

GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, May 31, 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 Mike C. (Beverly Hills).

MEMBERS PRESENT:

INTERGROUP REP/ALT: 12 Steps, Anniversary, Beaches, Beverly Hills, Dry on Danforth, Erin Mills, Fellowship, Fellowship of the Spirit, Hadenuffyet, Hill, Keep It Simple, Kipling, Leslie, Markham Village, Markland Wood, Midtown, Mississauga, Mount Royal-York, Noon Rap, One Paragraph at a Time, Open Hands, Pine Hills, Primary Purpose, Responsibility, Rox Glen Traditional, Royal York, Silverbirch, Sisters in Sobriety, St. Clements, Stepping Stones, Thorncliffe Park, Trial and Error, Tuesday Men's, Twelfth Tradition, Welcome, and Westmoreland.

DISTRICT LIAISONS: District 12.

OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Kelli T., Gord T., Graham D. (OC Vice-Chair), and Marvyn W. (OC Chairperson).

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS: INFORMATION AA DAY 2022, ACCESSIBILITIES, CPC/PI.

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – APRIL 2022

Errors and/or Omissions: none were reported. **MOTION** to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Duncan M. (Tuesday Men's) and seconded by Mike C. (Beverly). 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

- The office renovations at 234 are complete (new Archives area, new admin. office space, and greeter/kitchen area). The Archives committee is endeavouring to configure their new space in terms of shelving/display area/work area
- Congratulations to our Archivist Eddy G. (Beaches) who is celebrating 35 years of sobriety tonight!
- On behalf of the Operating Committee, Marvyn extended a thank-you to Carla T. (Welcome) who is rotating out of the Communications Chair position as of June 7. Marvyn also extended a big thank-you to Laura V. (Mount Royal-York) our current Twelfth Step Chair, who will be rotating out of that position in July. Laura was an integral part of problem-solving around keeping our phone hotline manned and operational through the challenging times of the last several years

Volunteers are needed for the following service positions:

- **Communications Chairperson** <https://www.aatoronto.org/communications-chair-needed/>
- **Twelfth Step Chairperson** <https://www.aatoronto.org/twelfth-step-chair-needed/>
- **Winter Season Open House (in-person) 2022 Event Chairperson** <https://www.aatoronto.org/winter-season-open-house-chair-needed/>
- **Winter Season Virtual Alkathon 2022 Event Chairperson** <https://www.aatoronto.org/winter-season-virtual-alkathon-chair-needed/>

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

MOTION to Suspend Regular Business to Facilitate Elections moved by Joanne S. (Anniversary) and seconded by Oscar C. (Responsibility). 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 June 28 General Meeting. Please announce at your groups!**

COLLECTION OF THE 7TH TRADITION:

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

FINANCE REPORT – Steven P. (Bloordale), Finance Member/Committee Secretary

	April 2022 (1 month)							April 2022 Year-to-Date (4 months)							
	Actual 2022	Budget 2022	Variance	%	Actual 2021	Variance	%	Actual 2022	Budget 2022	Variance	%	Actual 2022	Actual 2021	Variance	%
Contributions	6,997	10,010	(3,013)	(30%)	8,954	(1,957)	(22%)	34,044	40,010	(5,966)	(15%)	34,044	41,553	(7,509)	(18%)
Literature Sales	10,407	7,500	2,907	39%	5,391	5,016	93%	42,855	30,000	12,855	43%	42,855	26,291	16,564	63%
= Total Revenues	17,404	17,510	(106)	(1%)	14,345	3,059	21%	76,899	70,010	6,889	10%	76,899	67,844	9,055	13%
- Cost of Sales	6,045	4,875	1,170	24%	2,681	3,364	125%	25,033	19,500	5,533	28%	25,033	14,825	10,208	69%
- Expenses	12,874	13,921	(1,047)	(8%)	9,832	3,042	31%	50,079	55,873	(5,794)	(10%)	50,079	49,970	109	0%
= Surplus / (Deficiency)	(1,515)	(1,286)	(229)		1,832	(3,347)		1,787	(5,363)	7,150		1,787	3,049	(1,262)	
Prudent Reserve Market Value at April 29, 2022 = \$261 K. 2021 Prudent Reserve Target = \$266 K.															

April 2022

- Deficit of \$1.5 K vs. budgeted deficit of \$1.3 K
- Contributions \$7.0 K compared to budget of \$10.0 K and 2021 amount was \$9.0 K
- Literature sales were \$10.4 K or \$2.9 K above budget a 39% positive variance
- Expenses of \$12.8 K were \$1.1 K below budget due to lower than plan staff and committee expenses

April 2022 YTD

- Surplus of \$1.8 K vs. budgeted deficit of \$5.4 K is a positive variance of \$7.1 K in budgeted deficit
- Contributions of \$34.0 K are \$6.0 K below budget due lower contributions in both February and April, **individual contributions were \$12.5 K below budget for April 2022 year to date** and group donations \$6.5 K above
- Intergroup relies on the contributions of both Individual Members and Groups to support its mission of Carrying the AA Message in the Greater Toronto Area, it is easy to contribute to Intergroup, including online where **you can make one time or set up monthly contributions from your credit card or PayPal account** and **via Interac e-Transfer to contributions@aatoronto.org**
- For online contributions please see [7th Tradition Donation | GTA Intergroup \(aatoronto.org\)](https://www.aatoronto.org/about/7th-tradition/) or <https://www.aatoronto.org/about/7th-tradition/> on the GTA Intergroup website
- Literature sales of \$42.9 K are \$12.9 K or 43% above budget, it is great to see literature sales improving as more groups open in-person
- Finally, expenses are \$5.8 K or 10% below budget because each category of expenses was below budget (committee: \$3.0 K, operating: \$0.7 K and staff: \$2.1 K)

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES: No formal report.

Marvyn shared that the committee are moving in to their new space, and have acquired a scanner for committee initiatives.

COMMUNICATIONS: No formal report.

Marvyn shared the May Better Times has been distributed and the June edition is in process. Communications committee members are needed. A new Communications Chair is needed <https://www.aatoronto.org/communications-chair-needed/>

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

The event was held on May 28. Despite the GSO Speaker not being able to attend (due to miscommunication/confirmation of both parties regarding the speaking engagement) the day was informative, with solid presentations from the GTA/service subcommittees in addition to the Delegate's Report. On behalf of the Information AA Day Event committee, Bert thanked committee volunteers, subcommittees, presenters, and those who attended for their dedication to service and carrying the message.

ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2023: No formal report.

Marvyn informed the Floor that the 2023 ORC Committee will be holding their meetings at 234; meetings will commence this August. Attendees will include the 2024 ORC Event ('shadow') committee. The ORC will be an in-person event, to be held March 17-19, 2023 at the Sheraton Hotel, Toronto. Stay tuned!

TWELFTH STEP: Chair not present (see submitted report below Marvyn's verbal report).

Marvyn reiterated his comments in his opening remarks; a Twelfth Step Chairperson is needed <https://www.aatoronto.org/twelfth-step-chair-needed/>

(Submitted Report from Twelfth Step Chair, Laura V.):

This is a very upbeat report, largely because of major contributions by our new liaison rep Mary, and Marvyn the OC for pushing me to be more of a chairperson. We are in the process of documenting the duties of the Twelfth Step Committee Chair, while I work to streamline and simplify the various tasks involved before I rotate out. In short, we are slowly getting more organized and tasks are being delegated to the new members.

The Help Line greeter pool is very close to overflowing. We have the beginnings of a waiting list, for which I'd like to thank everybody here for making announcements at meetings. We're still short of overnight greeters, and we'd like to encourage people to give it a try for at least one night to see how it goes. There's a blurb below to be read at meetings in hopes of inspiring some members to give it a try. As Woody always likes to say, the more people we have, the less frequently we all have to do it. I have no doubt that if members got the chance to have a heartfelt 12 step call with a desperate alcoholic, usually in tears, they would be lining up to do overnight shifts. It is truly a rare privilege to partake in such an intimate share.

So the blurb to read aloud at meetings is as follows:

Did you know that GTA Intergroup is one of, if not the only Help Line that is answered by a live person around the clock? Even New York goes to voicemail after 2 am. Our overnight greeters are so committed to keeping it up, but we could use a little help. Even as few as 10 more people would make a huge difference. You don't have to stay awake all night. You go to sleep as usual and just answer your phone if it rings. Once you get into sharing with a still suffering alcoholic who is desperate to quit, you will be so energized by the experience you will wish you had done it sooner. Some nights the phone doesn't ring at all, some nights it can be quite busy. Either way, a little drowsiness the next day is a small price to pay for potentially saving a life. We are so confident that you'll agree that we're offering an opportunity to try it for one night only. See if you can stretch your comfort zone just enough to keep our Help Line up and running 24/7/365. Email 12step@aatoronto.org to volunteer.

WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE – NEW YEAR'S ALKATHON 2022: Marvyn W. (Mississauga), Operating Committee Chair

- **Winter Season Open House** (in-person) **2022 Event Chairperson** <https://www.aatoronto.org/winter-season-open-house-chair-needed/>
- **Winter Season Virtual Alkathon 2022 Event Chairperson** <https://www.aatoronto.org/winter-season-virtual-alkathon-chair-needed/>

DISTRICT REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITY: Greg R. (Markham Village), Chairperson

Efforts are being made (with cooperation between the OC and Accessibility) to look at ensuring that the recent renovations at the Intergroup Office are reflecting/adhering to accessible features for members and the membership at large (i.e. the new kitchen/greeter area). Message to Groups: Please consider updating your group's accessibility 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. 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 for details.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES: Graham D. (Markland Wood), OC Liaison

Graham announced that the Toronto South facility is now open one day a week for AA meetings (Tuesdays) and one more meeting (Wednesdays) will be added in future.

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

The recent Pri-Med Medical Conference was a very successful event; health professionals attending the event gained valuable information on AA through the CPC volunteers and literature provided. Efforts for outreach in terms carrying the AA message with these professionals is ongoing. Joe informed members of an upcoming CPC Event (see announcement under 'New Business').

GRAPEVINE: Chairperson not present; see submitted report from Scott M. (Bloordale) below:

Greetings friends! I'm alcoholic; a member of the Bloordale Group & my name is Scott. Hi! I have the honour & privilege to serve the fellowship as your GTA Grapevine Committee chair. Our GTA Inter-District Committee meeting held two weeks ago had representation from 5 Districts and our temporary committee liaison, Marvyn. We were saddened to hear that the upcoming Fellowship of the Spirit event planned for June 17-18 was denied the offer to set up a Grapevine display. The event Committee has made their decision, but it is hoped that the Committee will accept a brief explanation of what Grapevine has to offer so that a Grapevine display will be invited to next years' event. Please let me know if your group is interested in donating a subscription. This past month, the Bloordale group has agreed to pay for a subscription with the intent on being sent to one of the hospitals in Mississauga. The June Grapevine magazine Issue has a special section on Stories by Long-timers. Members share wonderful memories and experiences about living sober in AA for many years. The most recent newly published book entitled "Fun in Sobriety" is in stock in the Literature Dept. @ 234.

As a reminder, please visit the website www.aagrapevine.org for subscription information other Grapevine materials and how you can subscribe to the daily quote & other Grapevine news, as well as listening to the weekly podcasts and subscribing to the Grapevine YouTube channel.

That's all for this month. Yours in love & service, Scott M., grapevine@aatoronto.org

SELF SUPPORT: No formal report; no meeting was held in May.

Self-Support Chairperson, David T. (Welcome) gave a presentation on Self Support at the recent Information AA Day held on May 28 (virtual).

TREATMENT: No report.

AREA 83 REPORT: James O., Area 83 Alternate Delegate

- Joyce S - Area 83 Panel 65 Delegate was elected Eastern Canada Regional Trustee last month at the 72nd General Service Conference
- ACM (Area Committee Meeting):
 - Saturday June 4 (in person)
 - Saturday September 10 (in person)

- Upcoming Area Assembly (Election) October 28-30 <https://www.area83aa.org/about-area-83/area-assembly>
- North/South Event:
<https://www.aa.org/North-South-Connections-Forum-AA-in-Remote-Communities>

Yours in Love and Service, James O'D., Panel 71 Alternate Delegate, Area 83 Eastern Ontario International
alt.delegate@area83aa.org

RECEPTION: Graham D. (Markland Wood), OC Vice-Chair

Graham reported that there were 35 Reps, 5 Alternate Reps, 4 OC Members, 2 Subcommittee Chairs, 1 District Liaison, and 3 Visitors present at this meeting, for a total attendance of 49 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](#)
[Communications Chairperson](#)
[Twelfth Step Chairperson](#)
[WSOH 2022 Event Chairperson](#)
[WSVA 2022 Event Chairperson](#)

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was forthcoming.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Bert J. announced the upcoming CPC 'Bring a Professional' event to be held June 14 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. (virtual). It's an information session 'AA and the Professional' for members featuring Dr. A. Mooney (Addiction Specialist and AA Trustee). The second session will be held June 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 'Lunch and Learn' (see flyers).

CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS

Marvyn thanked everyone for the participation and dedication to service.

A **Motion to adjourn** was moved by Mike F. (Open Hands) and seconded by Oscar C. (Responsibility). Carried. The meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: An online meeting via Zoom will be held on **Tuesday, June 28 at 8 p.m.**