

**District 13 General Service Meeting Minutes**  
**June 3, 2025 @ 7:00 pm**

Opened with the Responsibility Statement at 7:00 pm.

**Introductions:** Sign-up sheet went around as well as the sign-up for the Anoka County Fair booth. Google meets had no participants.

**No officer reports. No Committee Chair Reports.**

**FOCUS: Delegates Report 2025**

- **Doug Hall, our Southern Mn Area 36 Delegate gave the Delegate Report from the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual General Service Conference in NY April 27- May 3, 2025.** The theme of the Conference this year was “Working Together Increasing Trust”. The Conference is composed of AAWS, General Service Board Members and Grapevine. Doug stressed that the conference is where the group’s conscience is heard. The General Service board consists of both class A and class B Trustees. Class A trustees are non-alcoholics, and Class B are alcoholics. There are 127 voting delegates at the conference. 93 delegates from The United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and some surrounding islands. 22 Trustees, 5 Directors and 17 staff attended.
- Doug informed us that a Board Inventory was done this year much like a group takes inventory of its group, so the Conference did an inventory of the AA General Service Board and Directors. They will bring back the findings of the inventory in 2026. **Work on the implications of these findings.**
- **2024 Financials: 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$11,249 up 3.8% from 2023. **Self-Support:** 60% of operating expenses; Group contributions 12,000 plus groups donated \$0-\$50.00, 14,000 groups donated \$50-\$100.00 and 500 plus donated \$1000.00. **Operating Expenses:** \$18.684 million, up 6.9% from 2023. **CONTRIBUTIONS-** Groups \$7 million; Individuals \$4 million; 32% active, groups contributing. And, according to AAWS, we should have a prudent reserve of 9-12 months of operating expenses. Currently we have a 6-month reserve. *There is a declining overall membership in AA as well.*
- **Capital Expenditures-** Includes Maintenance, Technology, App’s. AAWS recently signed a 10-year lease for the office space, which is the headquarters for AA, in Manhattan, NY. Every tenant in the building is non-profit! Currently a large capital expense is the investment in consolidating the Upper and Lower floors of headquarters in NY.
- **Agenda Committee:** Implemented the Board of Directors Inventory.
- **Archives:** nothing to report
- **CPC:** Development of a new pamphlet and lay-out for mental health. Bring the layout to the 2026 Conference. Premium business account AAWS has a one-year trial upgrade not to exceed \$1000.00.
- **Finance:** Wording taken out regarding whether a group should have a GSR report given in a group. Increase in bequest contributions from \$10,000 to \$12,000.00. When contributing to the General Service Office, please include the information to confirm that the donation is from an existing AA group or member. Please include home group information. It is very costly to track down this missing information. Current Capital spending project is the remodel of AA headquarters in NY.
- **Grapevine:** Review the 5-year plan annually. Make sure that when reviewing the plan, the history of AA accompanies it so as to make better informed decisions. A survey was conducted to determine the relevance of all the materials. Bring back the initial findings in 2026. Final report on this, in 2027.
- **Literature:** Consider adding the 12 Concepts to the 12x12. AAWS was not interested and this failed on the floor. Update *Living Sober* to a more current language. Any revision to the current *Plain Language Book* will be addressed at the 77<sup>th</sup> Conference. Review must be editorial verses substantial. Looking at the revision of the 12 Steps illustrated version and video for the 12 Concepts. *5<sup>th</sup> Addition of the Big Book* was not addressed due to the many stories that had been submitted. Doug has been asked to read some 20-30 stories to review as potential stories to be

included in the 5<sup>th</sup> Addition of the Big Book. *4<sup>th</sup> Addition of the Spanish Big Book* released next year. Discussion around the idea of adopting a *super majority* when voting was addressed. Doug stated that getting the largest majority of voters for a vote to agree is very time consuming and involves a lot of opinions and mic time. He supports the *2/3 majority vote*. There is a proposed super majority around updates to the Founders Writings. What has been approved is after 1971, the year Bill W. died, these writings can be considered for updates. Prior to 1971 is considered archived and historical.

- **Policy and Administration:** If there is not a 2/3 majority but a simple majority, any action is considered a suggestion for the next conference and will not be voted on. If it is not an advisory action it becomes a suggestion and recommendation.
- **Public Relations:** Review the impact that social media has on the youth. Review pamphlets and videos for young people. Interest in these may be fading due to YouTube access to this information.
- **Report and Charter:** Remove the word “women” from literature and replace with “new volunteers”.
- **Treatment and Accessibilities:** Review “Where do I go” pamphlet.
- **Trustees:** Board members voting for new officers in May for 9 trustees. More trustees are coming on board now because there have been several resignations.
- **Floor Action:** Need for a Spanish Plain Language translation.
- **The theme for the next General Service Conference in 2026 is: “Humility in Action”.**
- **International Convention is coming up: July 3. Vancouver, BC Canada.** This convention averages about 31,000 attendees. Highest number of attendees recorded was 57,000.
- **If you have any questions, the Delegates email is: [delegate@area36.org](mailto:delegate@area36.org). All information is on the Area Website: [www.area36.org](http://www.area36.org).**

#### **Old Business:**

- **Gratitude Celebration:** Update: November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, from 2-5pm is the new date set for the Gratitude Celebration at Coon Rapids Methodist Church. It will be held in the gym. \$150.00 payment to use the space.
- **New Committee Chair: Ron Alt DCM.** The Anoka County Fair begins July 22- 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Please consider signing up to sit at the booth.
- **Delegates Report: Doug H.** will present the Delegates Report on June 3, 2025, at our district meeting.
- **We have a new Technology Chair- Chris S.** Welcome!
- **Officer Position is Open:** Anyone interested and willing to stand for this position will be able to do so, at the August 5<sup>th</sup> District meeting. We will vote/elect a new Secretary at that time.

#### **New Business:**

- **Consider signing up to sit at the booth at the ANOKA COUNTY FAIR July 22-July 27, 2025.** We schedule two-hour shift times. If you would like to do a shift or more than one shift, please contact RON R. at- [ron.ruback@stryten.com](mailto:ron.ruback@stryten.com) or phone him @ 952-240-1887 or, Barb HH at- [dist13@area36.org](mailto:dist13@area36.org) or phone her @ 763-760-3593.
- **The Secretary election will take place on August 5, 2025.** If you are interested in this position, please attend the August 5<sup>th</sup> District Meeting.
- **June 21, 2025- Area Assembly.** This assembly is for all GSR's and DCM's although anyone can attend. It will be at the Winona County Historical Society-160 Johnson ST. Winona, MN. 55987. 9:00 am-5pm. Hybrid is available.
- **AA International Conference- Vancouver, BC, Canada. July 3- July 6, 2025.**
- **We are compiling a new District 13 Web Page. More details to come.**

**District 13 Steering Committee Meeting: July 28, 2025.** In-person at 6:30pm. We meet at the Panera Riverdale 3540 River Rapids Drive NW. Coon Rapids, MN 55448. All officers and Committee Chairs are expected to attend.

**District 13 Meeting: August 5, 2025 (No District Meeting in July).** 7 pm Coon Rapids Methodist Church and via Google Meets. All officers, committee chairs and GSRs are expected to attend.

**Next Area Committee Meeting: On-Line. August 9, 2025. 9:30am- 5:00pm  
Closed with the Declaration of Unity.**