GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, December 20, 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 read by Laurie M. (King City).

MEMBERS PRESENT:

INTERGROUP REP/ALT: Anniversary, Aurora, Beverly Hills, Birds of a Feather, Bloordale, Brampton Recovery, Deer Park, Dry On Danforth, East York, Half Century, Hill, King City, Last Stop Freedom, Leslie, Long Branch, Markham Village, Meadowvale Fellowship, Midtown, Mississauga, Mount Royal-York, One Paragraph at a Time, Open Hands, Rox Glen Traditional, Silverbirch, St. Clements, Stepping Stones, Steps to Serenity, Streetsville Action, Streetsville, The Dogs, Twelve Steps, and Welcome.

DISTRICT LIAISONS: Districts 18.

OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Julie G., Cam B. (Finance Chair), Gord H., and Marvyn W. (OC Chair).

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS: ACCESSIBILITIES, ARCHIVES, CPC/PI, FINANCE, INFORMATION AA DAY 2023, GRAPEVINE, ORC 2023, SELF-SUPPORT, TWELFTH STEP, WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE, WINTER SEASON VIRTUAL ALKATHON.

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 2022

Motion to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Steve C. (Rox Glen Traditional) and seconded by Claire S. (Streetsville). 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 remarked that there is a lot to cover this evening; one item being the 2023 Budget presentation.

"We want to thank all the GTAI Subcommittees and District committees that we've worked with over the last year. We've tried to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic in every way we could. Also a very special thank-you to Helen, Alexx, and our book keeper. They are the unsung heroes; the ones in the office for any of your needs as members."

Marvyn continued: "In March of 2020 COVID came; we went through a lot of changes. The phone system went online; the office was closed for a short time. We've tried over the last 3 years to cope. It's very encouraging to see groups coming back in person. However there is a bit of a problem: when we included online meetings and hybrid on our website, it got very confusing. A former webmaster, Imran M., is willing to come back and help us sort this out. We are hoping to have the meeting list finished shortly."

Motion to Suspend Regular Business - Elections for Incoming Operating Committee Member (1)

MOTION to Suspend Regular Business to Facilitate Elections moved by Mike C. (Beverly Hills) and seconded by Steve C. (Rox Glen Traditional). The Motion was carried.

Election for 1 new Operating Committee Members: Marvyn outlined the qualifications and service commitments for this position and asked if anyone present would like to stand for the position. No volunteer came forward at this time.

There will be an Election for one more OC member at the January 31 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 - Cam B. (Deer Park), Finance Chair

December 2022 Intergroup Finance Report - 2023 Budget

My name is Cam, I am an alcoholic serving as Chair of Intergroup's Finance Subcommittee. Before the presentation of next year's budget, I have two important announcements. First, Intergroup needs a new Finance Chair. There is a poster on the website that was included with your November minutes. Please print this page and bring it to your groups to see if anyone is interested. Second, the Literature Department will be closed for the Holidays from December 26th to January 3rd and will reopen on January 4th. Please place medallion and literature orders requiring shipping by December 21st.

| | | | | | Actual | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget | 11 months | Budget | Budget |
| | 2020 | 2020 | 2021 | 2021 | 2022 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Total Contributions | 172,836 | 159,000 | 153,130 | 160,000 | 138,445 | 150,000 | 155,000 |
| Literature Income | 26,280 | 50,000 | 31,930 | 28,000 | 45,113 | 31,500 | 42,000 |
| Total Revenues | 199,116 | 209,000 | 185,060 | 188,000 | 183,558 | 181,500 | 197,000 |
| Total Committee expense | 5,971 | 25,300 | 2,167 | 10,500 | 4,202 | 11,900 | 18,300 |
| Total Operating expense | 104,462 | 109,000 | 85,864 | 95,900 | 85,391 | 92,580 | 97,630 |
| Staff expense ** | 78,750 | 73,000 | 75,041 | 81,500 | 65,867 | 77,000 | 81,000 |
| Total Operating & Staff expense | 183,212 | 182,000 | 160,905 | 177,400 | 151,258 | 169,580 | 178,630 |
| Total expenses | 189,183 | 207,300 | 163,072 | 187,900 | 155,460 | 181,480 | 196,930 |
| Excess or (Deficiency) | 9,933 | 1,700 | 21,988 | 100 | 28,098 | 20 | 70 |
| | | | | | | | |

^{**} For comparative purposes 2020 & 2021 actual staff expense excludes the wage subsidy of 2020 -\$29,529 and 2021 - \$11,088.

Each year the Finance and Operating Committees review and approve a budget for the upcoming year and present it to the Groups for their approval. Full 2023 budget detail is on the last page of this report.

Individual contributions have been lower than budgeted in 2022 but this was made up for by Groups and the combined amount received from both sources is expected to meet or just exceed the 2022 budget of \$150 K. Therefore, the budget for 2023 is \$155 K.

Literature sales are increasing this year and the budgeted \$120 K represents an increase from the 2022 budget of \$30 K. With a margin of 35%, literature income is expected to be \$42 K. Total revenues are \$197 K.

The total committees' expense budget is increased from \$12 K to \$18 K in 2023. In 2021, due to the pandemic there were reductions to all committee budgets. Last year we increased GTA Accessibilities, Cooperation with Professional Communities, Treatment and Grapevine budgets. For 2023 with steady contributions and increasing literature sales, we can now increase the budgets for Intergroup committees such as Archives, 12th Step, Winter Season Open House and Communications.

Intergroup's operating expenses include rent, financial statement audits and reviews, computer, telephone, leased equipment, gratitude month, office supplies and website. Operating expenses are budgeted at \$98 K, an increase \$5 K over the 2022 budget. Certain costs decreased due to the pandemic and are now budgeted at higher amounts as the demand for office services increases, items such as printing, postage, office supplies and IT.

Total operating and staff expenses are budgeted at \$179 K, an increase of \$9 K over the 2022 budget but only \$2 K above the 2021 budget. The total expenses budget is \$197 K.

In summary, the 2023 budget is a balanced budget taking into consideration the lessening impact of the Covid-19 pandemic through improvements in literature sales, increased committee activity and use of the Intergroup office located at 234 Eglinton Avenue East.

At the January general meeting there will be an opportunity to ask questions followed by a motion to accept the 2023 budget presented tonight.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! Cam B.



2023 BUDGET DETAIL PRESENTATION

| | | | | | Actual | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget | 11 months | Budget | Budget |
| | 2020 | 2020 | 2021 | 2021 | 2022 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Group Contributions | 84,511 | 75,000 | 73,535 | 75,500 | 83,124 | 73,000 | 80,000 |
| Individual Contributions | 88,325 | 84,000 | 79,595 | 84,500 | 55,321 | 77,000 | 75,000 |
| Total Contributions | 172,836 | 159,000 | 153,130 | 160,000 | 138,445 | 150,000 | 155,000 |
| Literature | • | • | · | • | · | · | |
| Sales | 72,659 | 160,000 | 78,436 | 80,000 | 116,847 | 90,000 | 120,000 |
| Cost of Sales | 46,379 | 110,000 | 46,506 | 52,000 | 71,734 | 58,500 | 78,000 |
| Literature Income | 26,280 | 50,000 | 31,930 | 28,000 | 45,113 | 31,500 | 42,000 |
| Total Revenues | 199,116 | 209,000 | 185,060 | 188,000 | 183,558 | 181,500 | 197,000 |
| Commitee expenses | <u> </u> | , | , | , | , | , | , |
| Archives | 1,678 | 2,000 | 616 | 1,300 | 3,224 | 1,500 | 2,000 |
| Accessibility | 131 | 450 | 0 | 300 | 0 | 600 | 600 |
| Corrections | 29 | 750 | 307 | 400 | 171 | 400 | 600 |
| Cooperation Prof. Community | 0 | 2,000 | 0 | 500 | 175 | 1,800 | 1,800 |
| Operating | 2,437 | 6,000 | 519 | 3,000 | 400 | 1,500 | 2,000 |
| Public Information | 0 | 1,200 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 500 | 500 |
| Treatment | 282 | 400 | 287 | 300 | 165 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Twelfth Step | 547 | 1,000 | 325 | 500 | 0 | 500 | 1,000 |
| Winter Season Open House | (89) | 2,500 | 113 | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,500 |
| Communications | 956 | 6,000 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 1,000 | 3,000 |
| Info AA Day | 0 | 1,500 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 150 | 1,500 |
| Workshops | 0 | 1,000 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 150 | 1,000 |
| Grapevine | 0 | 500 | 0 | 200 | 67 | 800 | 800 |
| Total Committee expense | 5,971 | 25,300 | 2,167 | 10,500 | 4,202 | 11,900 | 18,300 |
| Operating expenses | | | | | | | |
| Printing & Photocopying | 3,317 | 6,000 | 144 | 2,000 | 88 | 500 | 1,600 |
| Leased Equipment | 6,601 | 4,000 | 5,335 | 6,300 | 1,932 | 2,260 | 2,600 |
| Insurance | 1,834 | 2,000 | 1,971 | 1,900 | 1,872 | 2,060 | 2,120 |
| Accounting/Legal | 11,500 | 11,000 | 12,486 | 11,000 | 11,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Gratitude Month | 3,686 | 6,500 | 2,576 | 3,200 | 2,643 | 2,800 | 3,000 |
| Telephone & Internet | 10,369 | 12,000 | 2,886 | 5,400 | 2,738 | 3,060 | 3,060 |
| Bank Charges | 2,824 | 2,800 | 2,842 | 3,300 | 2,534 | 3,000 | 3,100 |
| Postage and Delivery | 1,097 | 1,300 | 1,174 | 500 | 1,416 | 1,500 | 1,800 |
| Occupancy | 51,949 | 51,500 | 49,458 | 52,500 | 48,053 | 56,600 | 56,050 |
| Office Supplies | 3,201 | 6,200 | 956 | 2,000 | 1,154 | 2,000 | 3,000 |
| Office Equipment | 375 | 500 | 0 | 500 | 4,450 | 500 | 1,000 |
| Computer | 5,382 | 3,000 | 3,431 | 5,000 | 5,814 | 4,000 | 6,000 |
| Website | 2,327 | 2,200 | 2,605 | 2,300 | 1,697 | 2,300 | 2,300 |
| Total Operating expense | 104,462 | 109,000 | 85,864 | 95,900 | 85,391 | 92,580 | 97,630 |
| Staff expense ** | 78,750 | 73,000 | 75,041 | 81,500 | 65,867 | 77,000 | 81,000 |
| Total Operating & Staff expense | 183,212 | 182,000 | 160,905 | 177,400 | 151,258 | 169,580 | 178,630 |
| Total expenses | 189,183 | 207,300 | 163,072 | 187,900 | 155,460 | 181,480 | 196,930 |
| Excess or (Deficiency) | 9,933 | 1,700 | 21,988 | 100 | 28,098 | 20 | 70 |

^{**} For comparative purposes 2020 & 2021 actual staff expense excludes the wage subsidy of 2020 -\$29,529 and 2021 - \$11,088.

A Finance Chairperson is still needed (to start immediately). 5 years of continuous sobriety is required for this position, and experience with QuickBooks or a similar software is a definite asset https://www.aatoronto.org/finance-chairperson-needed/

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES: Glenn G. (East York), Chairperson

It has been a very active and productive year at the Archives Committee.

We have a couple of things that are coming up; the most important item is the production of the 80 Years of AA in Ontario book which we for see will be available prior to the Ontario Regional Conference. So we will be able to sell copies at that event. It is in the final stages of being proofread and edited. A renowned former journalist is helping with this initiative; we are lucky to have on board to help us with his experience and expertise.

There are so many active members of this committee. Each of us has a different skillset that is also very helpful. In particular we have two 'workhorses'. We have David T. (Welcome) who is the assistant Archivist and we have Eddy G. (Beaches) who is the Archivist. These members are in the Repository on a weekly basis. Eddy does his compiling of materials and responds to information requests from groups. David does the cataloguing and sanitizing minutes, etc. to make sure that our anonymity is protected. They are in the repository all the time.

Also, in regards to the book, David and Eddy have put in so many hours by asking for information, receiving information, and sorting information for this initiative. It's truly unbelievable! I want to extend a particular 'thank you' to them for their efforts.

I also want to thank all of our members in AA for their contribution for the history of bringing together either people who are familiar with Ontario AA history and/or the actual history itself. Thank you for bringing this vital information to Archives.

Additionally, I want to thank people for their support, efforts and enthusiasm regarding our recent in-person Archives Breakfast (November). It was a very successful event and heartwarming to see so many people come together in service in AA.

Thanks to GTA Intergroup for renewing the lease at 234 Eglinton and the redesign efforts to provide us with a repository that has security, independence, and more space. This better facilitates the work that Archives is doing. We are very grateful for that.

We had our last committee meeting of the year at a restaurant which is traditional for our committee; 12 members were present. Merry Christmas to everyone, and a Happy New Year!

COMMUNICATIONS: Marvyn W. (Mississauga) Operating Chairperson (Marvyn read the following report below)

Hello friends, The Communications Committee is making some great developments lately!

The Better Times Newsletter is asking for submissions that relate to your recovery in the New Year, and your recovery associated with the Ontario Regional Conference.

Is this time of year, and this event relevant to your fellowship, and spiritual development? If so, we want to hear about it! Please send along your stories, 250-450 words.

New dynamic developments are underway with the website, particularly in reflection of the way many people are in the majority of using their hand held devices to navigate online information.

The website is being rebuilt to allow this dynamic, and has a clear flow for information, and also will feature a Chat function. This will be able to answer general questions, and to chat real time with a qualified member.

We are also still cleaning up the meetings list, and hopefully soon to have an application checkbox that will be easy to use and make it possible to format into the hard copy meetings booklet that we all know and love.

Blessings to all! In Service, Aaron K., Communications Chair

INFORMATION AA DAY 2022: Bert J. (Silverbirch), Event Chair

I would like to take this moment to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The next committee meeting will be held on Dec.26 at 7 p.m. In January we will resume our normal committee meeting schedule. The

committee is working on their Procedures and Guidelines; they are trying to 'smooth out' everything so that everything goes well for the upcoming event (traditionally held each May). See you next year!

ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2023: Roman R. (Stepping Stones), 2023 Event Chair



IN-PERSON EVENT!

Ontario Regional Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous





Ontario Regional Conference 2023

March 17-19, 2023 Sheraton Hotel, Toronto

aaorc.ca

Roman shared the following information:

- We are way ahead of schedule in room bookings and banquet ticket sales
- Placards and posters for the event are now available for groups: contact <u>litdept@aatoronto</u> to arrange
- Please note that the discount for hotel room bookings is time-sensitive (discount is available until February)
- Banquet capacity is 600, due to room restrictions

Cost for Event:

- Registration \$55
- Banquet \$100
- Room Rate \$209 per night

TWELFTH STEP: Jordan A. (The Dogs), acting Chairperson

The Twelfth Step committee is quite often the first line of contact for someone inquiring about AA.

They reach out in various forms. Mostly they call the Hotline on our website. Sometimes they send emails to 12step@aatoronto.org. This is what the 12 step committee does. We have to main line to constant contact with the newcomer, and you know what the book says about that.

Our recent initiative to get some more people to join the committee has produced results. We still need more People, however. Let's put our minds together to come up with more creative ways to reach that newcomer.

Phone Greeters are an essential part of this service and right now we have plenty. We can always make room for more people desiring to do this service, though.

We ran into some issues during our testing of the office phones with setup and programming them into our call forwarding system. Not to mention all the random calls people are getting from our call forwarding system even when they are not on the schedule. We can work around that for now. We will be looking into a better system to accommodate and achieve the level of service we should be expected to uphold.

Seasons Greeting and Good Tidings! Jordan A., Twelfth Step Committee

Twelfth Step Chair, Laura V. (Mount Royal-York) was also in attendance, and is thankfully recovering from her health issues. She thanked Jordan for all his hard work in her absence, and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE 2022: Tony Z. (Bloordale), 2022 Event Chairperson

Winter Season Open House 2022 Event Sunday December 25th 10 AM to 4:00 PM

Roncesvalles United Church 214 Wright Ave.

- Volunteers required please email wsoh@aatoronto.org
- AA Open Speaker meeting, AA Closed Discussion Meetings, Al anon Meetings
- Enjoy a Ham & turkey Dinner with all the fixings!

WINTER SEASON VIRTUAL ALKATHON 2022: David P. (Birds of a Feather), Chairperson

We are less than one week away from the opening of this year's Winter Season Virtual Alkathon, a 4-day event of online meetings, every hour on the hour, to help alcoholics and their families cope with the inevitable stress of the holidays. Our program for the first weekend is set, but there are still time slots available on New Year's Eve and the early morning of January 1st. It only takes one person to run a meeting, so anyone willing to chair a meeting should contact this committee immediately at: winterseasonvirtualalkathon@aatoronto.org Our Tech Committee will take care of the rest.

A program for the event has been posted on the A.A. website. The specific times which are still available on the 2nd weekend are fairly obvious. Those groups that have already committed to hosting a meeting but have not yet provided this committee with any of the details can see who they are, and should also contact us immediately. We will not be able to update this program after Thursday.

There is one link for the entirety of the event, the hours of which have been wrapped around the in-person Winter Season Open House in Toronto's west end. That link is included on both programs on the website, and is:

ID# 815 5680 9917 / Password 895858

We have called an emergency meeting of the committee for next Tuesday December 27 at 7 PM, using the same link as before, to sort out the details (and any kinks) for the 2nd weekend. Anyone wishing to attend is more than welcome, especially if they want to take a meeting slot, and should contact us forthwith. I shall put the email address in the chat.

To everyone else, please help spread the word about our event. We may be receiving some dicey weather over the coming weekend, and New Year's Eve can always be a challenge for any one of us. Think of the alcoholic with mobility issues, or health problems, or who is unable or afraid to drive in the snow at night. Maybe you know a newcomer, or still-suffering alcoholic who is terrified to even go out on New Year's Eve lest they take a drink, even though the TTC is free. This event is for them. This event is for everyone. It is our gift to the alcoholic community in the G.T.A. Come be a part of it.

Happy holidays to all, and thank you for letting me be of service. David P., WSVA Chair

DISTRICT REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITY: Greg R. (Markham Village), Chairperson

As this is our last Accessibilities Committee meeting of 2022, I want to thank each of you for your involvement in our committee and hope you will continue to be on the Committee in 2023...regardless if you are your District's Chair. We have much to do in Accessibilities.

One important topic for this meeting is to either elect a new Accessibilities Chair or vote to have me continue as Chair. If anyone here would like to stand for this position, please do. Otherwise, I'm prepared and will eagerly serve for another term.

A quick summary of this year's results for our committee.

- We developed and published an Accessibilities Presentation for future workshops and AA Service Days.
- We developed and published the Hybrid Meeting Guide on how to organize and hold a Hybrid meeting on Zoom.

 We invited speakers to come share their struggles in AA with Accessibilities barriers. We learned about ABI, Mobility issues, Deaf member needs and ASL, Language barriers, and we hope to expand on this initiative of having regular speakers join us in the coming year.

We are doing a great job identifying the Accessibilities barriers in AA, and bringing awareness to our Fellowship. We have much still to do such as revamping our Accessibilities Checklist.

Enough from me, let's get to work. Yours in Service and Gratitude, Greg R., GTAI Accessibilities Chair

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES: No report. **Chairperson is needed! Please announce at your groups.**

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

- The Chair of this committee recommends that in the new year, for the new term, CPC PI remain a joint committee at District 22
- There is plenty of work to be done in the field of letting the public know that Alcoholics Anonymous is a means of recovery that works for some people
- Co-operation, not affiliation with the professional community
- At the conclusion of this two-year term, it's interesting to reflect on how one's life can be measured around pillars of committee meetings, and other CPC PI projects along the way
- Area 83 PI Chair: CPC / PI Joint Sharing Session in August with District Chairs in Area 83. Participating in an ad-hoc committee regarding proposed changes to the digital presence of Area 83. Having seen other Areas introduce Technology Committees and Chairs to improve digital storage, social media presence, and other digital means, this Area 83 ad hoc committee will be bringing its suggestions to the table at the Dec 3/22 Area 83 meeting
- Area 83 PI Chair: Chairing the Wed Nov 30/22 90 minute online session of <u>Demystifying AA World Service's</u>
 <u>Comprehensive Media Plan (Link to Register fixed) | GTA Intergroup (aatoronto.org)</u> That session will have discussion about attraction vs promotion on social media sites. The session on Nov 16 drew about 135 participants
- Upcoming presentation with by D6 at District 11 Police Station in Peel
- Bringing AA business cards and other info to the Police services, with the intention of asking the officers, "what can AA do to help them"
- D6 & D19 Al Anon meet regularly and informally in sharing sessions
- D6 has been invited to host a weekly, open, recovery meeting within U of T Mississauga. This opportunity came to be through a previous PI presence at the school's Wellness Fair a couple months back
- D22: Pamphlets delivered to a local church by request.
- Mon Dec 19/22 CPC/PI Meeting will take place online. <u>CPC/PI (ON-LINE) | GTA Intergroup (aatoronto.org)</u>: Small attendance, a few regrets. No minutes taken. Shut doors at 7:17pm
- GTA Intergroup approved 2023 budget for CPC PI committee

GRAPEVINE: Scott M. (Bloordale), Chairperson

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 GTAI Grapevine Committee chair. Our GTA Inter-District Committee meeting held earlier tonight, had representation from 4 Districts & our incoming Area Grapevine chair, Christy F.

Our Committee did decide to spend some of the 2022 Grapevine committee budget monies on 15 annual Grapevine subscriptions in print for the three Correctional Facilities we have in the GTA. That's the Ontario Correctional Institute, the Toronto South Detention Centre & the Toronto East Detention Centre. Each facility will get 5 copies. This was done through the AA Grapevine Carry the Message project.

District 18 has purchased 20 Grapevine subscriptions for individuals and groups. District 06 has purchased along with District 19 in Area 86, Grapevine subscriptions for the Oakville public libraries & has agreed to purchase digital Grapevine e-Pub subscriptions for the 7 Oakville library branches. They split the boundary in Oakville so they will split the cost

There is still a 30% off sale on @ 234. Only 16 slow moving Grapevine publications are on sale. With prices expected to rise in the New Year, now is your chance to share this with your group reps and librarians in order to increase your Grapevine book inventories. Check the home page of the www.aatoronto.org website for the flyer & with Helen at the Literature Department for availability. litdept@aatoronto.org or 416-487-9865. Shipping on Grapevine materials from New York continues to be free until the end of the year for those that wish to purchase from New York rather than our GTA Intergroup Literature Dept. I find it easier to order through Helen, so I can use Canadian funds rather than converting to US dollars.

As for your 2023 Grapevine seasonals (that's your pocket planners & wall calendars), I believe they have all been delivered. I am unaware if there are any extras and would suggest if anyone is still wanting any, to check with the www.aagrapevine.org website to place an order.

As you may have heard, over the next week, there will be two changes to better serve Grapevine customers, first, they are switching to a new order fulfillment vendor that is better suited to a multi-subscription model; and secondly, the online store will be integrated to the main website for easier access and improved functionality. For the next couple of months, things may not be going as smoothly due to the change, but they are trying to accommodate members though the transition.

The January Grapevine issue will have a special section on Spiritual Awakenings. AA members share stories about their own personal journey with Step Two, how they found their Higher Power, and what helped them.

AA Grapevine is developing a Smartphone App. & they are looking for your ideas. You can email social@aagrapevine.org, put "App Ideas" in the subject line & provide your input.

There will be a Grapevine display at the Winter Season Open House in person event on Christmas day presented by District 22.

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

SELF SUPPORT: David T. (Welcome), Chairperson

The other side of Self Support is members getting involved with service committees in AA. I've been around quite a while now and I've always been active in service. Currently it seems that we have a vacancy rate that has increased in each of the districts and a lot of the Intergroup committees. I would encourage group reps to speak with their group members (especially incoming GSRs) and see if any member would like to help out. As I heard it said at the Area Assembly "God doesn't choose the qualified; God qualifies the chosen". Our next meeting is Thurs. Dec.29. David also reiterated that GSO has a new accounting system in place. GSO estimates that they amount of money they would need from individuals this year is \$12.26 USD. You can contribute in many ways. If you group wants to increase their contribution, the expenses expected this coming year at GSO is \$18.5 million.

TREATMENT: No Report.

AREA 83 REPORT: James O'D. (GSM), Area 83 Alternate Delegate

James introduced Amy L., currently serving as Area 83 Chair, who will serve as the incoming Alternate Area 83 Delegate in 2023. Other items of note:

Area 83 GTAI Intergroup Report - December 2023

 Area Committee Meeting - hybrid - Saturday January 7th. All members of the Area are encouraged to attend. At the ACM we discuss what's happening in our Area, Districts and AA as a whole. https://area83aa.org/events

- Monthly Grapevine News January 2023 GVR RESOURCES Letter to Grapevine & La Vina Reps https://www.aagrapevine.org/gvrresources?utm_source=mgapp&utm_medium=news&utm_campaign=GV1209022
- 3. Update on back orders from AAWS

https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/EN%20-%20Nov%20update%20on%20printing%20delays%20and%20backorders.pdf

Good news - many back ordered items are now back in stock. For full details please read the letter from the AAWS Editor.

4. The General Service Office has reopened to visitors. At the moment there are limited hours and an appointment needs to be made.

https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/Office%20Reopened%20to%20Visitors%20-%20EN.pdf

- 5. Stay tuned...PCAS Pre Conference Agenda Item Sharing sessions are returning on April 1st. We are hoping the background to the agenda items will be made available mid to late February. This year we will be holding a one day event to discuss, share and give feedback to our delegate to carry our Area conscience to the Conference.
- 6. Area 83 is actively looking for a new webmaster.

RECEPTION: Marvyn W. (Mississauga), OC Chairperson

Marvyn reported that there were 18 Reps, 4 Alternate Reps, 4 OC Members, 11 Subcommittee Chairs, 1 District and 4 Visitors present at this meeting, for a total attendance of 42 members.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marvyn reiterated the following information: we currently have an ad hoc committee that was formed to find groups that aren't currently participating in/not represented at Intergroup. The chair of this committee, Angela O. (Mount Royal-York) and her team are currently working hard on this initiative. They are making progress in identifying groups that are not currently represented at the Intergroup level. Angela will be giving a report on their progress in future.

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



Phone Greeters/12 Step Volunteers

Twelfth Step Committee Members

Bilingual Member Resource (12 Step Calls)

Operating Committee Member (1)

Workshop Chairperson

ad hoc Committee Volunteers

Finance Chair

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was forthcoming. Steve C. (Rox Glen Traditional) commented that service work has been beneficial to him, and will be considering further service work in the future.

CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS:

Marvyn extended everyone a Happy Holidays wish, and thanked everyone for the participation and dedication to service; reminding members of the following:

- Operating Committee Member needed https://www.aatoronto.org/about/service-committees/executive/
- Finance Chairperson needed (to start January 1, 2023) https://www.aatoronto.org/about/service-committees/finance/
- ad hoc committee members needed! Email Angela O. at info@xpresse.me
- Twelfth Step Committee members needed <u>12step@aatoronto.org</u>
- 12 Step Volunteers needed <u>12step@aatoronto.org</u>
- Phone Greeters needed 12step@aatoronto.org

- Workshop Chairperson needed https://www.aatoronto.org/workshop-chairperson-need/
- Ontario Regional Conference 2023 (in-person) to be held March 17-19, 2023 at the Sheraton Hotel, Toronto

A **Motion to adjourn** was moved by Tom C. (Twelve Steps) and seconded by Jim B. (The Dogs). Carried. The meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

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