

# GENERAL MEETING

## TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022 (online meeting)

(These Minutes Approved by Floor Members)

The meeting convened at 8:00 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Twelve Traditions were then read by Don H. (Living Sober).

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

**INTERGROUP REP/ALT:** 12 Steps, Aurora, Beaches, Birds of a Feather, Church Street, Deer Park, Dry on Danforth, Erin Mills, Fellowship of the Spirit, Friendly, Hadenuffyet, Hill, Last Stop Freedom, Living Sober, Long Branch, Markland Wood, Meadowvale Fellowship, Midtown, Mississauga, Mount Royal-York, New Anchor, One Paragraph at a Time, Open Hands, Primary Purpose, Richmond Hill, Rox Glen Traditional, Royal York, Saturday Morning Discussion, Silverbirch, Sisters in Sobriety, St. Clements, Stepping Stones, Steps to Serenity, Streetsville Action, Streetsville, The Dogs, Thorncliffe Park, Thursday Men's, Trial and Error, Tuesday Men's, Twelfth Tradition, Welcome, and Westmoreland.

**DISTRICT LIAISONS:** Districts 10 and 14.

**OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Don H., Kelli T., Mary M., and Marvyn W. (OC Chairperson).

**SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS:** ARCHIVES, INFORMATION AA DAY 2022, TWELFTH STEP, ACCESSIBILITIES CPC/PI, SELF-SUPPORT AND TREATMENT.

**HOUSEKEEPING:** Marvyn outlined the following: recording of the meeting.

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES – MARCH 2022

**Errors and/or Omissions:** none were reported.

**MOTION** to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Steve C. (Rox Glen Traditional) and seconded by Amit S. (Mississauga). The Motion was carried.

At this point in the meeting, Marvyn asked Operating Committee members to introduce themselves to Floor members.

**CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS -** Marvyn W. (Mississauga), Operating Committee Chair

Marvyn informed Floor members that the 2022 Information AA Day (Virtual) is happening on Sat. May 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Theme is 'Service is for Everyone', and the event will feature the following:

- Overview of General Service and the Intergroup Service Structure
- Area 83 Delegate's Report from the recent General Service Conference
- Inter-District/Intergroup Subcommittees presentations
- GSO Speaker

The virtual doors open at 8:30 a.m. [Please see flyer posted on www.aatoronto.org](http://www.aatoronto.org) for Zoom details

### MOTION TO SUSPEND REGULAR BUSINESS – ELECTIONS FOR INCOMING OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBER

**MOTION** to Suspend Regular Business to Facilitate Elections moved by Duncan M. (Tuesday Men's) and seconded by Suzanne A. (Saturday Morning Discussion). The Motion was carried.

### Election for a new Operating Committee Member:

- Marvyn outlined the qualifications and service commitments for this position.
- Marvyn asked if anyone present would like to stand for the position or nominate a Floor member. No volunteers/nominations from the Floor were forthcoming.
- **This Election deferred until the May 31 General Meeting. Please announce at your groups!**

### COLLECTION OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> TRADITION:

- As per our literature and the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition, we are self-supporting through our own contributions.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition link is as follows: <https://www.aatoronto.org/about/7th-tradition/>

## FINANCE REPORT – David T. (Welcome), Finance Member

	March 2022 (1 month)							March 2022 Year-to-Date (3 months)							
	Actual 2022	Budget 2022	Variance	%	Actual 2021	Variance	%	Actual 2022	Budget 2022	Variance	%	Actual 2022	Actual 2021	Variance	%
<b>Contributions</b>	12,527	9,980	2,547	26%	7,027	5,500	78%	27,046	30,000	(2,954)	(10%)	27,046	32,600	(5,554)	(17%)
<b>Literature Sales</b>	17,083	7,500	9,583	128%	6,124	10,959	179%	31,637	22,500	9,137	41%	31,637	20,900	10,737	51%
<b>= Total Revenues</b>	29,610	17,480	12,130	69%	13,151	16,459	125%	58,683	52,500	6,183	12%	58,683	53,500	5,183	10%
<b>- Cost of Sales</b>	10,454	4,875	5,579	114%	4,031	6,423	159%	17,996	14,625	3,371	23%	17,996	12,144	5,852	48%
<b>- Expenses</b>	12,314	13,919	(1,605)	(12%)	13,556	(1,242)	(9%)	37,536	41,952	(4,416)	(11%)	37,536	40,138	(2,602)	(6%)
<b>= Surplus / (Deficiency)</b>	6,842	(1,314)	8,156		(4,436)	11,278		3,151	(4,077)	7,228		3,151	1,218	1,933	
Prudent Reserve Market Value at March 31, 2022 = \$244 K. 2021 Prudent Reserve Target = \$266 K.															

### March 2022

- Surplus of \$6.8 K vs. budgeted deficit of 1.3 K
- Contributions \$12.5 K compared to budget of \$10.0 K and 2021 amount was \$7.0 K
- Literature sales were \$9.6 K above budget at \$17.1 K vs. budget of \$7.5 K
- Expenses of \$12.3 K were \$1.6 below budget due to lower-than-plan committee, office, and staff expenses

### March 2022 YTD

- Surplus of \$3.2 K vs. budgeted deficit of \$4.1 K
- Contributions of \$27.0 K are \$3.0 K below budget due to low contributions in February; individual contributions were \$8.9 K below budget and group contributions \$5.9 K above
- Literature sales of \$31.6 K are \$9.1 K or 41% above budget due to high sales in March
- Expenses are \$4.4 K or 11% below budget, because each category of expenses were below budget (committee: \$1.6 K, operating: \$1.3 K, and staff: \$1.5 K)

### Intergroup Office Update – Renovations

Marvyn informed members that an ad hoc committee was struck in order to navigate a new lease agreement. He was pleased to announce that we have signed a new 5-year lease at 234 Eglinton. As per the agreement, there will be no immediate rent increase (perhaps for the first year). Another part of the agreement was extensive renovations of the space for reconfiguration of the office (see Archives report below for details). The Archives repository will now reside in the former Phone Greeter space; there will be greeter desks arranged with full kitchen/boardroom/offices access, with the aim to have phone volunteers back in person (from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday) at 234. We will continue to inform members of the process; stay tuned!

### SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

#### ARCHIVES: Glenn G. (East York), Chairperson

Hi Friends, I am an alcoholic, a member of the East York Group, having the honour, privilege and responsibility to serve as the Greater Toronto Area Intergroup chair of their Archives Committee, my name is Glenn.

Our Archivist Eddy G. continues, in the repository, to: compile, sort, organize, preserve, and label both historical artifacts and documents. David T., our assistant Archivist, continues to cross reference, catalogue and data input our valuable Archives inventory.

Our Archives committee was invited to serve on the 234 Eglinton lease renewal space Intergroup ad hoc committee. I acted as liaison and consulted with both our committee and specifically with our Archivist and assistant Archivist. Our input was sought with regard to both our needs for more space and security. The result was a recommendation to both create a separate room with its own direct entrance and relocate the Archives into this larger room. This recommendation was accepted by the Operating Committee and is being currently implemented. I wish to thank the

Intergroup Operating Committee for both the opportunity to participate on the aforementioned ad hoc committee and the Archives room result. I felt the love and care of being both valued and respected. I am grateful. The East Toronto Archives Breakfast is scheduled for May 1st. I look forward to seeing you all there. Yours in loving service, Glenn G.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Don H. (Living Sober), OC Liaison

The two primary areas this subcommittee oversees currently are publishing the monthly Better Times Newsletter and maintenance/updating our website [www.aatoronto.org](http://www.aatoronto.org) (meeting listings, events, announcements, etc.) which is monitored regularly through updates and communication.

The committee is revamping the site for the future; this includes three agreed-upon mandates: a) updating the 'look' of the current site; b) creation of an online Literature Store; and c) creation of an online chat feature. This is a work in process, and we need some volunteers for helping in this initiative! Web developers are needed.

Intergroup Reps: Please check your current listings on the website for accuracy and to reflect current in-person and/or meeting hybrid status. This greatly helps the Twelfth Step Phone Greeters and members at large. Thanks!

**INFORMATION AA DAY 2022:** Bert J. (Silverbirch), 2022 Event Vice-Chairperson

**SERVICE IS FOR EVERYONE** Together Everyone Can Achieve More!

Good evening friends I am alcoholic member of the Silverbirch Group and Alternate district committee member for District 22.

As per last night and due to the resignation of the chair for personal reason I was nominated as the chair for this year event that will be held **on May 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 doors opening** and having a full schedule for your interest.

We will present you the Delegate report from the delegate and a talk on service by a General Service Office member that will be on board for her talk.

Also, it would be a good opportunity to learn about the different committees and invite different members of your group to attend this day of information.

Many committees need help, and many hands make a light work.

We will start with a presentation from our alternate delegate on the structure of the Fellowship and the relation with the Intergroup.

Followed by the delegate report which will be very interesting to hear her experience at the conference and what happened, what is the change coming with the new era that we are living in and the new challenge?

After the delegate will be the General Service Office Speaker who would share her experience in the program and working at the General Service office.

Then, the different committees will explain their duties as a committee and their needs of volunteers to help. First the districts committees and then the Intergroup committees.

It might seem to be a long day but what I get from that experience is a skill transfer in my life + we will have break and a lunch prepared by you as it is virtual.

**Mark your calendar May 28<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am EDT Fellowship then 9:00 around start of the day we hope to be done by 2:30 pm to give you a chance to do other chores in your day. MEETING ID 871 1949 3203 PASSWORD 985556**

If you like to share the poster it is in the Better Times Newsletter [April-Better-Times-V.7-1.pdf \(aatoronto.org\)](#)

**Virtual ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE:** No report.

Marvyn shared that the ORC 2023 Event will be an in-person event, to be held March 17-19 at the Sheraton Hotel.

**TWELFTH STEP:** Laura V. (Mount Royal-York), Chairperson

Laura wanted to thank those Group Reps who carried the 'phone volunteers needed' message to their groups; the current phone schedule is now at full capacity. This is unprecedented! Passcodes for virtual meetings: there has been an 'unexpected glitch' in groups using alphabetical passcodes for their virtual meetings; phone users cannot input alphabetical passcodes. Passcodes using numbers are far easier for phone users (who are primarily senior citizens). Multilingual 12 Step volunteers are needed.

**WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE – NEW YEAR'S ALKATHON 2022:** Marvyn W. (Mississauga), Operating Committee Chair  
Marvyn shared that ideally Chairpersons for both events would be hopefully in place by July so committees meetings can commence to progress towards building strong committees for these seasonal events. Marvyn also hoped that the Winter Season Open House 2022 event will be an in-person event. Stay tuned!

## DISTRICT REPORTS

### **ACCESSIBILITY:** Greg R. (Markham Village), Chairperson

The table needs more member participation. In aid of this, the committee has created an initiative to invite members with accessible needs to share their stories on accessible issues and recovery. Two members have recently shared their stories with the table (mobility, language, acquired brain injury). Discussion continues on the 'Meetings to Go' initiative, and efforts are being done to visit various groups in order to spread awareness of accessible issues and to also invite member participation. Message to Groups: Please consider updating your group's accessibilities checklist (i.e. washroom access, availability of elevator/wheelchair ramp, accessible entrances). The checklist can be found on the Area 83 Website: [https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/smf-208\\_accessibilitieschecklist.pdf](https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/smf-208_accessibilitieschecklist.pdf). Volunteers to the table are always welcome! This committee meets on the third Sunday of each month (virtually) at 11 a.m. Please check online subcommittee calendar on our website [aatoronto.org](http://aatoronto.org) for details.

### **CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES:** No report.

### **COOPERATION with the PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY/PUBLIC INFORMATION:** Joe A. (One Paragraph at a Time), Chairperson

- Thanks to continued correspondence by the Area 83 CPC Chair, CPC/PI has secured funds and resources from the AA General Service Office to have an exhibitor booth at the in person Pri Med Canada Conference (May 11-13/22) in Mississauga, ON
- Locally, we have District Chairs providing AA info to churches, libraries, and in September high schools
- District 22 is in the planning stages of two online CPC & PI info sessions for professionals, currently scheduled for June 14 & June 16, 2022. D22 is encouraging Intergroup reps, and group members to connect with their professional contacts and invite them to either event. D22 will soon be providing the Zoom ID

Thank you, Joe A., CPC/PI Chair

### **GRAPEVINE:** Bert J., Alternate DCM, District 22

Every group has the opportunity to obtain a Grapevine subscription (\$40) and earmark it for Correctional Facilities use. Please email Scott M. [grapevine@aatoronto.org](mailto:grapevine@aatoronto.org) or Maire O'B. [corrections@aatoronto.org](mailto:corrections@aatoronto.org) for more details. Every group is encouraged to elect a Grapevine Rep. There is a new Grapevine book entitled 'Free from the Inside'.

### **SELF SUPPORT:** David T., (Welcome), Chairperson

In attendance: John LD District 12, Lou-Anne Z District 06, Bert J District 22 ADCM, David T D10.

Lou-Anne Z D06 Alt Self-Support Chair – Not much to report, District struggling to fill vacant Alt Chair positions at every district meeting. She is also inviting groups to have her come and speak on Self-Support at their meetings.

John LD D12 Self-Support Chair – Many groups are meeting on Zoom. DCM resigned due to physical move to Scarborough area and Alt DCM has stepped up, looking for new Alt-DCM. District distributed \$500.00 each to GSO and Area.

Bert J ADCM District 22 – Nothing to report, attended Area Assembly.

David reported on giving short presentation to District 10 table and is scheduled to give a full presentation at next meeting.

Bert suggested we have a Self-Support workshop and invite all the District Chairs and all others interested in Self-Support. Will send out feelers to all districts. David will request list of District Chairs from Area Chair, Bev.

David reminded meeting of Self-Support PCAS session on 9 April and Info-AA Day on 28 May (Virtual).

Next meeting will be on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Note to individual members: If you wish to contribute directly to Intergroup, you can! Here are the way members can do this:

- Online at [www.aatoronto.org](http://www.aatoronto.org) where you can use your credit card or PayPal account
- Interac e-Transfer to [contributions@aatoronto.org](mailto:contributions@aatoronto.org)
- Mail a cheque or money order payable to "Toronto Intergroup" to 202-234 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto, ON M4P 1K5

### **TREATMENT:** Sean L. (Steps to Serenity), Chairperson

The Treatment Committee met on April 21st on Zoom. We had 8 folks in attendance representing 5 districts – 6, 10, 12, 18, 22 – as well as the Area 83 Treatment Chair, Tim F. The Chairperson, Sean, wasn't able to attend the meeting, but Rebecca from D6 stepped in to chair the meeting. Highlights below:

1. Still looking for a Secretary for the Committee. If interested, please email [treatment@aatoronto.org](mailto:treatment@aatoronto.org)
2. D18 launched its new service commitment at the Edward Village Hotel Shelter at 185 Yorkland Blvd every Thursday at 7pm and have had 2 meetings so far. We have had a decent turn out from AA so far with between 10 and 13 members showing up to put on or support the meeting. We have had 3 or 4 residents attend each meeting but hope for more as word spreads and as we conduct training sessions with the staff. The general sense is that greater buy in from the staff will lead to more communication and awareness for clients. Fred Victor is treating this as a pilot project that if successful they would look to bring to their other shelters throughout the GTA.
3. Rebecca from D6 presented at an Area 83 event on March 26th and received a lot of positive feedback. There was a lot of interest in the Bridging the Gap pamphlet she prepared and circulated amongst our GTA treatment chairs, so we'll be sharing that with Area for wider distribution.
4. In-person meetings continue at Cawthra Shelter every Wednesday at 7pm. Pocket Big Books were ordered and delivered to the shelter. Additionally, D6 will be buying an additional 12 PBBs. We are looking for groups to volunteer to do service at Cawthra Shelter starting May 11th, 2022.
5. D12 is negotiating with the St. Felix House women's transition house to get in-person meetings running. Robert C., treatment chair, has shared this with the district table to look for volunteers in home groups. Exploring a D10+D12 partnership to support the meeting.
6. Saturday Noon and Women's Renaissance meetings continue, but COVID outbreaks at CamH and St. Joe's has put a halt to those meetings.
7. Things continue in D10 with 3 zoom meetings at Homestead, CamH and Maxwell Meagan.
8. D22 has an official treatment chair now who will be attending in the future!
9. Lastly, Area 83 chair Tim F shared about the next Area Treatment meeting on May 29th 7pm. Members of our committee will attend. They will be discussing ideas for the Fall Assembly which will be in-person in Kingston.

**AREA 83 REPORT:** No report.

**RECEPTION:** Kelli T. (Hill), OC Secretary

Kelli reported that there were 35 Reps, 5 Alternate Reps, 4 OC Members, 7 Subcommittee Chairs, 2 District Liaisons, and 3 Visitors present at this meeting, for a total attendance of 56 members.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO FULFILL THE SERVICE SIDE OF YOUR RECOVERY TRIANGLE:



[Phone Greeters](#)  
[Bilingual Member Resource](#)  
[IT Sub-Committee Members](#)  
[Operating Committee Member](#)

## NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was forthcoming.

## CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS

Marvyn thanked everyone for the participation and dedication to service, and again reminded everyone about the upcoming Virtual Information AA Day (Sat. May 28).

A **Motion to adjourn** was moved by Iner S. (Silverbirch) and seconded by Jeff B. (Stepping Stones). Carried. The meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** An online meeting via Zoom will be held on **Tuesday, May 31 at 8 p.m.**