**Central Service Committee**

**Sept 3, 2013 Minutes**

Meeting was chaired by Chair George M. and opened at 7:02pm with a few moments of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

**Call For Items to be Added to the Agenda**

Requested by Foster L. - Reopen and revise Central Service Guidelines if proposed insurance motion is passed.

**12 Traditions** read by Shawn

**Roll Call –** Chair George M, Foster L – Co chair, Bill P – Treasurer, Paula D – Secretary, Brenda B – Entertainment , Tara Murray Serenity Sisters, Christopher Heckman Back to Basics, Shawn Mc – Keep it Simple, Dave T – West End Step, Jamie Q – Four Seasons, Murdo M– Chair Midwinter, Arlene P – Cole Harbour, Ron I – St. Margaret’s Bay, Bruce B – Atlantic Group, Trudy D – Back to Basics, Jim E – A/CSR Cole Harbour, Karen G – Downtown Dartmouth, Anne P, Living in the Solution, Judee J – Second Chance, Samaira G – Phone Chair, Rick H – Highland Park, Betty C – Mutual Group, Peter – Downtown Dartmouth, Darla W – Timberlea, Niall S - Acceptance

**Seventh Tradition -** $41.85

**Minutes from the Previous Meeting**

Recommended for Approval as circulated by Murdo – Approved.

**Reports:**

**Secretary** – Want to thank everyone for sending their reports to me before the meeting. I started the minutes before the meeting started today. Thanks again for your co-operation. Recommended for Approval by Samaira - Approved

**Treasurer** – Opening Balance $5,741.09, Credits $453.65, Checks Cleared $564.21, Bank Total $5,630.53 checks outstanding $0.00, Operating Balance $5,630.53, Prudent Reserve $2,168.40, Total Available funds $7,798.93. Recommended for approval by Shawn – Approved.

**Co-Chair** – August was busy with the insurance initiative and preparations for the upcoming roundup in October. The program for the roundup is now posted on the website and registrations are starting to roll in. On the insurance front there are currently 16 groups looking to participate and a motion will be put forward later re purchasing a policy. Groups who have not yet made a decision can always be added after the fact. This exercise has been a rewarding one and I want to thank all of you for your cooperation. The DCM’s are asked to provide continued assistance in this area by encouraging groups to be aware of possible liability issues. I represented Central Service at the District 2 meeting on August 18th and met with George the following week to discuss ongoing committee matters. Yours in service, Foster L, Co-Chair, Central Service Committee Recommended for approval by Anna - Approved

**Chair** – Greetings Folks; In many respects the ‘insurance issue’ has dominated much of our discussions over the past month. Foster and I have addressed the issue at group business meetings, had discussions with our two DCMs and have spoken to numerous individuals to promote and explain the options for groups in this regard. Foster and I shared the task of attending the District GSR meetings for Aug. Also we will continue to meet with the DCMs, Alternates and Treasurers this month in an ongoing dialogue to help and support each other through all service levels in both districts.

I was contacted by the Intergroup Chair from Vancouver who was doing a cross-Canada survey on Intergroup/Central Service offices. Her main questions concerned the size of our office, our paid staff and how much it cost to fund our operation. I was pleased to inform her that we operate our District 1 and 2 (in Area 82) Central Service function using volunteer recovering Alcoholics and have budgets for committee expenses only.

For your information - Districts 1 & 2 host 66 meetings per week in our HRM catchment area; these meetings are sponsored by 50 groups/meetings; 11 groups have multiple meetings per week; There are 40 groups/meetings in District 1 and 26 in District 2.

Please connect with me if you have comments, questions and suggestions for me as your Chair. Yours in Service, George

Recommended for approval by Ron – Approved

**Newsletter** – Trudy advised she has a lot of apologies to make. She is moving and all this weekend has been a blur. She sent it out without the Birthday page but sent the second one out with the page. She forgot to bring hard copies. First month of the newsletter experience was fun. She put an automatic reply on the email to let them know that the announcement has been received and if it is received after the 25th it will not go in the newsletter. Trudy promises next month the newsletter will be sent to Chris 2 days before the end of the month, will have copies, and will email the report to Paula. Recommended for approval by Arlene - Approved.

**Webmaster** – Good day, the following is the Help Email Coordinator and Website Admin reports for August and the first week of September: 1. Help Emails: August continued to have a higher volume than normal of people seeking help for Alcoholism. Six requests were responded to with responses to where meetings are located to 12 step calls. All requests were handled promptly, with two requests being connected with a current AA Member.

Contact List: All members of Central Service Committee have access to a contact list that was created a few months ago. If there is any feedback on this, please let the Website Admin know in order to determine its effectiveness. It can be accessed at the bottom of the left menu on the website.

The electronic mailing list now has 230 subscribers receiving new information on AA information within HRM on a monthly basis. Feedback has been great thus far. If you would like to see something new, email the Website Admin with your idea.

The website as a whole has received 1910 visits in the past 30 days, with the Meeting list the most visited followed by the Newsletter then Assembly 2013 Page. Thank you everyone who has been contributing. Christopher H AA Halifax Website Administrator

Recommended for approval by Betty – Approved.

**Hospital** – Betty stated there is not much to report. No calls. If anybody knows anyone who is sick let us know. Murdo asked do we have information posted anywhere at the hospital or at Point Pleasant Lodge. Is there anywhere we can post if anyone is sick to let us know. Betty advised that she hasn’t heard of anything about where she can post it. Arlene suggested posting it in the newsletter. She will write a blub for the newsletter. Foster suggested for the Cancer Lodge as well if anyone is here from away they will know who to contact. Recommended for approval by Jamie - Approved

**Telephone** – Committee Report Sept 3rd- We would like to thank all the volunteers who have been helping with the phones over the years, without you the phones would have been shut down. We all don’t want to see that happen. We got a call from District 17 to go to their workshop and help with them setting up a phone system. So on Sat we’ll be going to help out with that. We are also having a workshop in November for the Phone Committee and people wanting to know how the phones are looked after, how they can help. I believe the workshop will be on Saturday, November 23rd, at one pm, at 45 Connolly Road. Yours in Service, Samaira G. Recommended for Approval by Dave - Approved

**Mid-Winter Round-Up** – Murdo advised that there weren’t many at the meeting because of time and date of meeting. Everything is in place and moving nicely. Trudy announced the Spiritual Speaker will be Bill P. The Banquet Speaker is Lisa D from Denver, Colorado and the Spiritual Speaker will be Mari M from Thunder Bay via Florida. The program is complete pending the Al-Anon information due for December meeting once received the program will be ready for the printer. There remains discussion as to our printer for this year’s Round Up which should be sorted out by the next meeting of the Committee. The Early Bird Flyer is near completion. The color of the graphics need some change to insure readability of the information. The names of the speakers will be added. The completed flyer will be submitted to the executive and Registration for final approval. The flyer will be posted on our Web page and available for distribution through the Newsletter and the Assembly Round Up. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for October 6, 2013 at 1:00 pm room 619 Holiday Inn. Recommended for Approval by Chris - Approved

**Entertainment** – There will be no bowling for the month of September.

August 23, 24 and 25th - The camping weekend was a huge success thanks to all those who came out camping for the weekend and those who attended the Potluck BBQ. There was enough food to go around a couple of times. I would also like to thank the many volunteers who gave of their time to make it happen; Ron I. for his gaming skills and overall help with planning this event; Jim E for the set up and tear down of the BBQ event; Peter J for delivering the AA BBQ and charcoal; Michael L for his culinary expertise at the BBQ; Sam E for his pyromania skills (those were awesome bon fires); Karen G for helping to clean up after the BBQ; Sebastian for helping me to hammer the AA signs into the ground after they needed to be moved yet again; Susan Mac for the countless hours helping me beforehand in getting the tickets and flyers done up professionally and for those who sold tickets before the event: Ron, Jim, Paula and Samaira. Some of these individuals did multiple tasks, however, these are the big events that stand out for me and if any one of these things hadn't been taken care of with the help of these people, I couldn't have made this possible. These events can only happen when we all come together and pitch in. I am aware that there would have had to be others who helped with the clean up at the BBQ and throughout the weekend, however, I'm afraid I couldn't see everything. So if I missed your name I apologize. All I can say is WOW, what a beautiful, magical weekend under the stars! I'm looking forward to next year's event!

**Upcoming Events**

**September 8, 2013** - 2nd Annual Summer AA picnic at Point Pleasant Park. It will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will be held at the Sailors Memorial site at Point Pleasant Park. We need volunteers to help carry items from vehicles to the site of picnic. If you are interested in volunteering please show up around noon or contact Brenda B at 210-6800 or by email entertainment.aahalifax@gmail.com

**October 13, 2013** - Bowling resumes at Bowlarama at Bayer's Road Shopping Center at 1:00 p.m. I am aware that this is the same day that the Assembly finishes up for the weekend, however, Peter J will be looking after the bowling for this day.

**December 31, 2013** - St. Theresa's Church on 6351 North Street (corner of Dublin)

Flyer to follow soon!

Foster complimented Brenda on a great job! What would you like us to bring to the picnic? It’s not a potluck. You can bring deserts or cake. Not sure what to do if it is raining. It will be put on the website if it is raining. No rain date. It will either run this weekend or not at all. Foster thanked Brenda for all her work and her committee. Entertainment committee has been very active. Didn’t have to use any of AA money it was fully self-supported. Recommended for Approval by Arlene – Approved

**Literature Committee** – Opening Balance $1,113.47, Debits -$621.08, Balance $492.39. The literature committee will be selling literature at Bedford Sackville AA days and the Assembly in Oct. I have a large inventory on hand now as the price for shipping has gone up and orders have to be a minimum of 500 dollars. Jamie Q Literature Chair Samaira asked what the book of the month club is. Jamie advised to have people familiar with literature. Recommended for Approval by – David - Approved

**District 1** – Tom met with executive at the end of the month. Looking for 3 positions to be filled. Alex L will be moving on to Toronto. They re-visited to take July and August meetings off. It was turned down. Have a meeting set up for next Tuesday night for the ongoing communications with central service and District 1. Recommended for Approval by Judee - Approved

**District 2** – DCM Report September 3/2013 Good day everyone, All is going well in District 2. In our last meeting we went over the group insurance and I had asked everyone to go back to their groups and let them know that Foster or George would be willing to attend their business meeting to discuss but needed an invite. We also had passed a revised budget. We are on track with District 1 regarding committee budgets. Our attendance has been low in July and August due to vacations and other summer activities. It was mentioned we cancel the meetings in July and August next year but we still need to have more discussion on this matter; have a great day, and take care. Barry advised great job by Murdo and Bob on the workshops and booking into January. Got together with Tom and Treasurers and will bring it back to the meeting at the end of the month. Yours in Service, Barry Hayes DCM/District 2. Recommended for Approval by Shawn – Approved

**Assembly/Roundup 2013** Assembly/Roundup 2013 Report – planning is close to complete for the 2013 Assembly and roundup. Our program is posted on the website and we are now looking for groups willing to volunteer to host marathon meetings. Barb K will be asking the DCMs for a list of group contacts and she will be calling them for support. Our GSO guest is registered, the Archivist and interpreter are confirmed and the café at the hotel has confirmed they will be open. There will be no choir Sunday morning; instead we will have a Celtic celebration. Our hotel block closes mid-September so people planning to stay at the hotel are encouraged to book now. We are committed to 120 banquet seats and we encourage you to support us. People are asked to register early and the online option is available. The Assembly Agenda (service weekend) is in progress and is the responsibility of the Area executive. Next meeting will be Sept 8th. Bob will have someone at the door if you’re interested in coming. They are looking for groups to hold marathon meetings. If your group is interested Barb would like to hear from you. Samaira asked how much the rooms are, he advised $109.95 a night. Marathons meetings will go every hour starting October 11th at 10pm. Registration starts at 4 pm October 11th. Call Barb or Foster or anyone on the committee to put on Marathon meetings. Will there be signage to tell you where to go. What is on the website right now regarding the assembly? There is nothing on more details. There is a program on the website. Chris is waiting for extra details to put on the site. Yours in service, Foster L Co-Chair, Central Service Committee Recommended for Approval by – Rick –Approved

**MCYPAA 2014** Chris advised MCYPAA (Maritime Conference for Young People in AA) that they are trying to get King’s College for this event. They had their first meeting last week. It will be the weekend of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th of May, 2014. You may see young people selling things for the round up. All the fundraising things will be for AA. Al-non is now involved, history session, dance and maybe outdoor meeting. Take lunch in a brown bag. Chris advised can’t have food on site. Pay pall will be set up. Venues have been taken care of. If anyone is interested in getting involved it is on the website on the left hand side. Next meeting is Sept 16th. It will be at 5:30 pm downstairs here in the church (United Memorial Church, Young St.). Recommended for Approval by Jamie – Approved

**Other**

**Old Business**

In June 2013 Central Service Committee received a mandate from the elected members to explore the possibility of purchasing a group insurance policy to cover third party liability at meeting locations. This move was precipitated by a demand from building owners for groups to obtain such insurance or find alternate meeting facilities. The insurance needed to be mobile, that is it would need to be transferrable to another location should a group move.

After feedback and input from groups in Districts 1 and 2 a quote was received for such a policy (outlined below) and Central Service is now ready to proceed with the purchase.

It was duly moved by Foster L. and seconded by Samaira G.:

that Central Service Committee for Districts 1 & 2 purchase a group insurance policy following this meeting, details as follows:

* Policy holder will be Central Service Committee, Districts 1 and 2, Area 82
* Broker is Ballam Insurance, Lower Sackville, N.S.
* Insurer is Economical Insurance Company
* Premium is $1000 per annum to insure up to 30 groups and subject to change
* Coverage is $1,000,000
* Deductible is $1000 with unlimited claims in any year
* That groups will be responsible for the deductible; each group issued a Certificate of Insurance will be responsible for the $1000 deductible for each claim made against its certificate
* That the policy be purchased immediately for the agreed upon participating groups
* That additional groups be added to the policy as they agree to come onboard
* That Central Service will pay the premium for the first year and after that premium costs will be prorated evenly amongst all participating groups

After discussion the motion was voted on and passed.

**New Business**

It was recommended for approval by Foster L. that the position of Co-Chair, Central Service Committee, be responsible for the ‘insurance file’ going forward; that the Co-Chair maintain a list of participating groups, ensure such groups receive their Certificate of Insurance and be the liaison with the insurance broker when groups are to be added or deleted. It is further recommended the policy and guidelines for the committee are amended to reflect this change.

David asked if there are 16 groups at $66.00 per group and we add more groups will they be paying as much as the prior groups. Foster advised it will be pro-rated amongst the groups. Anna asked if the deductible will be $1000.00 for each claim made. Foster advised yes. Foster also advised that it would be a good idea for groups to have $1000.00 in the Prudent Reserve in case of a claim for the deductible. Approved

**Announcements**

Jamie Q announced AA days in Sackville on Sept 21st. Price is $6.00 per person. DJ, dinner, dance and all day meetings. Come out and support.

**Next Meeting: October 1, 2013.**

**Meeting was adjourned with responsibility pledge at 8:56 pm.**