

## **CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**United Memorial Church  
5350 Young Street, Halifax**

- **Welcome and Open:** Meeting opened by Foster L. at 7:00 p.m. with a few moments of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. All were welcomed to the August CSC meeting.
- **Call for Items to be added to the agenda:** Item to add to Old Business – New CS Location (needs to stay on agenda until finished)
- **Twelve Traditions:** The Twelve Traditions were read by Peggy.
- **Roll Call:**
  - Executive:*** Foster L. – Chair, Arlene P. – Secretary, and Andrew P. – Treasurer.
  - Committees:*** Bill P. – Bluenose Bulletin Editor, Samaira G. – Entertainment Chair, Leah C. – Phone Chair, and Michael H. – Hospital Visitation Chair.
  - CSRs:*** Gerry L. – Sunday Night Serenity, Ken C. – Keep It Simple, Peggy A. – Colby Village BBS, Allan M. – Sunrise, Pamela M. – Acceptance, Clare L. – Welcome, Brad A. – Fresh Start, Darla W. – Timberlea, Rick H. – Highland Park, Pedro G. – Atlantic, and Sarah S. – Living in the Solution.
  - Alt-CSRs:*** Lisa N. - Hubbards
  - Double Duty:*** Heather L. – Web Admin. / CSR Back to Basics, Evan McF. – Literature Chair / Four Seasons CSR, and Heather C. – Phones Co-chair / Alt.CSR Four Seasons
  - Others:*** Ferne McC. – observer, Fred D. – District 1 DCM, and Cathy MacN. – District 2 Alt.-DCM.
- **7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$ 26.75 collected, taken by Andrew P.
- **Minutes Approved from Previous Meeting:** There were no errors or omissions.  
Recommended by approval – Michael.
- **Reports:**

### ***Executive:***

**Secretary:** Greetings, I was able to have the minutes completed and on the website within two weeks. This month's delay was due to work commitments and waiting for a report to be sent in. The contact list was up-dated while the minutes were out for review.

I need to make a request that all reports be sent in the day before our scheduled meeting because I continue to be scheduled to work that day and have no time to compile the reports beforehand. I only ask as the bulk of the reports continue to be sent to me late Tuesday afternoon. And if you will are unable to attend and need me to read your report at the meeting, I really need it the night before. I apologize for the inconvenience, but I have no control of when I will be scheduled to work. At my work place, we only receive a half week's notice of what our next week's schedule will be.

The only additional up-dates to the contact list came from our attendance sheet. **(For those not in attendance of tonight's meeting - please send in your contact information, especially if you are your group's representative (CSR, Alt. CSR or contact person.)**

My appreciation, as always, to the folks who took the time to send in their reports ahead of time-

e. This level of co-operation makes my job a great deal easier. I have sent out confirmation emails to all who sent in their reports. If you have not received a confirmation, that would mean I have not received your report as of our meeting time. Please email [secretary.aahalifax@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.aahalifax@gmail.com) if there are any questions pertaining to the minutes.

Yours in service, Arlene P., Secretary

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Bill.

**Treasurer:**

July's numbers: opening balance \$7110.06, credits \$27.25, debits \$209.40, closing balance \$6927.91, outstanding cheques, \$2190.44, and prudent reserve \$3166.25. Total operating funds available \$7903.72.

Yours in Service, Andrew P., Treasurer

Only question – Is there enough money in the budget for the year's expenses? Small reminder to groups if they could please send it a contribution because by the end of the year, we will be into our prudent reserve.

Recommended for Approval by Heather.

**Co-chair:** (Position vacant at this moment.)

**Chair:** Good evening, Atlanta was an experience I would not have missed, but it was great to get back home. Thanks again to Arlene for covering for me.

Everything is quiet on the service front as people are solidly entrenched in summer, such as it has been. My activity in July was limited to offering feedback on the continuing upgrades to the website and attending the District 2 meeting. Due to family illness I was unable to make it to District 1; however, a report was submitted.

As I attended meetings, I heard a lot of buzz about the camping weekend at Dollar Lake and I trust it was a great time for those who attended.

I am continuing to talk to people about the vacant co-chair positions and urge all of you to ask others to consider stepping into service as the Chair positions need support.

Yours in service, Foster L., Chair, Central Service Committee

No questions.

Recommended for Approval by Gerry.

**Committees:**

**Mid-Winter Round Up:** (Absent, report sent in and read by Secretary.) Myself, Bruce (Registration Chair) Lisa (Program Chair) and Linda (Al-Anon district) met Sunday, August 2 at 1pm.

It was a short meeting as there was not a lot to report. Bruce is working on getting supplies together and speaking further with Foster about setting up the PayPal account. Lisa reported that she has a few speakers in mind and will work on booking the speakers. She also brought forward some ideas for meeting topics for the program and it is shaping up nicely. Linda

brought forward that Al-Anon had to turn people away from meetings as there was not enough seating available at times during the round-up. This has been discussed at length at the table over the last few months and it has been put to a vote – it was unanimous that Al-Anon will have the McNab A&B rooms as their room, instead of just McNab B. The marathon meetings are poorly attended, especially during regular program time. We will still run the marathon meetings after the regular program ends, between 10:30pm-8am Friday and Saturday. So there will always be meetings available. Jacqueline reported that the hotel has the signed contract. Jacqueline will also check with Shawn about changing the date of the next meeting as it falls on Labour Day weekend and that might make it difficult for attendance. She will see if the meeting room at Club 24 is available for September 13 at 1 pm. The September date will be posted in the September newsletter when confirmed.

(She planned on attending tonight's meeting, but was unable to due to work commitments.)

Jacqueline K, Chair of 2016 Mid-Winter Round-up committee

Recommended for Approval by Lisa.

**Webmaster/Website/Email:** We had 1,937 visits to the web site in July. Top pages continue to be the Meeting List and Newsletter.

Our subscriber list continues to grow. An additional 6 people subscribed last month for a total of 491 subscribers receiving the monthly e-mail with links to the meeting list, newsletter and other areas of the web site.

I had the pleasure of filling-in for Carol-Anne as Web Help while she was away at the beginning of the month. I handled no help email which is probably good as Carol-Anne certainly has the knack of that position.

The Meeting List page has been changed to display all of the HRM meetings. I borrowed the setup from Area82 such that you can click on "Wednesday" in the navigation bar and you are taken right the Wed meeting list. After each day there is a "Back to Top" link to quickly return to the top of the page.

The Events page has been modified to drop the "month calendar" display in favor of the actual list of events. The 2015 Workshop Forecast line and the Submit an Event area have been moved to the bottom of the page.

These changes to the Meeting List and Events pages hopefully will make getting at this web information more "friendly" to mobile/tablet users; fewer clicks to get users to where they can actually see the meeting list and upcoming events. Time will tell how effective the meeting list change will be as now I and future web admin people will need to maintain meeting information in 2 places; the printable meeting list plus this web page listing; this is typically a big no-no as it is very easy to forget to do double updates, but I'll see how it goes for now.

Another addition to the web site is a new link on the Community Liaison page. There is a "CPC News" link on this page which takes you to a page containing all of the committee's newsletters. Each newsletter is added as a post to the web, but this page keeps a permanent copy.

I helped Bill proof the Contact List that is now back in the newsletter by testing each e-mail address. I was able to confirm all are working except for the treasurer and secretary for district 1. I do not have the passwords for those 2 gmail accounts, nor does John M Alt DCM. If I can get that information I can record it along with all of the other Gmail passwords. If this

information gets lost, I have no idea how to ever get into those accounts. So I will follow-up with both of these people.

I welcome feedback or questions about the changes so far or other ideas you'd like to see on your website. There may be more tweaking done, but it is so very helpful to hear from anyone who uses the web ... your feedback is valuable.

As always, you can reach me via email at [webmaster.aahalifax@gmail.com](mailto:webmaster.aahalifax@gmail.com).

Yours in service, Heather L., Web Administrator

Question – Has the Highland Park Group's location been changed on the meeting lists? Yes it has been changed.

Recommended for Approval by Rick.

**Help Email Co-ordinator:** (Absent, report sent in and read by Secretary.) Good day fellow members, this is an overview about help emails during the month of July 2015.

In total, there were 4 emails; however that does not include responses by email or phone calls as well. The emails ranged from those looking to find their first meeting to those looking specifically at meetings for loved ones. Some are unfamiliar, of course, with attending an AA meeting and feel that there is some sort of registration process, etc. However, they were educated briefly about AA, meetings, first meetings, meetings for younger people, etc.

I mentioned in my May report that I had found a backup for the help emails; however, that has since changed. Unfortunately, he feels his work and travel schedule will not afford him the opportunity to be of service with the Help Emails. I will continue to look for a backup. Feel free to ask Central Service attendees if this is something that might appeal to them.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns, or queries. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Kind Regards, Carol-Anne D., Help Email Coordinator, AA Halifax/Dartmouth, Area 82  
902-407-5955

Recommended for Approval by Samaira.

**Hospital Visitation:** Hospitalization has no visits to discuss.

New Business - Since people do not come forth meaningfully, I would like to subscribe to an idea that if people have interest in being volunteers, to use the Hospital Visitation drop down and volunteer their name and phone number through this avenue. The dropdown would specifically have additional areas to fill pertaining to Volunteers' point of contact and use the same email to alert me.

Furthermore, the extra effort to place themselves on the website would increase the possibilities, in my opinion, that they are serious to volunteer rather than saying "put my name down, Mike" in passing. Of course there are few that are not in the internet world and they would let someone know who would.

To get the message out, if we could have a detailed note in the Bluenose Bulletin regarding the additional options of the Hospital Visitation to Volunteerism, this would tie up any communication loose ends of the new fields.

Heather and I could meet and close up the idea into action.

In service with love, Michael H., Hospital Visitation Chair  
902 329 8152

Questions – Is it possible to have that option on Website (volunteering)? (Directed towards Webmaster) Yes it is, just need to get together to figure out details. For the Bulletin – please let the Chair know so that a notice could be placed in the newsletter that this option has become available and how to access it. Comment from other committee members – this would be a great option for other committees as well.

Recommended for Approval by Pedro.

**Telephone:** Good evening everyone, things are going smoothly with the phones. Although we have a small number of members answering the phones on a rotating basis, they are very dedicated. We are still actively looking for volunteers to answer the phones for all three shifts, 9a.m-6p.m, 6a.m-11p.m., and 11p.m.-9a.m. We currently have 9 members for daytime, 8 members for evenings and 3 for overnight, the majority in the Sackville area.

The phone committee was going to have a training session in September, but we have changed that to October, due to work schedules, and will be posting information in the September Bluenose Bulletin.

Please continue to announce at your groups the urgency for members to step up and volunteer to carry the message through the AA phones.

Thank you, Leah C., Phone Committee Chair

Question – The dates that are in the Bulletin show from Friday to Sunday. Are the dates supposed to be from Saturday to Monday, as the shifts start 9am Saturday morning and stop at 9am Monday? Yes, that is how it has been showing...this will be corrected.

Comment – there is much need of more overnight people, as the same three people have been doing it for the last three years. Please go back to your groups, CSRs, and ask for assistance in getting more volunteers for covering the overnight phone.

Recommended for Approval by Pamela.

**Newsletter:** (Bill presented a report, but did not send one in for the minutes.)

In Service, Bill P., Bluenose Bulletin Chair

Questions – For the Detox and Phone list, is there any way to post a month and a half's worth of dates instead of just the month? That would allow groups some prior knowledge of when they are scheduled as not everyone is on-line to get the list from the website. Sounds like a great idea; it will be passed along to chairs of those committees to get them to send in the additional dates. Is there any way to report a member's death in the newsletter, as a means to get that information out? Due to anonymity, we would be unable to do that.

Many comments – As per last month's request, please remove stupendous out of the announcement about the website. There is no need of listing the Host for the workshops and the Location rotates between the two districts each month for said workshops. Groups are appreciating the length of the new bulletin, but the information has become too condensed and some important facts are being shuffled out in the editing for events, etc. Throughout the Bulletin, there is no consistency in the font styles, sizes and use of upper/lower case lettering

(full blocks of information in nothing but uppercase lettering). Makes it difficult to read and if it was more uniform, it may allow for more information (size of fonts). There is a need of a committee co-chair to help with proof-reading, etc., please mention at your groups.

Recommended for Approval by Leah.

**Entertainment:** The AA Camping and Potluck Picnic was a huge success. Great fellowship and we could feel the Spirit of the Program working in so many ways. We are looking forward to next year.

Total cost of the camping and picnic was \$205.47 and we took in with the registration fee and the 7th tradition was \$227.31 with an addition of \$21.84 which will be carried over to our next event.

The Picnic at Point Pleasure Park is Sept 6th at 1pm. Cost is donations. I will stress that people need to call me so I will have an idea of who plans on attending. As of right now, not one people has called or text. I have emailed my newsletter editor twice, before the 25th about this and both times the information is not getting into the newsletter. It is very hard to plan for a picnic when we don't know if anyone wants to go.

Balls games are going well. No new information to report.

Crib Tournament will be starting again in September, the last Sat of the month. We have a \$5 cost for each player that is added and giving to the Winners and second place; the last place winners receive their \$5 back. I have heard a few things back about how the crib games are run, but nothing directly to me. If you feel I am doing something in error, please meet me at 45 Connolly Road on Sept 6th and we would love for you to show us how to play. We had taken a vote on the way we were going to play and the group of players that day had decided how they wanted it to run.

New Years Eve dance tickets will be on sale next month here at the Central Service meeting. We only have 110 seats at Club 24, so please bring it back to your groups and be ready to get your tickets so no one will be disappointed.

Thank you, yours in service, Samaira, Entertainment Chair

Question – Someone wanted to know exact numbers of the attendance of the camping and picnic to get a better idea of what would be considered a successful event. Numbers were eventually given, but the event paid for itself and everyone that attended enjoyed themselves. It was suggested that Samaira get a hold of Peter about the up-coming picnic in the park, to get ideas of how to plan it, as Peter was the one who looked after this event last year.

Recommended for approval by Heather.

**Literature:** (Absent, report sent in and read by Secretary.) Good Evening all, sorry I couldn't make it tonight as I had to work. It has been a relatively quiet month for literature with a little bit of activity. I had some book sales and one order from GSO totalling \$726.20.

I haven't unpacked the latest order yet, so it's not recorded in inventory. That said, here is the balance for the account as of now. With an inventory of \$6106.10 + un-deposited cash of \$93.40 + an account balance of \$837.60 for a total of \$7037.10.

I haven't nailed down a date for the "Literature Day" as of yet, but as it looks I am aiming for October. I apologize for any discrepancy or lack of info at this time. It's been a bit of a hectic

month for me personally. I look forward to seeing you all back at the table again next month when I should have some more concrete info to pass on.

Regards, Evan McF., Literature Chair

Question – Isn't that a lot of money to have in inventory? Is it necessary? It is brought up every month and discussed, but yes, it is a lot of stock in one place. Their concerns have been noted.

Recommended for approval by Lisa.

**District 1:** Well it has been a very different month for this alcoholic, some very happy days and then some very sad ones. As for the World Conference, it was something to see, when we can fill the Atlanta Georgia Stadium with around 60,000 alcoholics. It is a wonderful site for the many members from around the world to see. But then I lost my brother on Sunday, July 19, 2015 at 6.30 pm. This is a great loss for me. In life, he was my best friend.

Yet I am here to tell you that this program never stops, because we need to do the work for the many that are still out there suffering, without hope. I am so glad that I have the members behind me, keeping me safe, with what I must do through my journey at this time. I am here tonight just because we have the greatest team at the District 1 table doing the work that is needed. I need to be informed about getting the message of recovery out there and this will keep me moving forward. This last two months has been rather uneventful as I have been away from the table. Now we have to get things going again.

Yours, in love and service, Fred D., DCM for District 1

No questions. Recommended for Approval by Michael.

**District 2:** I am still attending some meetings this month. I was at Gaston Road two weeks ago. The schedule has strayed a bit for the summer.

We recovered our Grapevine Kit and have it going around to some of the groups. So far, four groups have shown it.

The July workshop on the Seventh Tradition was a success with 13 members attending. The schedule list for the rest of the year has been finalized and it should be in September's Bulletin as follows; August - none, Halifax – Sept 13 – AA Group by Back to Basics, October – none, Dartmouth – Nov 8 – CPC by the committee, and Dartmouth – Dec 13 – 12 Traditions.

Yours, Cathy MacN., Alt. DCM for District 2

No questions.

Recommended for Approval by Allan.

**Area 82:** no report tonight

**Other:** no report tonight

**Old Business:**

**a) Elections:**

- i. **Committee Co-chair** - no nominations, carried over to next month.
- ii. **Hospital Visitation Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.

- iii. **Newsletter Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
  - iv. **Entertainment Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
  - v. **Phones Co-chair** – no nominations, carried over to next month.
- b) **Group Insurance Update (Info)** – Foster – In talking with the Broker, due to the changes of switching companies, Foster found out that the group insurance will be charging \$500 per district, so since it is listed as Central Service for Districts 1 & 2, the premium will be \$1000 all together, rather than the \$1250 we were expecting. Foster will have the invoices ready for the September meeting. As our renewal is September 4 and so there will be no interruption of our coverage, Central Service will pay for the bill and then invoice the groups for their portion of the bill. More information will be forthcoming as Foster receives the information from the insurance company. The premium for if there was a claim on the insurance is still \$1000, from what he knows, as he hasn't received the information packets from the insurance company yet.
- c) **CS New Meeting Location – no further info**

**New Business:**

(There wasn't any new business.)

**Announcements:** (that didn't make it into the Bluenose Bulletin)

Hubbards Group is celebrating their 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on August 6 at 8pm.

First Monday of the month, Colby Village Big Book Study is having a few birthdays. Please come join us for some cake and company.

The last Wednesday of August, at the Fresh Start Group, Pat M. will be celebrating 41 years and Joe T. will be celebrating 1 year.

Highland Park meeting has moved effective August 6<sup>th</sup>; their meeting will be at 8pm at the Family Resource Centre in the Windsor Park Complex. To enter Windsor Park and find the Centre, take the entrance off Windsor Street near the Canex Store, and follow Watchdog Drive to the large parking lot on the right. The Resource Centre is adjacent to the parking lot.

**Next CSC Meeting is September 1, 2015.**

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:29pm with the Responsibility Pledge.