

Service Board Meeting Minutes - Mon., August 26, 2024

Next Service Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 24, 2024

aaneworleans.org | office@aaneworleans.org | Central Office, 638 Papworth Ave, Ste A, Metairie, LA 70002

Service Board Email: gnoserviceboard@gmail.com

In Attendance: Estimated 20 total attendance

3 Trustees; 3 Committee Chairs; 1 Central Office Manager; 7 Service Board Reps/GSRs; 6 Visiting Members

Chairperson: Andrea Halstead | Co-Chair: Jim Newton | Treasurer: Alyson "Sunny" Taylor

Welcome: Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Andrea H. (Chairperson); Started with Serenity Prayer
MInutes from last meeting reviewed and approved with substantial unanimity (one abstention)

Officer Reports

Treasurer: Sunny T.

- Balance Sheet July 2024 Total Checking/Savings appeared to have a \$21,000 difference compared to prior year. This was because there was a Big Deep South PayPal account with funds from 2024 that had not been transferred to Big Deep South's bank account. Those funds were transferred as of August 19, 2024 and remain in the BDS bank account.
- Central Office also covers some operating costs for Big Deep South; we would like these expenses to be the responsibility of Big Deep South's own bank account, as no contribution has yet been made from the 2023 or 2024 events to Central Office to cover these ongoing expenses.
- Treasurers report accepted with substantial unanimity; No absentions or nays

Secretary: Position currently open. 2 years sobriety recommended to serve.

- Previous and current minutes taken by Colyn N., an Assistant Manager at Central Office, pending the election of an official Board Secretary, but is unable to stand for the position officially as a Central Office employee.

Central Office Report: Carolyn H.

- Full report available on website
- Digital pamphlets are now available - PDFs available for download and printing on website, and limited printed copies available at the office; Printing costs are still in discussion
- Printed Meeting List (for Newcomer packets, T&C service work, etc.) has been updated by day of week for user-friendliness; PDF available on website, printed copies at office
- Request ongoing collaboration and cooperation with regional fellowship about meeting updates, particularly date/time/location changes and when meetings are no longer active
- Increasing outreach to and communication with District meetings
- Attended Intergroup/Central Office (ICOAA) annual convention and brought back many ideas for resources, products, services, policies, etc. to improve the office and its effectiveness and efficiency in carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers

Committee Chair Reports

Big Deep South: Mike A.

- Bobby A. is Hilton liaison - made first \$2,500 deposit to Hilton and has contract signed; good team there
- Next BDSC planning meeting is first Wed., Sept. 4, 2024; want to start filling chair positions now

Mike A. makes motion to transfer \$20,000 from Big Deep South bank account to Central Office

- Mike A. says BDSC has the money in the bank, and he feels he has the seed money he needs for 2025

- Carolyn H.: Central Office welcomes a contribution from Big Deep South, though the issue here goes beyond money/contributions; more needs to be done to address the underlying issue of lack of communication and BDSC financial reporting to the Service Board.
- Group Discussion: Before money starts getting moved, we need an accounting of Big Deep South 2023 and 2024 events. Previous treasurers and chairpersons have neglected their financial reporting commitments, and the Service Board needs to know how much money the conventions made or lost to provide accurate financial reports to the IRS and to avoid the need to approach law enforcement.
- Motion is tabled: one opposed, passes with substantial unanimity.

Motion to create an ad hoc Service Board committee to review financials and establish financial reporting guidelines for the Big Deep South Convention; Motion passes with substantial unanimity (no opposed or abstained)

Website: Tourne T.

- Working on building a new website, including e-commerce and accessibility
- Are vetting new possibilities for when our contract with GoDaddy ends in 2025

Hotline: Will H. (absent)

- Report read by Carolyn H.: Will H. is updating 12 step call list
- Some issues for volunteers trying to change call-forwarding number for their shifts: They can call or text customer support or contact Central Office ahead of time with enough notice for Carolyn or customer service representative to preprogram an override for that shift

DAAY in the Park: Kyle N.

- Last year was biggest year to date, though ran out of drinks two hours before end of event
- Asking for budget increase to \$3,500 to cover rising food and drink costs and other expenses
- Sunny T. makes a motion to increase budget to \$4,000; Motion passes with substantial unanimity (no opposed or abstaining)

T&C: Scott B. (absent)

- Report read by Brandy J.: New T&C script is great; New T&C flyer available for big book donations
- Scott has a contact form for those who are available to be speakers for T&C commitments

New Business

Pink Cans: Laura R.

- Hoping to build this out so that T&C has a treasurer that collects all the pink can money and then determines which underfunded (nonprofit) institutions; money from pink cans would return to T&C
- Motion for Central Office to purchase pink cans to be sold at the office; Motion passes with substantial unanimity (1 against, 3 abstain); Minority opinion: is against tradition, endorsing an outside enterprise (discussion did not lead to motion for a revote)
- Central Office offers to create and print a Pink Can label to affix to coffee cans as an additional option

Office Building & Parking: Andrea H. & Carolyn H.

- Our building is being rented out and new tenant will be having evening church services; parking will be limited on Tuesdays and Thursdays and may affect future evening meetings held at Central Office

Zoom Access for Service Board Meetings: Andrea H. & Carolyn H.

- We are looking into investing in equipment to improve Zoom accessibility for Service Board and other meetings held at Central Office; will ask Area 27 Tech Committee for their recommendations

Meeting closed at 7:50pm with "we" version of Serenity Prayer.