

District 1 Meeting Minutes for February 15, 2021 (ZOOM)

Attendance: Craig R., Peggy R., Daniel S., Chuck G., Mark L., Hugh C., Carole W., Sara S., Suzie F., Colleen B., and Fred W. (Kurt W. Visitor-Alternate Delegate)

Concept – Sara S. read Concept XI

CARC - Kurt W. serves as the alternate delegate and is attending our District Meeting to explain exactly what the Conference Agenda Review Committee (CARC) is. Our job is to prepare our Delegate for the General Service Conference in April. There are 96 items she will be voting on, and 55 of them are items left over from last year. Craig’s group is CARC 2 and they are meeting on zoom March 6. Bring ideas to the meeting. Some examples of concern are making changes to the first 164 pages of the Big Book. Another example is Concept 11, Bill W, wrote an essay an there has been some interest in making changes to his writing.

Secretary Report – Suzie F. read the minutes from the January, 2021 meeting. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with revisions.

Treasurers Report - Peggy R – Read the Treasury report

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance: | \$3,097.54 |
| Credits: | |
| Mary W. - Venmo | 50.00 |
| The Today Group | 24.00 |
| Total Credits: | \$ 74.00 |
| Debits: | |
| Bank Service Fee (10/27/20) | 3.00 |
| Zoom Monthly Fee (11/4/20) | 14.99 |
| Website Fee (11/18/20) | 23.99 |
| Bank Service Fee (11/2020) | 3.00 |
| Zoom Monthly Fee (12/2020) | 14.99 |
| Website Fee (12/2020) | 23.99 |
| Suzy G. (check #1669) | 32.84 |
| Ink Reimbursement | |
| Total Debits: | \$ 116.80 |
| Ending Balance: | \$3,054.74 |

Motion was made to approve Treasurer’s report. Treasurer’s report was approved as read.

SMIA - Bill L. – Not present-emailed report - District 1 Web report for March 2021
2/15/21 – 3/15/21

Web Report – Total Visits 884 – Down 3.8 % from the previous month
Most Frequently visited pages: Home Page, On-Line Meetings Page, Meetings Page, Meeting Calendar, Announcements

Referring Pages - Direct Entry, Google, Bing

Top 10 Visitor Locations Maryland, DC, Illinois, Oregon, Canada, United Kingdom

Browsers Chrome, Safari, IE, Edge, Mobile (variety)

Site Changes – No significant changes this month

District 1 Where and When PDF updated and posted to SMIA site. Reflects all meetings status to date

SMIA Report for March

Treasurer's Report –The SMIA has \$1096.96 in Operating funds, \$5800 in Prudent Reserve, \$308.51 in PayPal, \$65.21 in petty cash, and \$100 in Bookstall petty cash. Total Net Cash Assets are \$7370.86.

Bookstall – Keenan opened and ran the Bookstall. Buddy is recovering from surgery. There was no new information

Lifeline – Presented by Keith. Lorraine asked about the submission deadline. It is the 27th of each month. We need more participation in the “Spotlight on Service” articles in the Lifeline. There is a link to submit these articles on the SMIA website at <https://somidintergroup.org/sos.html>

Telephone – Melissa presented a new phone service option from Verizon. This service will be less expensive and more flexible and comprehensive than our current service. It will require that a group of volunteers are available to answer calls on a rotational basis. When they field a call, Site Updates and Changes -No significant site changes made this month No new on-line meetings added. One was removed. There are currently 44 on-line meetings in the SMIA service area. To date, 78 meetings are in-person, 14 of which are meeting outdoor. 17 meetings are in-person with an on-line option. 70 meetings are reported as closed, and of those 70, 22 have an on-line presence.

The SMIA On-Line Bookstall had 334 new visitors since the February meeting, and 2228 since opening in May 2020. There have been 22 total on-line orders and 2 new orders since the February meeting

Bridging the Gap – No report

Public Information – No report from District 1, 35, or 36. No representation from any county

Corrections and Treatment - No report from District 1. Charles County Corrections will be resuming soon, and they sent out a new form for volunteers who would like to take meetings into their facilities. No report from St. Mary's County

Where and When – Pat P. presented. There are still no immediate plans to print a new Where and When, as this is still a very fluid situation. A question was raised as to whether we should continue to print hard copies at all. We all agreed to continue printing, but perhaps in a lower volume. However, Pat said that at our current volume, we get 2000 copies free. The PDF available for download from the SMIA site is kept accurate as information is received. It is accurate as of today.

Picnic – No report

Gratitude Dinner – No report

Serenity Breakfast – No report

Old Business – None

New Business- The SMIA Chair (Bill L.) presented an amendment (Article 11, Amendment 11.1) to the SMIA By-Laws addressing members who egregiously disrupt SMIA business and service by means of harassment, circumventing business practices, and interfering with SMIA relationships. This amendment was reviewed by the SMIA Board of Directors and was presented to the SMIA Membership at the meeting. The SMIA Representatives will take the amendment to their respective groups for discussion at their Group Conscience Meetings. A second reading, as required by the SMIA By-Laws will be presented at the April Monthly Meeting. If the amendment is ratified by a 2/3 majority of the membership present at that meeting, it will be added to the SMIA By-Laws immediately thereafter and sent to the SMIA Board for approval and signature.

Treasurer's Report extracted from website – The Treasurer was not present at the meeting. The SMIA has \$846.07 in Operating funds, \$5500 in Prudent Reserve, \$751.89 in Paypal, \$54.97 in petty cash, and \$100 in Bookstall petty cash. Total Net Cash Assets are \$7252.93.

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Telephone – Melissa is concerned that people on the 12 Step Call list are ignoring or blocking calls from the SMIA Hotline. She will go through the current list that our answering service (Ansaphone) has in hand. She will then contact everyone on the list to determine if they still want to take 12 Step calls. Bill will post announcements and send a memo to the DCM's about encouraging people to volunteer. Melissa will also talk to Pat S (former SMIA Chair) about the phone services she had researched during her tenure.

Web Report – The Group Maintenance on-line forms were streamlined. Previously, we had 4 forms; 2 for SMIA and GSO new group submissions, and 2 for SMIA and GSO change group submissions. Now there is one form for new groups and one form for group changes. Upon submission, both forms send the information to both the Maryland General Service Registrar and the SMIA Where and When Chair.

The Registrar and the SMIA Where and When Chair then extract only the information they need for their purposes. This eases the process for the people submitting the forms.

The Where and When search database results were color coded to indicate if the meeting status; reopened, reopened outdoors, reopened with an on-line option, temporarily closed, temporarily closed with an on-line option. Meetings that are only on-line are not listed in the Where and

When search database because they do not have a physical meeting address. They are only listed in the On-Line Meeting page.

A representative from District 36 asked about the possibility of assigning QR codes to meeting searches. I am looking at options to facilitate that.

Cathy R, the Bookstall Chair was trained on managing the On-Line Bookstall.

3 new on-line meetings added– Total of 39 on-line meetings posted currently, down from high point of 56.

To date, 88 meetings have reopened, 31 of which are meeting outdoor, and 10 of which also have an on-line option. 61 meetings are still reported as closed, and of those 61, 22 have an on-line presence

The SMIA On-Line Bookstall has had 1226 visitors since opening in May 2020 and there have been 12 total on-line orders. 6 new orders were received in the past month

October Minutes posted – 10/26/20

Lifeline Posted – 11/3/20

Financial Page updated – 10/31/20

SMIA Where and When PDF updated – 11/11/20

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Phone Report - Melissa reported 8 calls; 3 for St. Mary's, 3 for Charles, and 1 for Calvert. The calls were for needing a ride, meeting info, just needing to talk, or general info. We are still researching a new service. Concerns were raised about the 1-800 number. That was allayed because even if we move to a new service, the phone number will remain the same because we own that number through Unitel.

Where and When – Pat P reported. We are considering adding a QR code to printed Where and When to direct people to the Meeting Guide App. There was a question of adding contact phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses, but that would be problematic and, in many cases, in conflict with the SMIA publishing guidelines, because we do not post personal phone numbers or e-mail addresses on any products that we distribute in print or on the website without the expressed permission of that person

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Last months calls

| County | Total Calls | Want to Talk | Meeting info | Need a ride | Other |
|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---|
| St. Mary’s | 0 | | | | |
| Calvert | 1 | | | | NE Community Center advising us that they had |

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|--|--|--|--------------------|
| | | | | | space for meetings |
| Charles | 0 | | | | |

Web Report –

Site Updates and Changes

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New Business – Keith H suggested that perhaps we should form a committee to work with the Districts on updating accurate group information. This discussion will be carried over to the December meeting.

Accessibility Committee – Sara S. - Okay, so this is from the last accessibilities conference that I was on, it said that it is suggested that Intergroups consider posting this link on their website for easy reference requests to update the group listings and consider posting the link which will be forwarded to the chair. In addition, the link will be shared and anyone can update the information. But it says to request the DCMs to get the word out to groups about updating the directory. But I didn't know if they are suggesting that we have SMIA post it on their website. That way, any member of any one of those groups can go on and update that checklist. That way we can really see what's accessible and what's not.

Lisa

So, if I was a chairperson or a representative for a certain group, I could go into my bathroom, and then I could report to you whether it is handicap accessible. And then you could update the meeting list??

Sara S.

Well, and that's what I was trying to figure out If I should just continue, like, personally contacting a member of each group or if we should just post this link to the SMIA and the Calvert AA websites. That way, anybody can go on there and say, Hey, I'll go measure it. Or, you know, Hey, I took the measurements or what?

Craig R

I don't know. I mean, if you get anybody going on there, you might have too many conflicting statements. Meaning more than one statement for the same place could pose problems

Sara S

That is true.

Fred W

That can happen. So, let me ask you a question. When you complete that checklist is that for the group and does that get posted somewhere? Or is it just a link which we could go to Area 29 and get the link?

Sara S

So, yes, it is posted on the Area 29 as well.

Fred W

The question is on the status. How does that status get updated and controlled? Is that at the district level?

Sara S

State level. Jessica is the Maryland representative for accessibilities. So, when she gets each meeting updated information, she will be able to determine whether it's completely accessible. I don't know what the different levels are to be completely honest at this point, but unless you can literally check all the boxes on this list like you're not completely accessible. So that's why they're trying to determine if both the building and the restrooms are accessible. So, they have a BA building accessible identification as well as a restroom accessible identification. So just trying to figure out who can go where?

Fred W

Right now, that's being controlled by the area accessibility chair?

Sara S

Correct.

Sara, I see no problem if you want talk to someone from each group. I don't know, if that is too much to ask?

Bridging the Gap - Chuck G – Chuck, Alcoholic. There were no calls this past month. Nothing to report.

Institutions - Mark B. just emailed that we're going back to Avenues starting this week. I could look that up if you want me to.

Craig R

I know I talked to him earlier in the week and he said we weren't in there at the time.

Lisa

Mark B. He emailed me on 2/8 and said, Good day everyone, Avenues is starting meetings up again using Zoom. They want AA to bring meetings on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. Starting next week. Which would have been February 17, which will be currently just the one meeting per week on Wednesday. Would anyone like to volunteer? So that's a yes, if you want to note that for an update.

Craig R

When did that come out?

Lisa

He emailed me that on February 8th.

Craig R

Eighth. Okay.

Lisa

Yeah. So, they're supposed to start up on the February 17th, which is in two days. Wednesday.

Craig R

Okay. Thank you. Events? Suzie is not here but she does have a workshop set up for April 3rd with two speakers from Oklahoma on April 3, from 11:00-3:00 pm. There it is. Beautiful. So, I I've started to announce it. Now I will have a yer to go with that. I think it's beautifully made. I love the hands at the bottom, you know, and I just felt like I among other people, I don't reach out to people enough, and hopefully this will help me do so because I know there's a lot of people I haven't seen during this pandemic, even some before the pandemic, you know, that just kind of we stopped going to meetings together. So, if each one could reach one, I think, you know, maybe we can make a difference. And I know when I relapsed and somebody reached out to me, I think I came in a little quicker than I would have. And it stuck this time. So, I appreciate you guys just acting on my suggestion that way. And we'll get this out there.

Carol

Thank you.

Colleen B

Thank you, Daniel.

Hugh

Thank you, Daniel.

Lisa

Daniel, you did that, you did a really nice job. Thank you.

10:06 Daniel S

I didn't make the flyer, I just shared it. Colleen designed the flyer and did an awesome job.

Lisa

Colleen. Thank you.

10:15 Craig R

Group reports? I'll just go from my screen. Hugh.

Hugh

Beach Beacon is doing well. We're averaging 22 a day. We had 26 people today, three times a week doing literature meetings. I've just gotten word that the Solomon's group is averaging about 30-35 people for the inside meeting as well as the zoom meetings. Our regular scheduled speaker meetings have had as many as 50-100 people on them, so they've been pretty well attended. We've been really, really busy and that's been really good. As far as I know, all positions are all filled in both locations. Beach Beacon is talking tentatively about opening up 1 day a week, I'm not sure when they're going to do that.

Lisa

Maggie announced at the Sunday meeting that they're doing three days per week. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Community Center at noon. I wanted to bring that up.

Hugh

[I don't know what they're going to be doing on the inside meeting when I nd out about it, I'll just have to report about it at the](#)

Grapevine Committee – Colleen B – Hi. I'm Colleen, alcoholic. The grapevine is still the same status as of the last time. I still have not received the rep package. I suspect, since they're not opening until sometime in March, that I'll be receiving that next month, but I do still continue to promote it at every meeting that I attend, whether it be zoom or in person. And I guess that's really just about all I have for that right now.

Public Information Committee - Roger M – Not present

Web Committee - Bill L. emailed report

District 1 Web report for November 2020 - 11/16/20 to 01/18/21

Total Visits: 922 – Down .6 % from the previous month

Most Frequently visited pages: Home Page, On-Line Meetings Page, Meetings Page, Meeting Calendar, Contact Page

Referring Pages: Direct Entry, Google, Bing

Top 10 Visitor Locations: Maryland, Illinois, Virginia, DC, New Jersey, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Germany, United Kingdom, Netherlands

Browsers: Chrome, Safari, IE, Edge, Mobile (variety)

Site Changes – No significant changes this month

District 1 Where and When PDF updated and posted to SMIA site. Reflects all meetings status to date.

Old Business – (keep old Business listed until completed) Discussed possibility of moving the District Meeting to a location that would allow us to meet in person. After discussion, it was decided to continue District Meeting in Zoom format and reconsider this at a later time. (Update - Chuck G. checked on the room available. Not available until after February.)

New Business – Fred W. – There will not be a State Convention in 2021. Planning to have it in 2022. It's the 50th year of the Convention and with COVID attendance would probably be low. Thank you to Sara S. for volunteering to Chair the Accessibilities Committee.

Group Reports:

231 Group – Kenny alcoholic/addict, the last three weeks or so I've opted for Zoom only meetings, 231 was doing really well, Maybe too much so. It was maybe a dozen people. The last meeting I was there. It's just to close , the room. It doesn't have a lot of ventilation in my humble opinion. It doesn't have a lot of ventilation. And, you know, we're low to the ground in the church. I have other people to be concerned about, My dads vaccine clinic got iced out on Saturday. So that gets put off until next week. When he gets his shot, I get my shot. I'm now eligible because I work at the store. Then I'm going to go back to in person meetings. I've been going to a lot of Waldorf Group meetings. They are at 8 30. That works really well for me, but I've done the zoom at St. Anthony's too. I love that. That's a great meeting that Bill T and Lisa T chair. And now 231 is doing both. Now they have an online meeting as well as an in person meeting. Tuesday, I made it. I was able to make the last 15 minutes of the online meeting, and it was a good dozen people there, so that's going well I'm glad to say. I didn't make it to the Friday meeting, unfortunately, my schedule always changes, But it's great to have so many options on Zoom. I get to a lot of the Tri County meetings. I think 231 is still alive and well on both fronts. 10-12 people attending regularly.

Awakenings - Jim D – Not present.

A Vision for You - Needs GSR

Beach Beacon – Hugh C. – Meeting is doing well. I am filling in until they find a GSR.

Bedouin Group - Sara S. – Sara, alcoholic. For the Bedouin group, but before that, I just want to say that I put our Accessibility information on calvertaa.org email address in the chat. So, if any of you would like to sign up to do a checklist for me that would be great. The Bedouin Group meetings are hybrid for all three of our meetings, which is awesome. We don't have access control ability with the community center where we meet, so sometimes they just aren't open. So, you know, there's not a member that has a key to that facility. So, we are grateful that we have the zoom option, because sometimes we don't know until we get there and see that the doors are locked. All of our positions are filled, we have a great showing on Sunday mornings. Unfortunately, I'm not really up to date on what goes on the Tuesday and Thursday meetings, but I hear they're well attended, so that's a good thing. Everything is good. Thank you.

Cove Point - Needs GSR

Daily Reflections - Donald R. – (Carole W.) I just wanted to speak on behalf of Donald. I saw him at another meeting Saturday morning. The Monday and Thursday Lusby groups are still meeting at the community center Limit 10, masks of course. They were having to turn people away due to the 10-person limit. He got permission to utilize another classroom there so that more people can be accommodated and are not going to be turned away, So that's good news.

Craig R

All right. Anything else? Everybody okay?

Fred W

Yeah, I Do. On meeting closures, the Friday Night Live meeting in Solomons has no intention of reopening that meeting. I see it's still listed.

Daily Reprieve Group – Fred W. – Thursday meeting is doing well; we average 12-15 people weekly. Chuck G – Sunday night group is doing well; we are meeting in the church with an average of 10-12 people and masks are required.

Do Drop-In Women's Group - Carole W – Do Drop in Women's group - still meeting on Zoom Wednesdays at 5:15 and we'll continue that indefinitely, all positions are filled. And we usually have about at least 11 women attending. We have gotten a couple of new ones recently, so that's good and we are trucking along. Doing well.

Grapevine - Meeting via Zoom, 5 or so on Zoom. We are meeting in large room at the church, we practice social distancing and masks are required.

Grateful Alive Group - Needs GSR

Happy Destiny - Needs GSR

Happy Hour – Mark L.- meeting is doing well, we average 10-15 people.

Huntingtown Noon Group - Gene C - Not present

Keeping It Green - Needs GSR

Living Sober Group – Roger M – Not present

Lusby Group - Donald R. - Not present

Monday Night Men's Meeting – Daniel S. – My report is I have not been to a men's meeting since the last meeting. Last three weeks. I was out of town one week, home one week, and, uh, yeah, I don't know what happened. I was all ready to go tonight, and I was like, Oh, s*&t, we got this. So, I'd imagine it's all still about the same. The same group of guys are showing up 10 and 10. You know what they usually average about 10 guys. They're averaging 10 to 15 people, depending on how many newcomers show up. Well, I'll make sure I got a better report next week or next month.

Craig R

How about Fred? Reports

Fred W - Thursday night, Daily Reprieve, holding steady, still averaging about 12 to 15 people a week.

Chuck G. - Yeah, the Daily Reprieve Sunday at Trinity. 8 to 10 people. All in person. No virtual, no hybrid. All positions filled. Everything is okay.

Kenny alcoholic/addict, the last three weeks or so I've opted for Zoom only meetings, 231 was doing really well, Maybe too much so.

Mount Harmony Group – Bill L – Not present – emailed report. All positions are filled. Operating in-person. Masks are mandatory at this meeting per the hosting facility requirements.

North Beach Group - Lynn H – Not present

Saturday Morning Breakfast – Needs GSR

Sober by the Bay - Lisa T – Meeting inside and on zoom.

Solomon's Group – Hugh C. - We are meeting in person and on Zoom. In person meeting is averaging 30 people and the number on zoom varies from 20-40 attendees.

Sunderland Group - Bill L. – Not present- There are no immediate plans to reopen this meeting.

Sunrise Sobriety - Needs GSR - (not interested at this time)

Today Group - Katie S – Not present

We Wuz Wurz Group –We average 13-15 people, masks are required and practicing social distancing.

Meeting closed with prayer.