

AREA B ASSEMBLY MINUTES
WESTERN REGION of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

10th February, 2018.

12 Step House, 88 Bawdan Street, Willagee

1. Meeting Opened at 2.10 pm
2. Read 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts
3. **Present:** Oliver (Chairperson Area B, Willagee Just for Today Tuesday), Lesley (Treasurer Area B, Willagee Living Sober Monday GSR), Susan B (Peel District Secretary), Dominic (Delegate Area B, Fremantle Thursday Night Literature Group), Sue B (Registrar Area B, Kalamunda Group), Joyce B (Medina Daily Reflections), Clare S (Beaconsfield Early Risers GSR), Damien T (Prisons and Institutions Delegate Area B), Paul J (Western Regional Trustee), Kerry I (People's Group Rockingham GSR), Tracey (Fremantle Spiritual Concept GSR), Lyndal T (Beaconsfield Big Book Wednesday GSR), John D (Beaconsfield Big Book, Observer), Don R (Armadale GSR), Dennis D (Mandurah Steps, DCM Peel District), Dave B (Busselton Monday and Thursday GSR), David (Rockingham Discussion Group), Kylie Y (Secretary Area B, Thursday Night Literature Group).
4. **Apologies:** Ruth K (Peel District DCM), Bridget K (Thursday Night Literature Group GSR), Kaz (Mundijong Monday night), Lesley F (DCM Port District), Ann (Medina Group).
5. **Previous Minutes:**
No business arising from meeting held on 28th October 2017.
Minutes Accepted: Don. Seconded: Clare.
6. **Correspondence In:** Bank Statements; Area A Minutes; Port District Minutes and correspondence, Various 2018 Convention correspondence from the Host Planning Committee.
7. **Correspondence Out:** October 2017 Area B Minutes sent to all members, Area A and CSO, Various Area B committee correspondence.
8. **Area B Committee Reports:**
 - a) **Treasurer – Lesley**
In addition to the funds detailed below in the treasurer's report, the Armadale Group donated \$150 cash on the day of the assembly, and the day before t the Beaconsfield Group had deposited \$138.03.
As the effective balance of the Area B bank account is only just over \$400,
What can be done to improve this in the future? Lesley urged groups to consider direct donations to Area B, as they are very welcome and necessary for the financial survival of the area.

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AREA B TREASURER'S REPORT 28th October 2017 to 8th February 2018		
	Direct Contributions from Groups	Amount
	Fremantle Serenity Group (3 x \$10 donations)	\$30.00
	Fremantle Thursday Eve Literature Group	\$60.00
	Willagee Monday Living Sober Group	\$80.00
	Kwinana Town Group	\$30.00
	Mundijong Monday Group (2 x donations)	\$200.00
	Willagee Just for Today Group ID # 14	\$30.00
	Mundijong Group for Karnet Prison Meeting Support	\$50.00
	Sub Total	\$480.00
	60/30/10 Contributions distributed by CSO	Amount
	Area B Split November 2017 to January 2018 (Printed Breakdown of groups %'s available from Treasurer)	\$453.52
	Sub Total	\$453.52
	TOTAL GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS	\$933.52
<p>THANKYOU to groups for your ongoing support through donations. Please help to identify your deposit by making sure that your group name or ID # is put on the deposit slip or EFT reference message. If you are contributing through deposits to the CSO you MUST state that your deposit is to be distributed 60/30/10 or 50/30/10/10, OTHERWISE it will all stay with CSO and Area B WILL NOT receive the donation. You can also make direct deposits to Alcoholics Anonymous Area B - BSB# 066156 ACC# 00901566</p>		
	Item	Cum Balance
Starting Balance	As per bank statement - October 26th 2017	\$1,032.41
Income	Direct Group Contributions	\$480.00
	60/30/10 contribution from CSO Nov 17 to January 18. Split deposited 15th Jan 18	\$453.52
	Tradition 7 - Area B Assembly - October 2017	\$29.00
	Interest - April 2017 to July 2017 (Nil Interest)	\$0.00
Total Income		\$962.52
Expenses	chq. #543 12 th January 2018 1st Quarter Levy. Gen Service Board Sydney.	-\$750.00
Total Expenses		-\$750.00
Closing Balance		\$1,244.93
BANK BALANCE	6-Feb-18	\$1,244.93

(NB Effective Balance = Closing Bank Balance less \$750 + \$80 Rent)
 There are copies of CSO split printed for GSR's to see.
 There are copies of the Area's bank transactions for GSR's information.
 This Quarter saw the payment of the 1st Quarters' Levy to The
 General Service Board of AA Australia, Sydney. Deposit books are
 available by e mailing arebtreasurer1@gmail.com or ask me today!
 . Thank you to the groups who supported Area B this quarter.
****Effective balance is \$414.93 Lesley R. Treasurer Area B**
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b) Delegate – Dominic H – emailed report has not been forthcoming yet.

c) Western Region Trustee – Paul J

I would like to thank the outgoing Regional Trustee, Kerry S for her tremendous effort in fulfilling the role and being a great example of service to AA for us all to follow. I wish her all the best for her future.

Leo F has a 60th Birthday party coming up on 24th February and I understand this is the first in WA and a very rare occasion in Australia.

I have not attended any Board meetings yet, so I have nothing to report from the board and Kerry S is still chair of the HPC.

I am privileged to be of service and if I can help in any way, please call or email me.

Paul Jones, Western Region Trustee

0427856422 pdjnz@hotmail.com

d) Public Information – Rob

The below report was emailed to the Area B secretary's address by Rob on the 6th of November 2017. In the transfer of secretarial responsibilities to Kylie from Oliver L, this email was overlooked and only came to light upon Kylie's resignation on the 19th February 2018. It has been included here for the information of the fellowship, and the benefit of the new PI coordinator that has taken over from Rob (please see below this report for more information.)

Public Co-ordinator Report – PI CPC Forum 2017, Adelaide. Attending the forum was a wonderful experience and I truly thank the area for the experience. It is an honour and a privilege to be of service. Overall a lot of members at the forum were new to the position of PI Co-ordinator and were also experiencing difficulty with creating a committee or anyone to help with public information. There were members from all around Australia and New Zealand, some of the ideas that were discussed at the workshop included; Police academy cadets spreading the message to people in lock up after they sober up about AA, community radio and newspapers may run free ads for non-profit organisations, and homeless people being provided with information at food vans. Good new ideas included:

- PI and CPC information and requests could be placed in AA notices asking for group involvement e.g. a PI Assistant from each group.
- Involvement with professionals; attend health and mental health conferences. Hospitals, Psychologists and AOD Counsellors to carry the message with pamphlets or stalls, and remember to always dress smart and act confidently when we speak.
- 5-cent tins have been created in Queensland to be utilised in all meetings, as another way for people to contribute money to the area for PI. The Queensland PI Co-ordinator feedback to the group that these are working well.

Costs associated with the PI Forum included Flights to Adelaide (return), \$347.00, Taxi fares \$20, Accommodation \$120; All costs were covered by Area B.

Work carried out since the forum:

- Attended Outcare and provided them old Serenity magazines, so their clients can have meeting lists.

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- I was contacted through email by Area A PI Coordinator, asking me to follow up with United Care West. I attended United Care West on the 2 October 2017, providing them with five of last month's Serenity magazine to give to clients. This is so the meetings list can be a part of the welcome pack for when they move into accommodation. The Coordinator requested AA organised guest speakers to do a presentation at one of their staff meetings on a Tuesday. This has yet to occur, but I would like to ask for the area's input on how to proceed.
- The next AOD Conference is in February 2018 and I would like to submit a request for funding for Area B to attend in conjunction with Area A.

Yours sincerely, Rob K, Area B PI Coordinator.

Assembly discussion about PI position follows

Dom had been informed there was very little representation from our delegate (Rob) over the weekend of the PI & CPC forum in Adelaide. Supposedly, he dropped in for an hour or so over the course of the weekend. It appeared that other matters were more important. Also, Rob raised funds at the forum by selling merchandise, however no funds have been handed over at this stage.

Furthermore, Lesley and Oliver have reported that Rob has been unreachable for most of the last 3 months prior to this assembly.

As the incumbent PI Coordinator (Rob) has not attended the last two Area B assemblies, the position is to be deemed to be vacant. A motion was tabled and carried on this point.

Motion: Lesley Seconded: Sue B.

The Chairperson (Oliver) will send out an email to Rob, to check in, as well as to notify him that he has been removed from this position.

Lyndal nominated herself to take on the PI position and was voted in. **Motion: Clare Seconded: Don.**

There was some discussion about Lyndal resigning from her current role as PI coordinator for Port District, in order to better serve the Area.

e) Registrar – Sue B

We have 95 meetings in Area B. This is meetings, not groups. Included in that is seven prisons meetings.

At Conference last year the issue of the boundary between Areas A and B was settled. With the recent reactivation of Swan District in Area A the old problem of boundaries has come up again. Swan District recently did a mail-out appealing for help and funds. They are still using their old mailing list, reaching into Area B, addressing groups such as Glen Forrest, Kalamunda, High Wycombe, Forrestfield and Cloverdale. I would like to request that they be asked to desist and recognise the boundary.

The Boundaries Maps are to be found on the CSO website, under the Members tab
<https://aaperthwa.org/members/boundaries/>

I am wondering if we need or want to define the boundaries of Districts within our Area?

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It was suggested that discussions could occur to ask Swan Districts to refrain from taking resources away from Area B. There was a further discussion around boundaries, service and penning a letter to go out to Area A in order to define the district boundaries. It was suggested that a map of the boundaries defining Area A and Area B be put in the Serenity. Interest having been shown in beginning to define District boundaries within the Area, Sue made mention of a possible future Hills District but she is not in a position to help activate it right now.

A motion was put forward for the Chairperson (Oliver) to correspond by email with Area A as regards boundaries and Swan Districts.

Motion: Susan Seconded: Dom.

f) Institutions –Damien T

Period from 28/10/17-10/2/18

Donations from Groups

- 2/2/18; \$50 Donated from the Mundijong group
- 15/1/18; \$100 from Beaconsfield Early Risers Group
- 12/1/18; \$300 Donated from the People's Group Rockingham
- 2/11/17; Thursday Night Literature Group Freo Donated 6 x Emotional Sobriety II Books for Casuarina Prison
- 20/11/17: Unknown Donation of 6 AA in Prison books, which I took into Casuarina

Progress Report

3/2/18 - Three more inmates have asked for sponsorship in Casuarina Prison. James M, Dan M and I continue to take turns taking the guys through the book in the Chapin's Office each week, this seems to have inspired others to ask, and we are now a bit overwhelmed by requests. We discussed this with Security, and they have offered to help us organise private visits. Dan M will begin this week.

30/1/18 - 10 x Prisoner Packs, 5x little 12&12s, 5x little Big Books for Karnet, 1x BB for Shane in Casuarina to start doing the steps. (When the guys ask to go through the Big Book we have been buying them a Big Book from the CSO) Total of \$112. Requested that CSO include A Newcomer Asks, and the Corrections Corresponded pamphlets in the Prison Packs as there are several guys writing regularly. (Anyone that would like to correspond with inmates can fill out the form, this is a great form of service)

20/1/18 - 5x 12&12s, 5 x Little Big Books, 15x Prisoner Packs for Casuarina
Total \$116.00

18/1/18 - Invite from Karnet Prison to next expo in 23rd March 2018, seeking members to accompany Kerry I.

12/1/18 - 10x Little Big Books, 20x Is AA for you, 20x A Newcomer asks, 10x corrections corresponded pamphlets. Posted to Cherry in Albany for Albany Prison meeting at her request 10 x Prisoner Packs, 5x Little Big Books for Casuarina. \$143.00 total, with \$13.80 Postage

3/1/18 - Visited Albany regional with John R and Cherry T. They continue to keep the meeting open, though the numbers are low. Left 10 x Prisoner Packs and 30 Serenity mags with Albany prison.

17/11/17 - 40 x Prison Packs, 10 x Little Big Books, Total \$226.00. To be distributed amount all prisons

Financials

\$610.80 Total spending at CSO this period

\$389.50 Credit left at CSO as of 10/2/18

Prisons of Area B

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1. Albany Prison (Lethal Parameter Maximum Security) - Cherry T and John R continue to keep the doors open, numbers are low, but there is a few regulars. Area B can continue to support them with literature, and I can visit occasionally.

2. Casuarina Prison (Maximum Security) - Meeting is well attended by inmates. Three more members have asked to go through the steps with the members that attend from the outside. Could do with more support from outside members attending the meeting, especially those willing to sponsor. Attendance varies from 15-25 inmates every Saturday. Overall very exciting atmosphere, a strong service structure has been adopted by the guys that help run the meeting, and the meeting is taken very seriously, as is the program. It's a privilege to be a part of what is happening in there, much thanks to James M, Dan M, Barbara B and George M for there consistent support.

3. Karnet Prison (Minimum Security) - Two of the guys from Casuarina that had previously been through the steps with a sponsor have now been transferred to Karnet, and the meeting has grown from strength to strength as a result. The inmates hold there own Big Book study on the weekend and the guys are sponsoring each other. There are currently about 12 guys at the meeting, but we desperately need outside members to attend the meeting as it is only being visited by Kerry and I every second week.

4. Wandoo Prison (Reintegration Facility) - Over the Christmas break, we lost two regular members that were attending the meeting and support for this meeting is needed from members. There are several young guys attending the meeting. One of them is the secretary, and they run their meeting quite well with a bit of guidance. As with all the prison meetings, our main aim is to keep the meeting format as similar to that on the outside. Two of the guys go out on day release for AA meetings, and the staff are very supportive. All three of the meetings above read a step each week at the moment that seems to be well received and gets the guys into the literature.

5. Bunbury Prison - No Report

6. Hakea Prison - No Report

A motion was moved that \$200 funds from Area B be given to Damien to continue his good work in the prisons. **Motion: Don Seconded: Susan.**

Damien reports that he is also seeking letter of confirmation and invitation for any day-release inmates wanting to attend the 2018 National Convention, from the host planning committee.

9. **District Committee Member (DCM) Reports:**

a) Peel District – Dennis Doran (DCM)

Peel District members have been to Rockingham Court and set up literature table – attended court and made sure the rack in court was filled with AA Literature. The combined celebration of Kerry I's 41st Birthday and Damien T's 4th made \$170 for Host Planning Committee. Bentley Hospital wants a speaker each month. This has been arranged to be the third week of each month. There is a lack of support for Peel District from the regional groups in the Area. The Peel District is holding a sponsorship day on the 28th of April.

b) Port District – Damien (Secretary)

Our treasurer donated \$300 to Host Planning Committee to fund a literature stand. Also, the District has submitted an Ad for radio, ad in newspapers and funds have now been received for banners and a movie night fundraiser being organised.

10. **General Service Representative (GSR) Reports**

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a) Willagee Living Sober Monday: Lesley R, GSR -

The Living Sober Group remains viable thanks mainly to newcomers and returning members and occasional visitors from further afield. So blessed! Do drop in when able and enjoy our friendly supportive meeting where a round-robin reading from the book "Living Sober" sets the scene for sharing about anything relating to your alcoholism. This last quarter the group financially supported HPC for the upcoming National Convention and Area B. A recent highlight involved the anniversary celebration of a home group member, Madge, who joyfully clocked up 33 years!

b) The People's Group, Rockingham, Kerry I, GSR -

The Peoples Group have three meetings. A Promises meeting. A speaker, come Living Sober Study and a Steps and Traditions Study. All these meetings are well attended with Serenity Lodge people attending the Friday night meeting. We give little bb s plus newcomers packs to newcomers and a warm welcome with phone numbers of group members and offer sponsorship. We hold Group Conscious Meeting each month and all group positions are filled and rotate at times. We do the 30, 60 10 donations plus regular money to District and sometimes donate to Prisons in District. We get as many people in our group involved in service positions each month and there is a lot of enthusiasm at our meetings.

c) Armadale Group: Don R, GSR -

Verbal report tabled – hand-written report delivered to Kylie. Not included here as Oliver finished off the minutes after Kylie resigned from the secretary position.

d) Big Book Beaconsfield Group Wednesday: Lyndal, GSR -

Our group has recently made a donation to the HPC, and we have a roster for speakers to attend Graylands every two months.

e) Fremantle Early Morning Risers (Weekdays), Clare, GSR - the meetings are going strong, with a combination of newcomers and older sober members, we have fellowship after the meeting and contribute to the 50/30/10/10 plan.

f) Fremantle Thursday Literature Group, Dominic - The group is going strong, with contributions to Area B and Port District. Currently reading from AA Grapevine Beginners' Book Getting and staying sober in AA.

g) Busselton Monday and Thursday, Dave B, GSR - There was some discussion about Bunbury, Margaret River and Dunsborough forming a district. The Busselton Round-Up is happening this year from Friday the 20th to Sunday the 22nd of April. There was quite a bit of discussion about the nature of the Busselton Round-up and Al-Anon participation. Dave clarified repeatedly that the event is an AA Round-up with Al-Anon participation.

11. **Other Committee Reports:** No reports.

All Reports - Accepted: Don, Seconded Kerry I.

12. **General Business:**

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- a) Clare S has accepted the nomination to the Alternate Delegate's position (raised at the October 2017 assembly), after discussion with Dominic about the requirements of the role.
- b) As the effective balance of the Area B bank account is only just over \$400, what can be done to improve the Area's financial position?
Each group is encouraged to donate to the 60%, 30%, 10% plan, make direct deposits to Area B, or whatever funding the group sees fit.
Delegate Dominic volunteered to note groups with an abundance of funds and he'll encourage these groups to make a direct donation to the Area. It was also suggested that Dominic submit an article on group donations to the Serenity magazine.
- c) Dates for forthcoming Area B assemblies for 2018 are;
- May 5th 2pm at 88 Bawdan St Willagee
 - July 28th 2pm at Bunbury venue (TBC) – Dominic to find suitable venue, publicise and organise.
 - October 27th 1pm at 88 Bawdan St Willagee for topics.
- d) Following an announcement placed in the AA (WA) Calender of Events in January, Dominic proposed that all committee service positions, barring the Delegate and Alternate Delegate position (which are for 3 years, with 1 to run), were aligned with that of Area A, which held its bi-annual election assembly on the 4th of February. This is to adhere to Section 8 of the Australian Conference Charter (p. 198 The Australian Service Manual, 2016) *"General Service Representatives and Area Committee members shall serve for two years, and these terms shall be concurrent. Area Delegate terms are three years from date of appointment."*

A brief discussion followed. Previously in Area B, committee office bearers have generally served two-year terms from date of appointment.

A motion was put forward that the incumbent office bearers relinquish their current positions immediately and a new committee be formed.

Motion: Don R, Seconded: Clare. PASSED.

Unfortunately, as this important matter was not brought to the attention of the secretary or chairperson for inclusion in the meeting agenda prior to the assembly, suitable time was not available to vote in a new committee. This was due to the venue being booked by another group for 5pm. There was a brief discussion about the possibility of 'caretakers' looking after the roles until a vote could be concluded (assumedly at the next assembly in May,) although no action was taken on this point.

13. Previous Action Items: None

14. 7th Tradition: \$52.50

15. Close with Serenity Prayer

16. **Next Assembly: May 5th 2pm, 88 Bawdan St, Willagee.**