

District 5 Meeting Agenda

PO Box 542, Elk River, MN 55330

Meeting Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, 111 N. 6th Ave, Princeton MN 55371

Meeting Opening Date and Time: 3/21/22 7:10pm

Serenity Prayer - God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I can not change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Introductions: Jarrin V, Marie, Chad O, John (GSR squad 8), Gerri, Joe, Tom, Mark, Steve V, Rich, Scott, Kay, Jackie, Bob, Brad, Jenna, Timothy, Carter, Hannah B., Matt (20 in attendance)

Tradition 3 - Read by: Joe

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking

Concept 3 - Read by: Mark R.

To ensure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staff, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”

7th Tradition- Read by: Jarrin V

Every A.A. Group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Additions to New Business?

- Recognizing Timothy for stepping up to take Literature Grapevine. Motion to vote Timothy F. in to District 5 Grapevine/Literature chair - 2nd by many - all approved
- 2218 Alano Club Recovery Ride - Mark sent flyers out - asking clubs and companies if they want to sponsor donations for the event.
- Approve funding for Jarrin to go to Spring Assembly
- Discussion for agenda items for GSRs who can't attend

Approve last months meeting minutes - Sent via email, view print copy

Motion by: Timothy, Mark 2nd

Approved by: Majority

District Committee Chair Reports

DCM (Jarrin V.)

Hello to all, this is Jarrin DCM for District 5. So over the last month, I have managed to make it to my first Area Committee Meeting in Aitken. I got lots of useful information up there; a couple of good ideas for some workshops, a good meal, started hearing about upcoming events, learned things to know for the Spring Assembly, and so forth. I also attended the West Central Regional Conference. There I listened to three days of presentations, discussions, “considers”, and reviews of all of the agenda items coming up for this year's conference. What an earful! Boy does it seem like lots of time gets wasted on things that are probably not going to even be voted on this year. However, people need to share what they think is important, and I believe it's my job to listen to it and try to pass it on. I also had the opportunity to meet with our delegate and go over the agenda items with him. We were guests at the Isanti Alano Club, along with District 6 and District 11. They had a wonderful potluck. We went through the agenda items quite quickly with Steve, focusing primarily on “considers” and questions that others had about the reviews we had discussed regarding the agenda items. I heard a lot of interesting thoughts regarding changes that are proposed, and why some changes are possibly good ideas. I also heard why some things may have been changed from the way they were from a long time ago, how a change that can be made this year at the conference could be easily changed at the very next conference, and so forth. So it's a lot to wrap my head around, but I'm doing my best to do this. I am looking forward to going to the Spring Assembly with all the GSRs and District Committee Members who will be attending. I am also looking forward to sharing with the Area our group conscience on the agenda items. Please let me know how your groups have decided to vote on these items. The more that you can inform me about, the better, because it's up to the individual groups' majorities in the district to decide how I vote. I also am happy to say with the help of others I now have current up-to-date group information on 45 groups! In our district, I think only three groups dissolved after covid. A couple groups made changes such as a women's meeting moving to Tuesday nights at a Rock Township Hall and one meeting that has gone completely to zoom. Yours and Service Jarrin

Alt DCM (Brad)

Went to Isanti Alano and listened to a considerable amount of information. Mostly pamphlets, it was interesting. I look forward to the Spring Assembly.

Secretary (Hannah B.)

Thank-you for the opportunity to serve District 5 and take the focus off myself. I successfully logged onto the District 5 website and figured out how to add the meeting minutes. I would like to add to the new business that we have a separate treasurer report as well. If you have not sent me your typed or written GSR report or District Officer Report, please do so ASAP. I PREFER a typed email over attachments or hand written reports. If you need to send a voicemail, text, or give me a hand written report, I can work with that as well. Sending me PDF's is tricky if I want to add it to the minutes. I had to change the format of the business meeting minutes to Google Docs to make it easier to copy paste from everyone. If you see anything that needs to be changed, you can opt to comment right on the document online... This comment will be viewable by me directly in the document. This eliminates the need to tell me in person, or send a separate email. With all that said, Welcome to the new District 5 Google Drive!! If you need a link to the drive, please let me know so I can send it to you.

I attended the Friday women's meeting and they will be voting next Friday on a new GSR and what to put on the new form. Jarrin, they will be getting that to you soon.

Yours in Service, Hannah B.

Archives (Rich W.)

Hi I am Rich District Archives chair. I have been collecting materials from GSR's from other groups. If you have something like a special event or anything else that your group wants to be in archives. You can give them to me. I do have a stack to add to what Jarrin has. **I will send a written report this week.**

CPC/PI (Steve V.)

We just wrapped up the Sherburne County probation meetings. This is for people court ordered to these meetings to learn what AA is and isn't. Mary Mussman contacted me, (Head of probation) and thanked us for our participation at the orientation meeting. She will be contacting me when they get enough people for another 8 week meeting session.

****Email from Mary**** Just wanted to respond to your inquiry from last night. We do have a couple series scheduled for this year. The next one is set to start on April 28th. As of today there is no one enrolled in the session but I have sent a reminder to staff to try to boost enrollment. I will likely reach out a week or two before to let you know what the numbers are looking like. The one after that is scheduled to start on September 15th. So fingers crossed. Thank you for your willingness to lead the group, your positive demeanor and your feedback! I look forward to working with you again sometime this year! Have a great day!"

Yours in Service
Steve Violett

Mark R. is requesting something to give to their group with information on how to get involved in the Sherburne County Probation meetings.--Steve will get some made and sent to him.

Treasurer (Chad O.)

District 5 Treasurer's Report
P.O. Box 542- Elk River, MN. 55330
MARCH 2022

Expenses of:

Huntington Bank Fees February and March \$10.00 Check
#5001 for Rent April, May, June \$75.00

With contributions of:

7th Tradition February Meeting \$51.00
Princeton 10am Group \$500.00
Wednesday 7pm Princeton AA Group \$60.00
Book Purchase- Scott N. \$50.00
Monday 7pm AA Big Book Study
Squad 10 Elk River Alano \$10.00
Becker Group 117918 \$100.00

Balance as of 03-19-22 \$2,356.57 Less prudent reserve \$ 500.00
Expendable amount of \$1,856.57 Yours in service,
Chad O.

Note:

Due to the difficulties with Huntington bank, even after we provided them with all the documents requested, we were unable to make the necessary changes to our account to get Jarrin V. and myself added.

Jarrin V. and myself then went to the Bank of Elk River to see if we could open an account there with the documents we had. SUCCESS
!!!!

Terry P. who was still on the account at Huntington Bank was able to close out the account there. We're done with them. We have checks, a debit card and online banking with the Bank of Elk River.

They have copies of our EIN number, and Bylaws on file, the only thing needed going forward to add and delete names to the account will be a copy of the meeting minutes stating who is leaving and who will be the new account holders, the new account holders will need to report to the Bank of Elk River with the copy of the meeting minutes and State issued ID to get them on the account and a new debit card for the treasurer. Hallelujah.
Chad O.

Treatment (Gerri M.)

Hello, My name is Gerri and I am your District 5 treatment chair. In March, I became the primary contact for the bi-monthly AA meeting that occurs at the Nystrom's inpatient treatment center located in Big Lake, MN. The treatment facility opened last fall and serves both men and women in a residential setting. The meeting will be every other Monday from 7pm-8pm and will work as a speaker meeting. More than one AA member may attend; however, we will try to limit the format to two stories per session. The meeting is voluntary for the residents and will vary in participants week to week. If you are interested in volunteering, please connect with me for more information. In April, I will be reaching out to the NorthStar facility that is opening in Otsego to find out if they would like any support from the local AA community. If you know of any other opportunities to work and be of service to treatment centers, please let me know.

Yours in Service, Gerri M.

Corrections (Mark R.)

MILLE LACS COUNTY JAIL:

Nothing new. Have no news from Kelly D. or Joe. I have asked again for Joe's information from Kelly. If I do not hear or receive anything, I plan on setting up a meeting or just show up during the day at Mille Lacs County jail to try and get our foot in the door! Background, we have been trying to meet Joe so we can cooperate with him in bringing the meetings into the jail. Joe has been doing the meeting for a long time and the jail likes him.

SHERBURNE COUNTY JAIL:

Nothing new from Sherburne County jail. Still on hold due to Covid. Per my conversation with Mark F (Sherburne County Jail Program Coordinator), here are some details on when things do open.

1. Women and men can come in with a partner in case it is unsettling to some to be alone.
2. We can certainly explore Wednesday or any other days which work best, no issues with this. Yes still 7-8 is the best time frame or even 6:30-7:30

I will be attending the Area 35 Spring Assembly in Ely, MN the weekend of April 1-3, 2022 as the Becker GSR.

I will be starting to Carry the A.A. Message into Anoka County jail with Jarrin, Chad, and others from District 5. Since Sherburne & Mille Lacs county jails are closed, this is a great opportunity of service! Thanks for recruiting us as well as your great service too Jarrin!

Sincerely, yours in service, Mark R

Please see the below report, I believe it will answer all your questions.

[W Area35 Corrections Questions 02 28 2022.docx](#)

Literature - Timothy F.

Everything is going very well :)

General Service Representative Reports

Becker Thursday Night 8 PM -GSR Mark R/ Alt GSR Tim T.

A.A. Group # 117918

Thursdays 8:00pm – 9:00pm

Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church, 12100 Sherburne Ave, Becker, MN 55308
(320) 247-4732 or beckeraagroupmn@gmail.com

We are a closed, mixed group of men and women, of all ages.

We read a topic from the Big Book of A.A. or discuss an A.A. Topic of Recovery.

We have a speaker meeting on the 5th Thursday of the month (2022 - Mar 31, Jun 30, Sep 29, Dec 29)

Our Speaker on March 31st will be Nikkie. Great coffee & donuts provided. Come for the fellowship!

Approximately 22 active members in attendance weekly.

We send donations regularly to GSO, Area35, District 5.

We hold Business Meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month after the regular meeting.

We had 13 Attendees at our February 2022 Business Meeting – best attendance to date!

- During our upcoming March Business meeting, we will be holding a Group Conscience & nominating/voting on new Trusted Servant, Coffee Maker, and Secretary service positions
- We will be discussing the 72nd GSO Conference Agenda items/doing a Group Conscience.

We celebrated the following sobriety anniversaries: **Mark R – 2 Years!**

We welcomed 2 newcomers this past month. **Welcome to Brad & Tom!!**

I had the opportunity to use a free order of 250 business cards to create a card for our Becker Thursday Night A.A. Group to be used to Carry the Message, leave at medical clinics, treatment facilities, or wherever!

Sincerely, yours in service, Mark R

GSR/Jackie B. – Lost and Found Group is a closed AA meeting of men and women meeting Wednesday nights from 7-8pm at Faith Lutheran Church 12266 255th Ave, Zimmerman MN. We average 8-12 people weekly and had a few newcomers this month. Every month, we discuss and read the big book, 12x12 Steps and Traditions and in the fourth week of the month, we have an open topic. We have a speaker meeting in the 5th week of the month. We have treats and fellowship at 6:45, speaker at 7pm Every week, we mention the benefits of the Grapevine magazine and read a joke from it.

Thanks, Jackie

Princeton Wed 7pm Brad-

Averaging 7-9 people. Big Book Study. We listen to Joe and Charlie. Last week I brought up some bullet points for the Spring Assembly, just a short 5 min discussion. We did not have a group conscious, instead I just asked them to think about it for the next few weeks. I told them this is theirs, not mine, and I want them to think about it. I look forward to going up to the Assembly.

Milaca Wed 7PM Milaca Big Book - Bob

Bob J, Wednesday night 7:00 Milaca meeting report, Open Big Book, 6-10 regular attendees, 9 month medallion last month. Please come join us!

Princeton Thurs -Kay

Hello hello kay here

(GSR)THURSDAY 7PM PRINCETON ALANO CLUB

We study twelve steps twelve traditions currently doing 3rd tradition material

6 newcomers

Celebrated

1 mo medallion

2 2 mo medallion

2 90 day medallion

1 6 mo medallion

We average 16 each week, our attendance is getting up there. We are really growing. I look forward to attending the Spring Assembly. I am learning more and really enjoying it.

Thank you for letting me serve

Princeton Monday 7 PM Big Book - Scottie

Scott Nistler

We are getting a lot of newcomers coming from Treatment.

Thank you GSR Monday 7pm Scott N Princeton,m

Elk River Tuesday 8 PM A Design for Living - Tom T.

Squad 2 "A design for living" - 000319745-035-05

Tuesday 8:00pm

Otsego/Elk River Alano

Open Big Book Study

GSR Tom T.

15-20 Active members

Average 17 per meeting

Sobriety birthdays

1-30 day

We are a big book study group. We are at the beginning of the big book currently. Meetings are going good.

Yours in service

Tom T realquizzz@yahoo.com

Elk River Sat 8:30 PM Turning Point Group - fill in Hannah B.

We are a 12 Step study group, each week we share our experience working the step of the week. The last Saturday of the month we have a small speaker meeting. If you are looking to share your story, please contact Hannah B, District 5 Secretary. We average 3-5 people weekly. We have had a few newcomers this month. Join us Saturday for speaker Dan J and keep coming as we start Step one again in two weeks. Great meeting for newcomers.

Elk River Thursday 7 PM The Way Out Group- Joe C.

I am Joe C, GSR for The Way Out Group. We meet at Central Lutheran Church in Elk River every Thursday at 7:00 pm. We start each meeting celebrating birthdays. Our meeting consists of a member sharing on the topic of recovery from the cover to page 164 in the Big Book for 3-5 minutes, followed by 40 minutes of discussion. On the 3rd Thursday of the month, we have our business meeting, after our normal meeting. On the last Thursday of the month, we have a guest speaker.

In the month of February, We Averaged 46 people each week, 2-3 of them being new to our meeting, and 3 being new to AA or right out of treatment.

We Celebrated Birthdays for 30 days (Ramoen). 30 days (Greg), & 30 Days (Jone). I am also missing some information on birthdays and a speaker. Our secretary has been gone so I can't cheat off her notes either.

Check out our flier on District 5 website calendar

<https://www.district5online.org/uploads/events/flyer72.pdf>

Elk River Monday Night Womens 6:30 PM - Alyssa

Hello I am Marie, filling in for Alyssa. We are a 12x12 meeting. Used to reading through the 12 steps one week, then 12 traditions. Now they might have speaker meetings on the last Monday of the month? Recently they began contributing to the entities. Alyssa was volunteered into this position. God bless her.

Elk River Tuesday 6:30PM - Carter

Below are the updates and highlights for Squad 4

1. Big Book Study
2. 24 Hours A day Reading
3. 8-12 people per week
4. Special Topic - Living Sober
5. Handed out 13 year medallion
6. Several 30 day and 24 Hours sobriety to celebrate

Let me know if you need anything else

Carter L

Squad 4 Elk River GSR

Jenna Princeton- Tuesday Big book

5-8 that normally attend. 90 day and 9 month. Tues 10am Big book. Wednesday 10am 15-20

John Wed 4pm Squad 8

Everything is on the up and up. I am trying to pick up on everything. 1-60 day medallion, which was me. Thank-you

Matt Fri 8pm Milaca

4-8 people Big Book discussion. I don't remember clean times this month. Occasional newcomers, now that it is getting warmer on the 2nd Friday of each month we grill. We keep it simple, bring something to grill for yourself and someone else. We eat everything we cook and clean up. There is a lot of good humor with recovery.

Old Business:

Update on the meeting contact list for the District - Jarrin

We have been to all the meetings. We have one more left to collect from Hannah. Then I will get this all on the list and give it to the Area Website. I had an opportunity to go to all these different meetings and meet all these different people. I am glad I got the opportunity.

Print new meeting schedules (Table until done)

Update - Add service opportunities to the website including committee service opportunities. Anyone here have any to add?

- Can you please get me your service opportunities with contact info

- Sherburne county handbook... pdf and application.

Area 35 Committee meeting

Jarrin attended the meeting. I don't have a whole lot to bring back from it. I sat in the Archives break out session. What I got is that it does sound like we have found a place to store materials for Area 35. Looks like it will be stored in Aitkin. It will be expensive due to the climate controlled environment required, somewhere around \$1200-1500 a year. It is up for a vote at the next meeting. The last delegate has had it in North Dakota, but he wants it out. That is about it.

Agenda Items

How many GSRs are not attending the Spring Assembly that are here tonight (maybe 3). So basically anyone else that is planning to attend, you will be able to carry your vote there and share it. So to get a

group conscious of the groups who are not able to go, GSRs of these groups need to get their group conscious of the “considers” and pass it along to Jarrin. Between the 3 of each group, we take a majority to determine the way I will vote. To find the agenda items, Area35.org - tab to Navigation, scroll to downloads, scroll to agenda items, password to look at is ***** Do not print it is 1100 pages. The ones that say “consider” are the ones that we are looking for answers on. Email me the results of the 14 items. We will not have another district meeting before the assembly. You can also text me.

Bob- our group does not want to change a thing.

Jarrin- who is going to make it to the Assembly? 10 hands raised.

Jarrin will save a table and you can bring treats to share on the table.

Joe- will there be a zoom. (No)

Tom- 17 items are “considers” and 1 item is a “reconsider.”

Hannah - to get a hold of any district officer, you can click the “contact” button on the district 5 website under the Officers or Committee Member tabs.

Area Assembly April 1st, 2nd, 3rd - Approve budget

Rich - For who? All district officers?

Jarrin - Well there are no breakout sessions this time. There will be a GSR training session/ break out session. The Fall Assembly we have break out sessions for CPC/PI, Literature, etc. In these sessions we talk about what is going on in our Districts, then make a list of questions, come back in the evening to discuss them. With the Spring Assembly, there are no breakout sessions. So essentially only the DCM needs to attend to carry the vote for the GSRs who are not in attendance.

Hannah- What is the value of other officers or Committee members attending? Would it be beneficial for the District to pay for one extra room that any District Officer or Committee Member is welcome to share if they can come?

Jarrin - Archives will be everywhere to pick up. I can pick it up if needed. Without any other break out sessions, I don't know the necessity for them to go, but would 2nd a motion to support them to go.

Rich- Would like to go but I also want to be careful, as a trusted servant of the District Funds, so If I go, I will probably pay my way.

Joe- None of my business, but it states on the flier that everyone is invited if you are interested in service. If it keeps people sober and helps AA, I support them going. As District Officers and Committee members this is our sole purpose, and if sending someone who could not or would not otherwise go, we are extending the hand of AA for the future generations if the going inspires them to get involved in service at the District level.

Jarrin- I agree. If someone wants to go

Hannah- Motion to get an extra room - Denied

Motion- To approve paying for a 2nd room if and when another District Officer or Committee member is able to attend. That officer or committee member will pay the room fee and submit a receipt. The District will not reimburse gas or food expenses for those attending when not required. 2nd Opposed - 3 members - Minority state your case...

Chad- Jarrin can easily collect archives, so he can cover the District needs. However, I am not completely opposed, if we really think it needs to happen to offer a room for those not required to go.

Joe- I am for the motion, because there is always more money at the end of each year. It is the reason the District is here, it is the big picture, it is the future of AA to attend this thing. Whether it is an expensive thing or not, in the end we have a reserve to cover it if needed.

Hannah- leaving it open protects others who can't afford it and don't want to say that.

Jarrin- is there anyone who would like to change their vote? None.

Motion passed 3 opposed.

Hannah- I would like to say from experience that being able to go to an Area Assembly really carried me a long way in my sobriety. Being in AA and not being of service is empty compared to being of service.

Rich- I would like to agree with what Hannah said. I am really enjoying learning more about how the service structure works.

Rich- motion that Jarrin bring archives back whether or not other officers or committee members attend. - Joe 2nd - passed.

Motion- Mark R- to cover Jarrins room, board, gas, basic meals - 2nd Kay - All approved.

- Please add to our agenda a discussion on possible District 5 sponsored Workshops in 2022! I would like to propose a Workshop on "All You Wanted to Know About The Structure of the A.A. Fellowship and Service but Were Afraid to Ask " (something like that) As I'm going around our District to different groups and even my own, I'm finding a good portion of each group's members have no idea what goes on in A.A. Fellowship outside their own group. I have attached an outline which is pretty much out of the Service Manual (2021-2023) and could be a good guideline for a presentation from District 5, Area 35, and A.A. members in our area. (Hannah missed this email in Feb, table until March) Motion to table until June. 2nd Chase - all approved.

District Group Inventory- Tabled until May/June

Future Workshop- Table until May/June

New Business:

- Hannah B. -Phone list emails returning to me: John's from Princeton M/F morning and Dillion Alt GSR Way Out Group. Please confirm your emails with me. (Joe will get Dillons)
Jenna- will get Hannah an updated email for John.
- We have still been unsuccessful in changing the bank account over, even with the by-laws approved. We are down to 2 checks and can't get a new debit card. To allow us to conduct business we need to get a new account setup and close the current one, preferably without waiting until after the March meeting. We will likely open an account at a local bank in the Elk River area. Please let me know if there are any objections by the end of the day on Friday, March 4th. If there are none we will proceed in getting this setup so the District does not have this issue every 2 years going forward. - Terri Pitts
Hannah B - I agree
Mark S.- All good from my side!! Go for it

- Recognizing Timothy for stepping up to take Literature Grapevine. Motion to vote Timothy F. in to District 5 Grapevine/Literature chair - 2nd by many - all approved
- 2218 Alano Club Recovery Ride - Mark sent flyers out - asking clubs and companies if they want to sponsor donations for the event.

Jenna - has handouts - I am on the committee for this. It is the 4th annual. This is my 4th year with them. I was 9 months sober when I started. The first page is the flier¹, 2nd is a letter from 2218 explaining the fundraiser - looking for sponsorship, companies willing to sponsor. I am not sure, can the District donate to the Alano Clubs? Finally they are looking for silent auction items. Starts in the morning with a ride, then events all day, speaker meeting, medallion meeting, silent auction. It is a wonderful time to give to the longest running Alano in the country.

Hannah- AA does not fundraise, neither endorses or supports outside causes. Alano clubs are not AA, but we do cooperate with professionals. The Alano Club is a separate non-profit entity So if anyone wants to independently donate to this fundraiser that is okay, we just can't do it in an official AA capacity. We can spread the word and come and enjoy this wonderful time of fellowship.

- Separate Treasure report on District Website
 - Motion to leave as is (not post separate report) Timothy - Jarrin 2nd approved-

Motion to Close: Hannah - 2nd by many - all approved 8:51pm

"Responsibility Statement:

I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA Always to be there. And for that, I am responsible."

¹ MN District 5 Meeting Minutes March 2022