be also. We would like a response to this next assembly.

Billy, ESCYPAA is hosting a Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving Day. Meetings 9am to 7 pm, 183 North Main Street , at St. John Episcopal Church. It's a good cause come hungry.

Don H. mentioned that at the September assembly, there was a piece of Finger Lakes Substance Abuse Council literature on our literature table. Did anyone see this and did you find it appalling? There was a photograph of an alcoholic on it. Am I the only one who saw that? Is this our policy?

Bill, 0540 DCM, we invite you to our Gratitude Dinner in Elmira next Saturday. It's at 330 West Church Street, Elmira, NY.

Carrie C., Recording Secretary Elect, "If you are a new rotating in DCM or Alt. DCM I have forms that need to be filled out for next year.

Patty S., Delegate, " I know we are out of time: Northeast Region will host a Hospitality Suite at Atlanta 2015 and is in need of support from other Northeast Regional areas. Also all Standing Committee chairs and in-coming Officers should consider going to NERAASA 2015. It the best event you can go to. There are also 6 open standing committee spots for next year's panel. Please see Karen McL., Area Chair Elect if you are interested.

**Ask-it- Basket Question:**

1. Why were PI and CPC combined again? Have you ever heard of a group conscience? Answer: Debby R., "These committees were not combined here at area assembly. The motion made to combine was turned down two times in past two years."

**Next Assembly:** (December) Grace Christian Fellowship, 1250 Fisher Avenue, Cortland, NY 13045, please use North entrance.

Assembly was called to close @ 5:56 pm by Debby R. with Responsibility statement. Thank you to Liverpool for your hospitality.

*The following reports were Not read at the mic due to time, but were brought with the intent to be read, they are published below for your Information.*

**Chairman Report: Debby R. reported that:**

The 2015-2016 Assembly calendars of assembly locations were reviewed as follows:

January -- Geneseo 0100's	February - Syracuse 0300&0400's	March --- Bath 500's
April---- Rochester 0200's	May-- Corning 0500's ***	June--- Leroy 0100's
July--- Alexandra Bay 0700's	August-- Cortland 0600's	September- Rochester, 0100's
October-- Ithaca 0600's	November-- Binghamton 0600's	December-- Syracuse 0300's

\*\*\*\*\*May: District 0500's are putting on Day of Sharing for Delegates Report

In attendance at AREA Committee today were many of the newly elected district committee members. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and encourage. You have accepted a service position that requires time and dedication. I personally am grateful for your service commitment.

This year my anniversary passed quietly without any fanfare. By the grace of a loving God and the fellowship of alcoholics anonymous I celebrated 26years of continuous sobriety on October 22, 2014.

I am always learning and relearning at area assembly and want to clarify what I think is a misconception. There are three times that the area chairperson must come before the area assembly under new business:

- When new committee chairperson(s) are appointed
- When an ad-hoc committee is formed/requested
- When the area chair wishes to spend area's funds not designated in the budget/projected expenditures.

Under the description "Area Chairperson" it states "with approval of the Area Assembly, appoints standing and ad-hoc committee chairpersons to coordinate ongoing service activities or to address special issues or problems. Also appoints the Area Literature and Grapevine Representatives, Archivist and Sound System Technician with the approval of the assembly."

At the October assembly past Delegate Tom T. came to me and requested that an ad-hoc committee be formed for the purpose of preparing an agenda item for the upcoming conference in April 2015. Agenda items need to be in by December 2014. We did not have time at the October assembly to cover this item under new business. This past assembly I brought Tom's request before the assembly floor. The only way to get the approval of the assembly is for the chairperson to ask the assemblies approval under new business. So when I come before you under these circumstances I am fulfilling my responsibility as your area chairperson.

As much as the GSRs are here to learn it does not give them liberty or any other trusted servant liberty to take pot shots at any trusted servant. Remember that AA is not punitive. We should have respect, patients and tolerance for one another.

I have one more speaking commitment as your area chairperson. On November 22, 2014 the Rochester Districts Meeting is hosting a day of sharing at Gates Memorial Park. The theme is "Celebrating Anniversaries; Let literature carry the message too." I will join our delegate, alt delegate and secretary on this panel.

Looking back this past year was a year of growth. I have never before kept my cool and my mouth shut at area assembly for as long as I did this year. This year the pressure and tension was greater than all of the last nine years put together. I say that also to say that I would do it again in a heartbeat. If I have offended any of you please accept my sincerest apologies. If I have helped or encouraged you as trusted servants know that I have a debt of gratitude for what you bring to area assembly. It has been my pleasure to serve you.

**Delegate Report:** Delegate Report: due to the late hour of the assembly, I gave a brief report during Open Forum. There will be A Hospitality Suite at the 2015 International Convention hosted by the Areas of the Northeast Region. I would like our area to Consider participating both financially and volunteering time. I will bring this to next month's assembly with a motion. I had brought 2015 NERAASA registration forms last month and hope that the newly appointed committee chairs will consider going. Last year the hotel was filled months before the Feb. date. It will be in N.J. We have a lot of new DCM's. Yah! I hope the rotating DCM's will consider a committee chair position. Our area doesn't want to lose your experienced service. Please let Karen M., please let our newly elected Chair know if you are interested. Thank you for this honor to serve as your area Panel 63 delegate, Patty S.

#### **Alternate Delegates Report:**

Alternate Delegates Report: Because of time constraints this report was not presented at the assembly.

**Concept XI:** While the trustees hold final responsibility for A.A.'s world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs and consultants. Therefore, the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern.

This concept focuses on the composition, function and relationship with the General Service Board (GSB), General Service Office (GSO), A.A. Grapevine and the GSB standing committees. Consequently, It teaches us to serve with the highest level of commitment possible.

The concept was published in 1962. If it were to be written today many of the descriptions would be revised and some issues commented on are no longer relevant. (The Concept has 10 footnotes describing revisions made or commenting on the relevance of the text.) One example is Bill W. writing that men have better business acumen by virtue of their sex. This value judgment is not acceptable in our society. And a footnote makes clear that today the hiring practices of the GSO fully comply with all regulatory hiring practices. But the concept as a whole is far from being irrelevant. A strong example is found in the examination of the pro and con of the GSB managing the Grapevine.

The GSB is not a lone entity in charged with running A.A. They share, in the strongest sense of the word, responsibility with: Non trustee members of the trustees' committees; Non trustee directors of the 2 operating boards (A.A. World Service and Grapevine); Executives at the GSO, and GSO staff members

The business principles which apply are seasoned with the fellowships spiritual principles. Because, we don't make widgets, we do lifesaving work. The operating principles reinforce Tradition Two: No member is placed in ultimate authority.

*Status of executives:* One person in charge with freedom and authority to do their job

*Paid workers:* Salary ranges are compatible with industry standards. Rotation for responsibilities among paid staff (does not include office management). Full participation of paid workers

Voting members of the General Service conference include: Delegates, Trustees, Directors of Staff members of A.A. World Service and A.A. Grapevine

Ultimately Concept XI, along with the A.A. Steps, Traditions and other Concepts ask us if we are willing to change our life and behavior from one that is "self-will run riot" to a life based on how we, as sober alcoholics, can best serve God and others. -Joseph S., Alternate Delegate

**Recording Secretary:** Peter B. reported that: A new addition of the hand book will be available at December's assembly. I will also be submitting a copy to the website committee for access from the website. The login access is Area47 user name and Hand book is password. Next month I will be sitting with Carrie C. recording Secretary elect. It will be helpful if all incoming new DCM's and Alts DCM's stop by and update us with your information for the 2015 trusted servant lists.

**Website Committee:** As you know, the Area 47 Website Committee has been working on converting our current website ([www.aacny.org](http://www.aacny.org)) to the new design. We had hoped to do this with no disruption of your access to the site. Unfortunately, due to some hosting service technical issues beyond our control, there will likely be some downtime in the next few days. Please, be patient, as we iron out the problem. You will probably encounter some broken links and error messages when visiting the site. We are working hard to address these issues and will keep you informed. Thank you for your understanding. And thank you for the opportunity to serve. We can be reached at [webteam@aacny.org](mailto:webteam@aacny.org). Colleen K. Area 47 Website Committee.

**Corrections Committee:** Michelle: I stood in for Ted and we had 7 in attendance today. We talked about state applications. Dick from dist. 0106 Livingston, talked about his experience with bringing in meetings. Wayne from Binghamton talked about his experience with corrections. Bonnie shares 0500 making progress forming a local corrections committee. Michelle will make copies of the NYS applications and will mail to Ted. We distributed 3 bridging the Gap requests, 1 in Rochester and 2 in Syracuse areas.

**October Detailed Treasurer Reports for November Minutes.**

<b>10/1/2014</b>	<b>Check Register Balance</b>		<b>\$8,044.91</b>
	<b>General Account</b>		
<b>10/1/2014</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>		<b>\$7,111.32</b>
<b>Income</b>	Contributions	\$1,986.93	
		\$0.00	
		\$0.00	
<b>Expenses</b>			
	Delegate	-\$109.77	
	Archivist	-\$49.19	
	Accessibility	-\$104.60	
	CPC Chair	-\$34.69	
	Grapevine	-\$153.40	
	Literature	-\$24.80	
	Pittsford Printing (Minutes)	-\$335.23	
	Postmaster	-\$70.00	
	Secretary	-\$31.68	
	Treasurer	-\$111.69	
		-	
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$1,025.05	
<b>10/31/2014</b>			<b>\$8,073.20</b>
	<b>Grapevine account</b>		
<b>10/1/2014</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>		<b>\$713.29</b>
	Sales	\$361.75	
	Reorder	-\$609.43	
<b>10/31/2014</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>		<b>\$465.61</b>
	<b>Literature Account</b>		
<b>10/1/2014</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>		<b>\$220.30</b>
	Sales	\$1,243.19	
	Reorder	-\$772.45	
<b>10/31/2014</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>		<b>\$691.04</b>
<b>10/31/2014</b>	<b>Check Register Balance</b>		<b>\$9,229.85</b>

<b>Itemized Expenses</b>			
	<b>Mileage</b>	<b>Copying</b>	
	<b>Tolls</b>	<b>Printing</b>	<b>Literature</b>
<b>Convention Workshops</b>		<b>Postage</b>	<b>Gen. Oper.</b>
	(\$38.57)	(\$33.22)	(\$37.98)
	(\$49.19)		
	(\$104.60)		
	(\$34.69)		
	(\$117.60)	(\$35.80)	
	(\$24.80)		
		(\$335.23)	
		(\$70.00)	
	(\$31.68)		
	(\$36.06)	(\$68.13)	(\$7.50)

