

WWA72 Quarterly Summary



July 13, 2019

Mount Vernon, Washington

This is a quick summary of the July 13 Area Quarterly. Please see the full minutes, when they are sent out, for detailed information.

Minutes from the April 2019 Quarterly were approved.

Treasurer's Report Highlights: We are in really good shape now.

Proposed Budget Adjustments

- Increase Assembly/Qtly Interpretation Budget by \$1,000
 - Under budgeted due to additional costs incurred
- Increase Archives Budget by \$1,200
 - Budget did not provide for Archives Steering AND Archivist
 - New facility is allowing for additional work that has been needed
- Increase Delegate Conference Travel Budget by \$1,000
 - Insufficient budget allocated to fully fund Conference Travel
- Increase Printing and Copying Budget by \$6,000
 - Under budgeted for required printing needs
 - We printed the Handbook that is only once a rotation and many GSR Schools and DCM roundtables. Our trusted Servants are doing a lot of work.
 - Last rotation, towards the end, we were tight on money and Trusted Servants were asked to cut printing costs – which meant that instead of submitting receipts, they paid for it themselves (which is not a healthy budgeting practice).

○ Original Total Expense Budget \$121,710	○ Original Contributions Forecast - \$129,962
○ Revised Total Expense Budget \$130,910	○ Revised Contributions Forecast - \$138,772

❖ **Treasurer's report unanimously approved.**

Special Reports:



1. **Hosting 2022 Men's and Women's International Conference** – Maryland and Don
In January we presented a plan to submit a bid to host the 2022 Men's International Conference (approx. 400-600 men) and/or the Women's International Conference (approx. 3000 women) in Tacoma. We asked for interest from Districts and since the April Quarterly we have heard from very few Districts – around 10%. Should we continue to gauge interest or not? We also host PNC in 2022, is that the problem? We have some time if more Districts want to let us know. The Men's bid packet is due in September and the Women's is due in February. Please email iaamc2022tacoma@gmail.com if you support, or not, hosting the Men's Conference and iwc2022tacoma@gmail.com if you support, or not, hosting the Women's Conference. You can support both! This is only a bid process and does not mean that we would get it.
2. **OSD-3 Committee Update** - Courtney
 - We have sold 250 books in presales which is about 12% of our goal of 1500.
 - You have until 12/31/19 to turn in your group's history. You can turn them in electronically at grouphistories@area72aa.org. There is an upcoming history writing workshop in District 24 on July 20th.
 - There is a cover design contest. Email contactosd@area72aa.org for details or look on the Area Website under the OSD III tab. Cover designs are due 09/01/19.
 - You can purchase current OSD II books from Randy. Buy a case and he will deliver.
3. **Convención Hispana Del Estado De Washington** – Heriberto
The convention went well. Next year the Hispanic Convention Committee would like to invite members of the Area Committee to participate on panels and workshops at the Convention. Artwork from the convention pamphlet was given to the Archives and the OSD III Committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion Topic 1: Ad hoc Committee Report followed by Discussion: Funding Service Workshops/Conferences for Area Appointed and Elected Trusted Servants. Benefits/Value to Area, Cost, Equitable, etc.

- How does this benefit the still suffering alcoholic?
 - All these workshops are about how to best reach the still suffering alcoholic.
- How did we go from the motion at the Assembly to send 2-4 Appointed Chairs to national workshops to sending all the Electeds to PRAASA? Scope is too big.
 - It would be 4 appointeds (for now) and 6 electeds.
- This should be a discussion topic.

- This should not be a motion. At the last Assembly the Treasurer was given discretion to do this without a need for a motion.
 - The treasurer needs direction from the body on new expenditures such as this. If we get approval on this, then the treasurer has the discretion to say we can afford to budget for it – or not.
- The information gained at these conventions will be reported at the Quarterlies/Assembly and be passed on to the next rotation.
- Right now, the Area can afford it.

From the discussion two motions were created and approved for the Assembly agenda:

1. We move that we fully fund all the elected officers to attend PRAASA annually. This motion is in addition to Motion 75.2, which funds the Delegate to attend PRAASA. The elected officers who attend PRAASA will provide detailed reports to the archives and to the area. The funding would be approved through the regular budgeting process which relies on available funding and approval at the January Quarterly by the body.

(To be included in background this does not include PNC and does not include striking the unallocated funds.)

2. We move that we fully fund Appointed Committee Chairs to attend national workshops/conferences that have G.S.O. participation and that supports their responsibilities to the area. This motion would replace motion 10.1 and 15.2. Appointed Committee Chairs that attend national workshops/conferences will provide detailed reports to their respective committees, to the archives, and to the area. The funding would be approved through the regular budgeting process which relies on available funding and approval at the January Quarterly by the body.

(To be included in background this excludes PRAASA and PNC).

Discussion Topic 2: Ad Hoc Committee Report followed by Discussion: Alternative methods of information distribution – i.e. printing for quarterlies/assemblies v. electronic options as well as mailing newsletter issues – how to best solve?

Newsletter – How to distribute

- Online distribution of the Newsletter is great!
- The Newsletter states right on the front that it is the “Group’s Copy” how would you share it with the group if it is electronic. Not everyone is on email etc.
- I bring a stack of Newsletters to my District. Only 4 are taken. They don’t read it.
- Why not allow GSRs to opt-in to electronic or hardcopy. Whichever they wish?



- District 21 waits for their hardcopy Newsletters and they read them! We are rural and do not always have internet access.
- Someday there will be no more print. It will be all electronic. We should move in that direction.
- The printed Newsletter serves a legal purpose. It is a record of our Area.
- Is this the right format? Are people excited to read the Newsletter monthly? Or to write for the Newsletter?
- What are other Areas doing?
- I never cared about the Newsletter for the first 10 years of my sobriety. Now I care and I'm glad it is still here.

After much discussion, a discussion topic was created and approved for the Assembly agenda:

1. **Discussion Topic** on the format, content, and frequency of the Newsletter.

❖ **Go back to your Districts and ask what the value of the Newsletter is. Why aren't we using it? Why aren't we writing? What do we want? How often do we want it?**

Area Name – take out Alcoholics Anonymous

- Go ahead and change it, my district does not care or want to talk about it anymore.
- If it allows us to save \$300 a month in shipping the Newsletter then do it.
- No! We are Alcoholics Anonymous. It's who we are.
- When the Spanish speakers get sober they feel that they have been reborn. If we take away our name, we are taking away our reborn identity.
- What if we put the Newsletter in an envelope? How much would that cost?
- What if we used first name and last initial on the bulk mailing?
- Trusted servants are named on the tax return which is viewable by anyone.
 - Being on the tax return does not imply that you are an alcoholic.
- From "The AA Group" pamphlet pg. 8: "We do not put "A.A." on envelopes sent through the mail, not even on correspondence directed to A.A. entities."

After much discussion, this motion was approved for the Assembly agenda:

Motion: We move to change our name to Western Washington Area.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion: Area 72 create an appointed Young People's Chair Position. The Committee chair will be selected using the established process for appointed officers. The committee shall function like other standing committees at the Area level.

- Approved to move to the Assembly agenda with no further discussion.

1. Discussion Topic: How can our Area improve communication and information sharing with each other, with professionals and with still suffering alcoholics?

- I think we're reaching the professionals with the AA LinkedIn page.
- There's an App called "Group" that's a chat app, or chain email, or some kind of electronic bulletin board – for sharing with each other.
- For PRAASA it can be hard to communicate with each other in real time. Maybe email? A PRAASA distribution list? Or something of the like.
- Email subscription system outside of the Area system that any alcoholic could subscribe to. There could be different topics and information sent out.
- Communication and unity is what holds us together as a whole. I hope something comes of this discussion.
- Open up the Area Website to comments and discussion – with a commentator.
- One way to reach professionals is to get in touch with associations they belong to.
- Most of the issues we deal with are communication issues. How do we in our particular roles (DCMs, GSRs, Electeds, Appointed) communicate better with each other? Are we sharing information? Are we responding to one another? GSRs are saying that DCMs aren't giving them the information. DCMs are saying that GSRs aren't reading the information they get.
- How do we communicate effectively with professionals? Are we using too much AA jargon?

❖ **This is an excellent topic to take back and discuss with the GSRs to improve communication in your District.**

