

DISTRICT 61

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

MEETING MINUTES

Welcome

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| 1 | Meeting Called to Order | 7:01 |
| 2 | Meeting decorum and procedures | Reviewed by DCM |
| 3 | Roll Call checklist | 29 attending (26 in person, 3 zoom) 0 guests |
| 4 | Readings | Tradition 4 read by Julie Concept 4 read by Rich |
| 5 | Introductions and recognize new members | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Becky - GSR |
| 6 | A.A. Anniversaries | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lance T – 21 years woot!• Jim G – 38 years woot! |
| 7 | 7th Tradition was observed | |
| 8 | Approval of March Minutes | Motion to approve: Bron Seconded by: Todd All in favor, minutes approved |
| 9 | Elections / Positions | Open positions remain for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessibility Chair• Accessibility Alt• Grapevine Alt.• CPCPI Alt |

Officers Reports

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| 1 | District Committee Member Kyle W. Alt: Elizabeth S | Kyle: See Addendum Elizabeth: Working on the committee meeting and getting volunteers. Contact Elizabeth if you have any ideas or needs for the Friday Flyer email. |
| 2 | Secretary Kate K. Alt: Julie P | No report |
| 4 | Treasurer Lance T. Alt: Rich N | See budget addendum Contributions were generous We have \$7000, less 2500 prudent reserve - \$4500 in excess. Lance Proposes Motion – \$1500 to Area and GSO each Second by Hugh All in favor, motion passes There are pre-printed district envelopes for meeting contributions. • |
| 4 | LCM Bron M. Alt: Kent R. | Quiet month – it will pick up in the summer. Welcome Becky who is a new GCR. |

Old Business

1. None

New Business

1. 5th addition big books – few years away but maybe a 'book drive'
2. Bron gave an overview of information from the recent Conference
 - a. Corrections: discuss usefulness of tablets and digital correspondence.
 - b. Budget – operating at a deficit, due to relocation
 - c. Grapevine – made improvement over last year. Weekly online open meeting coming soon, will be a podcast
 - d. Literature – 5th edition reviewed and moving forward. Considerig publication of 30 stories removed from 4th edition
 - e. Publishing – reviews of the plain language big book is strong, with strong demand for copies

Committee Reports

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| 1 | Accessibility Open. Alt: open | No Report |
| 2 | Answering Service Sheila P. Alt: Jeanette J (NP) | 8 calls last month, some tests but 4 were useful meeting info provided. Success with the correct info given on google service. There is a list of people who can do 12 step calls. There is room for 6 on the call recipient list. They have 4 spots filled, and will add 2 more soon. |
| 3 | Corrections M: Todd M. Alt: Open W: Carol Ann (NP) | CA is getting reinstated to get her badge. There getting more women volunteers, women volunteer in pretty good shape. Men – could use a couple more, its just Todd and Jim. Even one more guy would help. Need to go in as pairs. If interested, you go online to do a training session, then get a badge. Todd can help. Meetings are Monday nights, roughly 6:30 – 8:30 (with going in and going out) It's a good time to act, there are many training sessions going on in May. Can go to the Kane County Jail website and look for volunteer training info. They're also waiting for books from Area, waiting to hear back. Kanecountysherrif.com – contact Bill Woods, can get his email from the site |
| 4 | CPC & PI Janan O. (NP) Alt: Open | No report |
| 5 | Literature Natalie G. Alt: AI S (NP) | Looking for feedback on the newcomer packet example (sent around during meeting). Looking for feedback on getting hard cover big books. In bulk it is \$15ish each. There is no published date yet for the 5 th Edition. Committee meeting in May – will participate breakout group to look for other ideas Noted using the QR sticker for meeting agendas, instead of paper that can get dated. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• She still has 60 packets, without the mini big book. In good shape• She noted from assembly, other groups buy hard cover books.• Example – have a packet that is \$1. Then order big books• Add a sticker with QR code to save printing of schedules. No large expenses expected pending decision on big books. |
| | Grapevine (John NP) | (emailed update): For the <i>Grapevine</i> , please encourage members to collect printed <i>Grapevines</i> so that we can distribute them to people in |

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| | | corrections. My goal for the next month is to create a flier to promote the Grapevine (print, app, and streaming) and have it for the next District meeting. |
| 6 | Registrar Betty F. Alt: Dawn V (NP) | Keeping the lists updated as needed |
| 7 | Treatment M: Steve H (NP) W: Terese S | Terese says things are going well. Looking for women speakers, see Terese (first Wed of the month). |
| 8 | Webmaster Rick N. Alt: Katie R (NP) | See addendum for full update Katie is keeping events, grapevine etc updated on website Rick is working on performance speed. After first load it performs well. He'll bring analytics to next meeting. Zoom account: has been purchased and set up started. |
| 9 | Archives Sarah L. Alt: Missy R (NP) | Sarah attended monthly area workshops and meetings. They're reading through an Archives workbook – which is providing guidelines. Missy has a big book from an older meeting with notations, they'll archive that (getting preservation materials). Also doing interviews. Will inventory a box of materials, and put in preservation materials. Sarah will bring items in to a future meeting |
| 10 | Young Persons Dave D | Partnering on a flyer/young persons speaker meeting – still working on that. May put a motion in to sponsor pizza to draw in young people to the meetings and service work. Open speaker meeting, with a goal to encourage more young people participation on service work. |

GSR Reports

None this month

Wrap Up

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted by: Kate K

Addendum - Report Submissions

April 2026 DCM Report April 2026

This month I attended the Pre General Service Conference in Rockford and the monthly DCM zoom meeting. I also have been working with Elizabeth and Lori to get ready for the upcoming committee meeting on May 16th.

The pre GSC didn't have a large amount of input from the greater Area 20 membership. Some topics were simply read off and others had deeper discussion. One of the items that was explained was the difference between a "review" and "consideration" A review item is an action that will be discussed in committee and floor. A consideration item is one that will be discussed and then voted on. CPC discussion was centered on the availability of workbooks and kits as well as videos available on AA.org. These are a valuable tool for all CPC committees. PI discussion was based on getting the word out about the AA podcast and Grapevine YouTube. I worked with Katie to get those links up on our District website. Check them out and subscribe. These resources need our support and cost nothing.

The biggest point of discussion was the idea of creating a 12 step workbook that is conference approved. There are many other options out there but nothing that AAWS has ever printed. The obvious point of contention was the cost of producing such material. Many people spoke up that money shouldn't be an issue if we are service the alcoholic that still suffers. I learned that only AAWS material is allowed into jails, so this could be a good outlet for the incarcerated alcoholic. Much of the counter feedback was around the workbook replacing a sponsor. I brought my opinion to the floor and advocated that if it helps someone struggling it would be a beneficial resource. We are not in charge of how someone gets sober, we just supply the tools and knowledge to help them on their journey.

Another good debate was about how to keep the grapevine magazine solvent. Based on previous surveys the Grapevine is an essential resource. Subscriptions are low though. One way to give a subscription is called Carry The Message. By donating a yearly or online subscription you can give a person without the means to purchase their own magazine. There was mostly opposition to directly taking funds from members.

On the monthly DCM zoom we had Kim (registrar) present the area roster. She made sure we are aware that the group change form is on the Area 20 website. This is a good reminder that an active meeting list and GSR list is important for GSO to get communications out and survey as needed. If anyone comes across a meeting that is no longer being attended, please let me know so we can remove it from the list. We don't want new members showing up to an empty meeting.

Web Admin Activity Report, April 29, 2026

- Added Grapevine & LaVina page (buttons to GSO pages).
- Updated Printable Meeting Schedule (April).
- Updated Events page (added/removed items).
- Updated District Meeting page (agenda added; prior minutes posted for approval).
- Adding caching plugin to help speed up performance
- We have not been migrated from Windows Hosting to Wordpress hosting, yet (by GoDaddy's schedule)
- Will look into file compression to help speed up site performance
- Page loads are slow due to shared server space with other sites which may utilize resources more, making requests for our page laggy
- The fix for shared server space is to upgrade our hosting service (or change hosts). I don't think we are there yet.

- Purchased District 61 Zoom Pro (annual) for **\$169.90**; setup in progress.
 - Ready after security level is finalized (target: **5/1/26**).
 - Uses: committees, trainings, district meetings.
 - Up to 30 hours; no simultaneous meetings (Business plan required).
 - Meetings scheduled through District Web Admins.

Zoom Security Choices

Waiting Room Only (No Registration) — Benefits

- **Fast for attendees:** Click the link and wait (no form).
- **Good for internal/known groups:** Works well when the invite is controlled.
- **Real-time screening:** Host admits/denies from the Waiting Room.
- **Less support:** Avoids missing registration email/link issues.

Require Registration First (Optional Waiting Room) — Benefits

- **Tighter access control:** Only registrants receive join details.
- **Identity/traceability:** Captures name/email (and any custom questions).
- **Tracking & follow-up:** Registrant list for reminders and reporting.
- **Optional approval:** Host can approve registrations.

Practical Guidance

- **Waiting Room only:** Best for internal meetings needing speed + screening.
- **Registration + Waiting Room:** Best for external events needing records + tighter access.