

District 12 Meeting
Minutes 08/22/2020

1. Open the meeting with Serenity Prayer.
2. Introductions of members in attendance. Dyrrell L, Roger S, Felicia T., Liz J.
 - a. Pamela will be joining through her cell phone. Although Pamela did not join us through Zoom, after the meeting there was a voice mail from Pamela to Roger S. stating that the link for Zoom for the meeting did not seem available. All future District meetings will be available through Zoom. The meeting can be accessed from the Districts web site calendar.
3. No Concept assigned for this month or next due to the Area Assembly in September.
4. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting
5. Old Business: Discussion of Old Business See Minutes
6. New Business
7. DCM Update
 - a. Report from the Area 74 group conscience will be deferred till September.
8. Treasures Reports
 - a. Bank Statement and reconciliation report. See Pages 2 - 4
 - b. Banking summaries from 2019 and YTD show revenue and expenses Pages 5 and 6
 - i. 2019, revenue exceeded expenses by \$161.16
 - ii. YTD expenses have exceeded revenue due to web page start up, and help line. Expenses have been kept down due to no spring and fall conferences, so we have not incurred expenses to the DCM for travel, hotel and meals. Revenue decreases have been caused by the Covid-19 effect on meeting attendance.
 - iii. Peoples Bank was bought out and will be owned by Frandsen Bank and Trust. All of the appropriate paper work has been completed.
 - c. Budget for the coming years is a separately attached file, that is not included.
 - d. Tax exempt status. The Area does not have a tax exempt number and according to GSO, because all groups are autonomous, they need to apply on their own, and it seems to be the opinion that although GSO will not discourage you, it may not be worth the effort. See Page 7
9. AA Helpline update. Seven minutes of long distance charges for last month
10. Reports from GSR's, feedback from groups. Seasonal participants are still being seen.
11. Web Page
 - a. Meetings should be up to date
12. Jail Meetings
 - a. Barry emailed an update that he would be again contacting the Sawyer County Jail to see about any updated concerning the meetings
13. Adjourn

Next meeting scheduled for Saturday, Sept 12th, 2020 @12:30 PM this is the same day as the Fall Conference. The meeting District meeting will be held on Zoom.

■ Revised A.A. Guidelines on Finance Address Issues of Money and A.A. The recently revised and expanded A.A. Guidelines on Finance cover such topics as rent, the role of the treasurer, reimbursement for service workers' expenses, and the role of the General Service Board. The Guidelines also include information on opening bank accounts and obtaining tax I.D. numbers. A.A. groups are more and more frequently being asked to supply an I.D. number to a bank when opening a checking or savings account, whether or not it is interest-bearing. Many groups have asked G.S.O. if they can use its I.D. number. The answer, however, is no. A group must obtain its own I.D. number, a relatively simple process. The first step is to obtain a "Federal ID Number." Each group must file form SS-4, "Application for Employer Identification Number." To obtain the form, call your local IRS office. You can also access the IRS Web site and download the form at www.irs.gov. One question on the form is whether there is one group exemption number that applies to all. There is not; each group must obtain its own number. Another issue is tax-exempt status. An A.A. group is not automatically a nonprofit or charitable entity, nor can it be included in G.S.O.'s tax-exempt status. (G.S.O. is exempt under Section 501 (C) (3) of the code.) In fact, very few groups undertake the process of becoming a nonprofit organization recognized by the state and federal government. For more information, obtain IRS form, Publication 557, "Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organizations." If your group then decides it wants tax-exempt status, contact the IRS for Package 1023, "Application for Recognition of Exemption," under Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. You will also need Form 8718, "User Fee for Exempt Organization Letter Request." An accountant or tax lawyer can be helpful in dealing with the rigorous reporting that may be required. These topics and more are covered in detail in the Finance Guidelines (MG-15), which are available by mail from the General Service Office and online at http://www.aa.org/default/en_pdfs/mg-15_finance.pdf.

From MG-15

TAXES, GROUP EXEMPTIONS, ETC. G.S.O. is in no way attempting to give tax advice for single A.A. groups or other entities. This information relates to the United States only, and does not apply to Canada. Achieving tax-exempt status is different from getting an I.D. number for banking purposes. Becoming a non-profit organization recognized by the state and federal government is a process that very few groups undertake. You may want to read IRS Publication 557, "Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organizations." As rigorous reporting may be required, an accountant or tax lawyer can be helpful in the process.