



DARWIN DISTRICT
AREA "A" NORTHERN REGION
Minutes of Meeting

Meeting Type: Quarterly District Meeting
Meeting Location: Via ZOOM Conference Call
Meeting Date: 9th December 2020
Start Time: 7pm
Chaired By: Mick G: Darwin District Committee Member (DCM)
Minutes Taken By: Pat Mac

Present:

Name	Group	GSR (Y/N)	District Position
Mick G	Big Book Recovery Tuesday	N	District Committee Member (DCM)/Webmaster
Pat Mac	Nightcliff Saturday	Y	Treasurer/Acting Secretary
Denis P	Big Book Recovery Tuesday	Y	Registrar/Acting Office Maintenance
Caroline B	Big Book Recovery Tuesday (Alternate GSR)	N	Literature Officer
Dan T	Between groups	N	PI Coordinator
Susan B	Harbour View Tuesday Lunchtime	N	Editor Serenity Times
John S	Friday Casuarina (Acting GSR in Peter's absence)	Y	
Doug W	Sunday Living Sober and Monday Daily Reflections (GSR for both groups)	Y	Treatment and Corrections Facilities Co-ordinator
Bob W	Tuesday Harbour View	Y	

Apologies:

Peter M	Friday Casuarina	Y	
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Traditions and Statement of Purpose

Statement of purpose was read by Mick G, Traditions read in turn by all present.



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Acceptance of previous minutes

Caroline B moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted, seconded John S carried unanimously.

Outstanding business action items

No.	Item	Who	When	Status
1	<p><u>6 Feb 19: Brief talks on Traditions</u> – At each meeting more experienced committee members will deliver brief talk on the tradition that matches the month number, starting with John S Tradition 3 for March 2019 meeting</p> <p><i>Moved Marg M Seconded Mike B Approved unanimously</i></p>	Caroline B – Tradition 1	6 Jan 2021	9 Dec: Doug W delivered talk on Tradition 12
2	<p><u>7 Oct 20: Tiwi Islands Meeting</u> - Andrew C intends to start a meeting in Tiwi islands, location being Catholic Care Warrumiyanga (<i>note correct spelling!</i>) and is looking for assistance from the District.</p>			<p>7 Oct: Motion to initially sponsor the new group by providing banners and basic literature</p> <p><i>Moved by: Pat Mac C Seconded by: Mick G</i></p> <p>4 Nov: Andrew has left and new group will not eventuate. Banners will be returned.</p> <p>9 Dec: Banners have been returned to Dan, who will deliver to Office</p> <p>Closed</p>
3	<p><u>6 Mar 19: Vacant position – Roundup Coordinator</u></p> <p>Call for nominations</p>	All	9 Dec 2020	9 Dec: No nominations.
4	<p><u>9 Dec 20: Vacant position – Darwin District Committee Member (DCM)</u></p> <p>Call for nominations</p>	All	6 Jan 2021	9 Dec: Mick G rotates off effective from this meeting but has agreed to chair the District meetings until the



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No.	Item	Who	When	Status
				vacancy is filled. No nominations so far.
5	<u>6 Nov 19: Vacant position – Correctional Facilities Co-ordinator</u> Call for nominations	All	9 Dec 2020	4 Nov: No nominations. Unanimous decision to recombine role with Treatment Facilities Coordinator. Doug is therefore Treatment and Correctional Facilities Coordinator. Closed
6	<u>4 Nov 20: Vacant Position – Secretary Darwin District</u> Kitty Kat resigned as of this meeting. Position once again vacant.	All	9 Dec 2020	4 Nov: No nominations. 9 Dec: Susan B nominated, seconded Mick G, elected unanimously Closed
7	<u>4 Nov 20: Vacant Position – Office Coordinator</u> Deb H has stepped down	All	9 Dec 2020	9 Dec: No nominations
8	<u>4 Nov 20: Vacant Position – Office Maintenance</u> Since Denis took up position of Registrar, he continues in this role also until a replacement is found	All	9 Dec 2020	9 Dec: No nominations
9	<u>4 Nov 20: Length of Sobriety required for Office Volunteers</u>	All	9 Dec 2020	4 Nov: To be discussed at the December Quarterly Meeting with GSRs 9 Dec: Agreed that 6 months minimum sobriety is recommended Closed



New Business Action Items

No.	Item	Who	When	Status
1	<u>9 Dec 20: Availability of printed copies of Serenity Times</u>	Denis P	6 Jan 2020	9 Dec: Agreed that it is not necessary to produce a supply of printed copies since there does not appear to be any demand. Susan can add recipients to email list as required. Closed
2	<u>9 Dec 20: Office Key for Susan following appointment as Secretary</u>	Denis P	6 Jan 2020	9 Dec: Susan does not require a key as she can attend the Office during opening hours if necessary. Closed
3	<u>9 Dec 20: Proposed PI Workshop mid-January</u> A workshop with the aim of establishing a PI sub-committee so that more effective service projects can be undertaken with more members involved	Dan T	3 Feb 2021	9 Dec: Agreed to hold a PI workshop Wednesday 20 January 2020 in conjunction with the AA Service Zoom meeting.

REPORTS – OFFICE BEARERS

DCM – Mick G:

Welcome:

I would like to thank you all for attending, what is our last District and Office meeting for the year. 2020 has been more than an interesting year for us all. As Covid19 became apparent, ZOOM became our medium of exchange. On behalf of the fellowship, I deeply thank those members who generously contributed to operating their own zoom subscription to make so many meetings available to members. In fact, AA Darwin actually grew in meeting availability over this period, adding four new meetings to the weekly meetings list. These meetings remain active, even though many meetings have returned to "face to face". Darwin currently has 18 meetings in operation, 10 are "open" with 8 on ZOOM. In many ways, members have been exposed to AA worldwide and made many friendships, learnt new meetings formats, carried the message and now feel more connected to AA than ever before. God surely does work in mysterious ways.



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Darwin District Office:

The Office is still required to operate under the current NTG Covid19 Safe plan. All attendees are required to sign the office register when they attend. It is incumbent upon all AA meetings to follow such plans required by the NTG and their Landlord, and this does mean taking the name and phone number of all attendees, see Tradition 4. I have completed the DCC Cyclone Plan and lodged that with the DCC with a copy in the volunteer manual. Thank you to the many office volunteers we have had this year and for abiding by the COvid19 standards. At present Thursday, Friday and Saturday are vacant in the office for volunteers. Please contact me or Denis P if you wish to take on a volunteer position. I wish to thank all Darwin District Office Coordinators for their contributions in supporting the Office in its operations for the year as their work goes unheralded in supporting the groups to "better carry their message". I would like to give a special mention to Denis P who has worked tirelessly, as Registrar, in updating all the meeting information on the GSO website which was old and out of date in many cases, also, for commencing to copy our AA archives to hard drive, maintenance of the key register and very importantly inducting all new volunteers into the Office Covid19 plan while keeping the office clean hygienic and tidy. Both Denis and I are currently operating the phone roster and the AA email account. Also, to Caroline B who has adapted and managed the literature when access to the office has not always been easy. Susan B continues to produce a quality "Serenity Times". It was great to attend a Public Information workshop the other Saturday with Dan T our PI Coordinator, who I am sure will talk more on this in his report. Some Office Members are working across several Office positions to ensure that AA members are getting the best possible service from your Office. Thank you to those members. However, this may be unsustainable into the New Year as some members rotate off the Committee. The DDO requires your assistance to operate your District Office.

Positions available on the District Committee:

1. Darwin Committee Member (DCM)
2. Secretary
3. Office Coordinator
4. Office Maintenance
5. Roundup Coordinator

Tonight, we will also be asking the GSRs to confirm Doug W, as Corrections and Treatment Facilities Coordinator. Thank you, Doug, for nominating for this position.

Area Committee:

Our Area Delegate Carolyn G has worked tirelessly on AA Topics for 2020 and with Covid19 has had an unusual introduction to service work at the Area level, however, Carolyn has been able to maintain succinct communication and delivery of the Topic outcomes to the groups. Congratulations and thanks to Susan B who has taken over the position of Area Secretary. I have taken on the position of Area Chairperson. Your Area Committee has one vacant position – that of Treasurer.

Finally, I would like to thank the Darwin AA fellowship for the privilege and opportunity to serve as the Darwin Committee Member for the past two years. However, in the spirit of "rotation", tonight will be my last meeting as DCM. Thank you all for your support over the past 2 years and especially to Pat Mc for his wisdom and guidance and continuing work over this period.

Moved that report be accepted Denis P seconded John S accepted unanimously.



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Secretary:

Position vacant – Pat Mac agreed to act in the role for this meeting and will assist Susan initially as required during the changeover period.

Moved that report be accepted Dan T seconded Susan B accepted unanimously.

Literature – Caroline B:

Banked \$65.00 Literature sales last month., sent Pat Mac the copy of the bank receipt. Counted the literature tin the float remaining at \$50.00

10th November sold literature to Tony at office for the Wednesday night group being for 1 Australian Big Book, 1 living sober 2 frequently asked questions pamphlets, 2 starter packs. Total \$36.80 plus \$3.20 as tradition.

15th November put together PI work for Ollie 10 starter packs and delivered.

16th November ordered for office 40 starter packs 60 mixed posters for PI

18th November ordered one set of service manual and guidelines set total \$30.00, member made electronic payment I sent the copy to Pat Mac.

27th November sold literature for the Living Sober Sunday night group in total was \$220.50.

Banked 27th November total \$260.50 for literature sales, sent Pat Mac a copy of bank receipt.

30th December collected literature order for the DDO of posters for PI and 40 newcomer packs. Placed updated meetings lists in the newcomer packs.

Moved that report be accepted Denis P seconded Dan T accepted unanimously.

Treatment and Correctional Facilities – Doug W

Visits have continued to Banyan House on a fortnightly basis. The members visiting have reported that the reception and response has been good. Additional starter packs and Big Book delivered.

Some difficulty has been experienced getting volunteers for Mission Australia as it has been expressed that it is a "tough audience, where the majority identify as drug dependency".

Over the Christmas New Year period visits will run on 16/12/2020, but not on 30/12/2020, resuming on 13/01/2021. I still need to organise a more formalised roster and contact list to enable planning beyond the short term.

In summary things are progressing well and there are avenues for achievable improvement in the service delivery.

With prison visits I am still trying to arrange a meeting with the Programs Manager to explore ways of conducting presentations whilst waiting for security clearances.

Moved that report be accepted Denis P seconded Susan B accepted unanimously.

Registrar – Denis P

Great busy month of AA service. There has been plenty of updates on the national website. Cross checking the GSO website with Darwin's website at least once a week. There have been nine updates. Wednesday noon as Bill sees it discussion meeting updated with new venue address details. Printed up group registration form and got Gillian and Michael to sign then scanned it and



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sent through to the GSO. As Saturday afternoon Alice Springs meeting had closed no longer running got in contact with the group member before removing it from the GSO website. Updated paper meeting lists emailing out to group contacts and printed up copies for DDO desk and front door holder and a stack for Dan T PI placing them in public information folder. Also printed up a heap for Caroline B for the newcomer packs. Met up with James E for his last day at the office before going south and thanked him for his service. Collected office key from James and updated the key register emailing a copy to committee members. Helped Tony F take on Tuesday office volunteer position taking him through the covid-19 induction. Mike B took on Sunday 24-hour phone service. Few hiccups here and there with the diversion app although thanks to Ollie O it was tethered out. Also updated the 12-step call roster emailing copies to committee members including 1 member working in the counselling sector. Updated office volunteer manual call diversion sheet. Updated the DDO committee members list emailing to committee members and printed a copy leaving in the volunteer manual. Printed up the cyclone procedures creating a folder leaving on office desk for volunteers to read and a sign on front office door. Printed up a few copies of the serenity times leaving them on the office desk for anyone to read or take a copy. Busy, busy, busy - it really helps and makes a massive difference being active in service. Thank you to everyone.

Moved that report be accepted Doug W seconded Bob W accepted unanimously.

Office Co-Ordinator

Position currently vacant – duties being absorbed by Mick G and Denis P – no report submitted.

Office Maintenance – Dennis P

I have made a few shopping trips this month with all receipts and change left back in the petty cash tin, letting Pat Mac know on each occasion. Bought 4 reams of white photocopy paper reloading brother printer. On the 7th of December I bought a box of Panamax, 2 rolls of bin bags, a 6 pack of sml milks and coffee for the office. Vacuumed the office floor. Also, earlier this month I bought 2 sets of paper towels and throw away cups re stocking DDO. Checked Darwin District PO-Box each week collecting letters for DDO treasurer, Northern region area A treasurer and Friday night Casuarina group letting both Pat.mac and John S know. Today the 8th of December picked up 2 letters from DDO PO BOX, 1 for Telstra placing in treasurer's folder and 1 for Casuarina group letting them both know. I've also read through the email from Darwin city council concerning covid-19 tracing policies/ requests. Refilling both spray bottles and checking each week that the covid-19 sign on book is being used by members and visitors as required. Thank you to all members and committee members. Also, a thank you to Darren H, Tony F, James E and Mike B for stepping up in supporting AA Darwin. One more Big thank you to Mick.G as DCM for an inspiring 2 years!

Moved that report be accepted John S seconded Susan B accepted unanimously.

Treasurer – Pat Mac

Attached.

Moved that report be accepted Denis P seconded Doug W accepted unanimously.

Webmaster – Mick G

The Website is doing well and has been accessed 240 time since the beginning of November. Please let me know if any alterations are required or suggestions for information.

Moved that report be accepted Dan T seconded Pat Mac accepted unanimously.



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PI Coordinator – Dan T

November has been a fairly quiet month for PI activities other than a few posters going up at Doctor's surgeries around the northern suburbs, around the common student areas at CDU, Banyan and Amity Houses.

I have designed a little clear plastic card holder that holds 20 cards or so and stapled it to some of the AA posters to go up at police stations, along with Amity and Banyan house.

Amity and Banyan house are displaying these posters now and I will be dropping in from time to time to replenish the cards. The Police are proving quite frustrating to deal with so far, with counter staff at Casuarina and Darwin refusing our request to put posters / card holders in their foyer areas. I have emailed the Police Information section and Safe NT section with a request to speak to someone in the right position to assist us with this PI activity. I will follow this up with some phone calls in the coming couple of weeks.

I am determined to have some kind of contact information available where the guests are released from the watch-house (this is in Palmerston now apparently, for the whole of Darwin) because it's a great "rock-bottom" location for future members to receive the hand of AA. I haven't quite ruled out getting arrested to gain entry yet, but we'll see what the next couple of weeks brings.

Yours in service and best wishes to all for the festive season.

Moved that report be accepted Pat Mac seconded Doug W accepted unanimously.

Editor Serenity Times – Susan B

Serenity Times is getting good comments. I am finding it hard to get members stories. Caroline has been, and is a great support helping out where she can. I will keep on asking members and hopefully some will respond. I can get (with permission) old ones from the Grapevine if necessary. Any sort of AA stories from the NT would be better. I know the Alice Springs ladies like the newsletter, I attended their Zoom meeting last Sat and was recognised, it was good to know they are reading it. I would like to visit Alice and Katherine meetings to encourage their input.

Moved that report be accepted Dan T seconded Caroline B accepted unanimously.

GROUP REPORTS

Monday Daily Reflections (Doug W): The meeting continues as an open face to face meeting in the Library of St Pauls School. With good attendance number often close to 20 people. There are regular newcomers attending for their first meeting and some have subsequently returned. Members of the group regularly go to the Foreshore Cafe in Nightcliff after the meeting.

Tuesday Harbour View (Bob W): Good attendance 10-12 generally. We have two new group members and a new GSR may represent the group at the next quarterly meeting. We have continued with face-to-face meetings, observing social distancing etc. with adequate space available for the current attendance levels. We regularly contribute to the 60-30-10 plan, and recently distributed some funds.

Tuesday Big Book Recovery (Denis P): Currently we have 4 members with a regular monthly group conscience. All 4 members have a service job within the group, and we follow the 60/30/10 plan putting the 7th tradition account details up during the zoom meeting. We are looking at going back face to face in our January group conscience. Have been getting great numbers turning up each week from America and throughout Australia averaging 18 to 20. Regularly announcing service needed in the Darwin District and office volunteers.



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Wednesday Zoom Service Meeting (Mick G):

The Group has recently finished 12 weeks of AA's 12 Concepts of World Service workshop. It was attended by an average of 10 members per week, with local, national, and international attendees and guest speakers, culminating in a 90min workshop convened by Mark and Chris from Melbourne. The DSG is currently into week 1 of a 5-week workshop called "back to basics" which is a workshop on the functioning of "local" AA, i.e., the role of the Home group, GSR etc. based on the AA Australian Service Manual. The Group contributes directly to the Darwin District Office.

Friday Casuarina (John S): The meeting continues as face to face at the Pandanus Room, Nightcliff Community Centre. Attendance is currently 12-14 which is within the upper limit suggested for social distancing. Sadly, Natalie will probably not be attending meetings in the future as she is back in hospital and is not at all well. The council has advised we can use the veranda as an overflow area if necessary. Still awaiting receipt of our debit card, when this arrives, we will start making contributions as per 60-30-10.

Nightcliff Saturday (Pat Mac): We have decided to stick with ZOOM indefinitely, we have up to six people joining in including a few regular interstaters and the occasional overseas member, making it an interesting meeting.

Sunday Living Sober Group (Doug W): The group recommenced holding face to face meetings in the previous location as of 29/11/2020. Attendance has been encouraging and the space is well suited to social distancing requirements. Some members of the group regularly meet at Chow restaurant at the Waterfront at 5:30 for dinner prior to the meeting and everyone is welcome.

MEETING CLOSED AT 8:35 PM

The Serenity Prayer was read by all.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be a monthly office committee meeting to be held at 7pm Wednesday 6th January 2021 at this stage via ZOOM Conference call. The next quarterly District meeting for all GSRs and committee members is scheduled for Wednesday 3rd March at 7pm, also via ZOOM.