

**District 61 Meeting Minutes**  
**July 31, 2024**  
**First Congregational Church, Geneva**

Serving Batavia, Elburn, Geneva, La Fox, Maple Park, St. Charles, and Wayne

1. Meeting called to order by DCM at 7:00 PM
2. Quiet time followed by Serenity Prayer
3. DCM reviewed meeting decorum and procedures.
4. Roll Call: 29 in attendance, 1 on Zoom, 10 called/texted not able to attend, 18 were not present.
5. Tradition 7 read by Betty F and Concept 7 read by Bron M
6. Introductions and recognize new members:
  - GSR: Missy R
7. A.A. Anniversaries
  - Natalie G— 12 years
8. 7th Tradition read, and basket passed
9. June Minutes:
  - Approval motioned by Therese S, seconded by Rich N
  - Updates to be made: \$930 instead of 930, clarification that it was received from 7th tradition

10. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Calendar Review

11. **OFFICERS REPORTS:**

**District Committee Member (DCM): Katie R Alt: Lisa V**

- Events
  - Area Picnic 8/3
  - Batavia Club Bingo night 8/17
  - Big Book conference 11/9
  - 2025 International
- Noted the proposed motion request to be added to the Fall Assembly, 9-7-24

**Secretary - Dawn V (NP) or alt Kate K**

- June minutes have been approved with minor edit

**Registrar: Betty F:**

- Change to the schedule; Sunday breakfast club group is now an open meeting, reading Big Book stories.

**Treasurer: Lance T, Alt: Rich N**

- Current bank balance is \$3,556.75 in the bank, which is greater than the \$2,500 prudent reserve.
- A request was made to add the prudent reserve amount as a separate line item, Lance will update.

12. **GSR REPORTS:**

- Missy R, GSR of Saturday Night Specials group at St. Marks church discussed the need to fill out a facility request form, and as form to request exemption from the church fee. She also noted an indemnification form and wanted to discuss with other GSRs of meetings at that location. It was agreed she would continue discussion right after District meeting with appropriate GSRs.

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13. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Accessibility: Julie P (NP), Alt: Carol Ann M**

- Meetings are consistent at Bria, working on a system to get coverage commitments.
- Next going to Homestead to look at meeting potential there.

**Answering Service: Open, Alt: Bernie McC(NP)**

- Chair position is now open.

**Corrections: Todd M (NP), Alt-Women: Open, Alt-Men: John M (NP)**

- Katie to contact Todd again. He and John are doing the work, but they need someone to represent Corrections at the district level.

**CPC & PI (Coop. w/ Prof. Comm. & Public Information): Janan O (NP), Alt: Larissa MacN (NP)**

- NA, everything is running smoothly, will know about school schedules next month and will start going after that.

**Grapevine: John C, Alt: Sarah L**

- John reached out to St. Charles Library about sending them Grapevines, has not yet heard back.
- Geneva Library is approved and will start receiving Grapevines.
- John has orange bags to recycle Grapevines for correction facilities for anyone to take and fill up.

**Literature: Al S, Alt OPEN:**

- Have 100 packets in the trunk for those who need them.

**Treatment: Steve H (NP), Alt: Therese S**

- Things are going great, they go the first Wednesday of each month.

**Webmaster: Betty F , Alt: Rick N:**

- Betty noted that Rick updated the website, and asked that everyone check their meetings for accuracy.
- Updated site to WordPress 6.6.1, please email if any issues are noticed.
- Betty found DuckDuckGo renewal was \$44, she received a check to cover from Lance.

14. **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Founders' Literature Proposed Motion Letter-**

- Lisa V. assumed facilitation from Katie R during the conversation.
- Presented by Katie R and guest, Jim L as AA members who helped create the following Proposal in brief:

In the future, the English versions of the Founders Literature shall never be changed or amended by the General Service Conference (GSC meets each year with 143 members, 93 of those are delegates representing all the areas of US and Canada) except by first asking the consent of the known AA groups of the US and Canada which affords direct participation of the majority of the membership. And there be  $\frac{3}{4}$  consent to the proposed changes of those responding before any Conference action be taken to make changes.

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**Discussion and Q&A**

- 2021 changes to 12x12 remain the same or reversed?
  - They remain as is; they are negligible and stand as history.
- Worldwide or US & Canada?
  - The later, and English versions only.
- How would the membership as a whole learn of future proposed changes?
  - GSRs would be contacted directly from GSO.
  - The Area Delegates would learn there is a proposal in progress awaiting GSRs or group rep responses at the GSC.
  - The DCMs would learn from the Delegates and GSRs then make sure all groups who don't have active GSRs are informed.
- $\frac{3}{4}$  of respondents must favor the Proposal for it to become a motion at a GSC where the 143 members would then discuss and vote with a  $\frac{2}{3}$  voting in favor to become an Advisory Action.
- Natalie noted she was DCM in this period and was at the 2021 assembly that voted, and at the time, there were limited groups attending, validating the concern.
- Need for further clarification of the process to move forward:
  - The Proposal goes to the Area Assembly this Saturday
  - He noted there is also a second proposal to protect the Founder's Literature being raised.
  - One or both may be approved and could be included in the September Fall Assembly.
  - If the Proposal passes there, it is sent to GSO. If it doesn't pass at Fall Assembly, it will be sent to GSO anyway with a list of the groups that support it.
- What specifically is covered under Founders' Literature in the Proposal?
  - Within the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous: the first 164 pages, the Preface, the Forewords, "The Doctor's Opinion," "Doctor Bob's Nightmare, and the Appendices. Also, the text in the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.
- What kind of proposals does GSO get?
  - The expectation is that there will be many similar to this one.

**Concerns:**

- A Proposal that bypasses the current system is very concerning because it would make it very difficult to make changes to the Founders' Literature, even small changes.
- $\frac{3}{4}$  approval of reporting groups required to approve is large.
  - Jim noted he's following proper format to submit the Proposal. Also clarified the previous letter submitted at Area asked that the Charter be changed, which makes it almost impossible for a change, while this letter asks to create an Advisory Action, which can be changed.

- Lisa turned meeting back to Katie- Fall Assembly is 9-7-24, next District Meeting is 8-28-24

15. Closed with Responsibility Statement

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**Meeting Adjourned: 7:57 PM**  
Respectfully submitted by: Kate K

**2024 District Meeting Calendar**

January 26	February 23	March 22
April 24 Weds Going Forward	May 29 -Service Presentation	June 26
July 31	<b>August 28 Next Meeting</b>	September 25
October 30	November (Nov & Dec >>>)	December 4