

Virtual meeting called to order at 7:07 pm

Opened with the Serenity Prayer

12 Traditions read by Brian

First **Concept** read by all

Welcome new members: Jovan from Exactly Where You Need To Be and Chrissy from Carpé Diem

Visitors Recognized: None

New Groups/GSR Recognized: None

Roll Call: No roll call

Open Forum: Kelly from Recovering Hearts asked if we have a Web Servant. She asked if it can be specified on the Virtual Meeting Schedule that Recovering Hearts is a women's meeting, that occasionally they do have a man show up. Bill, chairperson, gave her the email address for the Regional Webservant, webservant@ctna.org. Bill added that our area Webservant is now out to the fellowship and asked that it be spread to the groups. He encouraged group attendance for better unity in the area.

Jovan Canaan, Exactly Where You Need To Be, Canaan, said the meeting has been going for years and has a great following. He announced a new group established on Friday nights called Steps To Freedom, also in Canaan, turning into a big group, has a venue for when they again meet in person, many attendees online, wants to be put online. Need names and info to fill out form and get the group established. Bill shared his email for assistance. Bette said she'd been in touch with Renae, who is involved with the group and told her information that is needed in order to fill out the New Group form but hadn't received the information. Jovan said he would give his name as one of the contact people. Bill suggested it also that it would be great if the group elected GSR to attend the area meeting.

Suspend order of business to move to elections

Elections:

Vice Chair: No nominations or volunteers

Secretary: Bette H. volunteered. Discussion about length of service. BOD is three years and other area service positions are one year with a maximum of two terms. Bette qualified. During the vote quorum was discussed. Bette was elected as secretary.

Alt. Treasurer: No nominations or volunteers

Alt. RCM: No nominations or volunteers

Webservant: No nominations or volunteers

PR Chair: No nominations or volunteers

Chair Report: Bill B. said his report is on the shared drive. Previous chairperson said he retrieved the mail from the P.O. Box and was sending two checks totaling \$120 to the treasurer. Also, he would check the box again prior to this meeting but is not present. Bill looks forward to serving the GWA in the coming year. His email address is on his written report.

Treasurer: Not yet present

Minutes: Minutes were supposed to come first. It was announced that the meeting is being recorded. No minutes were read.

RCM: Brian said not much was said at the Regional meeting but he forward reports, such as the Regional Delegate report, to Bill in order to get them out to the groups. Brian announced

that the Region wants RCMs to submit area motions (though he meant Area Reports) ahead of the meeting, sent in digitally, rather than filling them out while the meeting is happening. These will be due by the third Friday of each month. Bill clarified with Brian that the Region was speaking about Area Reports.

H&I: Jen said she met up with the Vice Chair and Secretary of H&I about a week prior and had a brief meeting. They discussed where they were at. All commitments are up in March. Hanging on until able to go into facilities.

Literature: Woodsy had 3 requests for literature and met up with each person to deliver it. No Literature meeting right now. Has three money orders to submit. Not sure where to send them. Low on popular items such as Step Writing Guides and 2 and 3 year medallions. Can these be purchased with reimbursement. Over \$1,000 in Literature account. Apologized not present last month. Bill suggested Woodsy reach out to Treasurer, Marlene. Discussion about ordering literature. Jovan offered a website from which his group orders and receives within three days. Woodsy said she would like to have at least one of everything to be able to accommodate groups. She said she would order and submit receipt to Marlene.

Events: VC Kayla. Has not heard from other events members since COVID began. There was a three person committee. Would like to try to get an event going but will need help. Bill said its on the Agenda.

BOD: Kayla said BOD is meeting quarterly getting set up for next convention. Working on site selection, hotel contracts, bought new computers. Updating system. New Executive Director. Kayla is Alternate Executive Director.

Old Business: None

New Business/Agenda:

Bill went over the area policy and found that it calls for a Learning Day. He is open to suggestions for what the groups would like to do. He suggested having Zoom meetings on what different trusted servants do, such as what a Web Servant does, using shared drives, etc. There was no discussion.

Bette said she was at a meeting where an addict who had been around for a while shared that they'd just recently found out about Zoom meetings. Bette expressed concern that there might be many addicts who do not know we are meeting online, that a PR committee would be a good way to get that message out there but that we currently do not have one.

Treasurer: Marlene arrived with regrets for being late. Opening \$654.05. Deposit \$210.00. Debit \$126.86 for storage. Ending balance \$737.19. Received 2 checks totaling \$120 from P.O. Box. Literature account, which hasn't changed in many months remains at \$1,418.26. Bill asked if Marlene has access to the shared drive, would like to get the report on there. Woodsy and Marlene communicated about ordering literature. Bill said for future reference that we order from World Services not from another region.

Bill suggested putting together an ad hoc committee to go through our policy. He said we have a Policy subcommittee that has been vacant since he has been here. He had made a motion last year to change the address where area service meets in our policy because it still listed the savings bank. He said that as an administrative committee we still need to maintain policy even without a policy committee and nobody is a committee of one. He suggested meeting on Zoom to go over the policy which hasn't been updated since 2010. Woodsy said

she was policy chair a few years ago and has a marked up policy in Word with changes that the subcommittee sent to her. She said she could submit those to wherever they're needed. Bill shared his number and asked again that we announce at groups to try to get unity.

Chrissy asked about roll calls/ introductions. Bill said we have not but we did do an introduction. Chrissy said her past area did a roll call to see trends of who is and who is not attending for accountability. Bill said we have an attendance sheet. Chrissy said she will forward the attendance sheet they used to Bette for our review. Bette said our area format calls for attendance to be taken. In addition if there are any new people to area we would go around the room and introduce ourselves. The number for quorum was also discussed.

Kayla brought up Events Committee or lack of committee. She mentioned other areas doing Zoom karaoke, Zoom bingo and wants to get some sort of fellowship activity going. She'd like to try and is welcoming people to join events to help. Bill said he'd love to help. He thought since there's no convention that perhaps we could host a speaker jam. Kayla expressed needing help with Zoom. Bill said he'd offer his account if we decided to have an event.

Bill asked about the P.O. Box. Bette said its in Waterbury on the east side. Woodsy offered to pick up the mail because she works right near there. Bette said its in the format to determine who will get the mail and the key each month. Woodsy needs to get the key from Tom. There are two keys. Bette said she'll check to see if she still has the key but thinks not.

Group Reports

Thursday Seymour: Bill B. Hybrid meeting, Thursdays, Great Hill UMC, 7:30. No group concerns. Live and Zoom. Masks to be worn at all times. Meeting in fellowship hall.

Exactly Where You Need To Be: Jovan, going very well, outdoor in summer, 40-50 people. Moved inside and shutdown due to COVID. Talk of reopening in Feb. Temps at door, limited number, six feet, masks, etc.

Firm Foundation: Woodsy, Wednesday, 7pm, women's, hybrid Zoom and in person, 160 Main St., Thomaston, masks and sanitizer, 5 months old, is on CTNA.org website

Miracles Happen, Bette, Sundays on Zoom, 7:30, on CTNA.org virtual list, topic discussion by number except last Sunday is speaker, attendance improved since online, more females attending

Recovering Hearts: Kelly, Zoom, 6-7:15, Just For Today meeting while on Zoom, 5-10 addicts, on CTNA.org website, no concerns

Point of Freedom: Marlene, Saturday mornings 8:30am on Zoom, 10-18 participants, 9th anniversary, usually pancake breakfast so BYOP, anniversary on Jan. 30th 8AM-9:45AM. Flyer is on the website.

Bill asked please announce open positions. Even with pandemic opioid crisis is still going on. We'd like to help new groups coming in as well as the addict who still suffers.

Bette confirmed six groups represented. Woodsy asked if people who are eligible to vote at area are GSRs and not people holding two positions. Bill asked for example if Marlene as treasurer is representing Point of Freedom does her vote count? Bill is elected GSR so his votes count. Woodsy talked about conflict of interest. Bill expressed again the need to review policy and determine voting policy for example. Kayla said that as long as she has been involved that people could represent a group and hold a position. She'd like to be included in policy ad hoc.

Next meeting is February 9, 2021, 7pm same Zoom channel.

Meeting closed with Unity version of Serenity Prayer lead by Woodsy

ILS, Bette H.