

## Central Michigan Intra-Area 32 Digital Assembly Minutes from December 5, 2020

**2020 Schedule:** February 2: District 10, Perry Township Hall; April: CANCELLED, June: ZOOM; August: ZOOM, October: District 22; December 5: ZOOM. **First 2 meetings in 2021 February and April will be held by ZOOM ONLY.**

**CHAIR: Jon S. (District 4),** [chair@cmia32.org](mailto:chair@cmia32.org) Jon opened the morning session at 9:33 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer. He detailed the locations of meeting groups and functions and pointed out that there is a second code for the Finance committee meeting. He indicated that if there are enough members for the Delegate's Past and Present meeting. Jon asked for questions and Lori thanked Alvin for helping with all the Zoom intricacies. Jon opened the meeting for Group Concerns.

Lori C. Delegate has an Area issue, not really a group concern. She said that with the pandemic raging as it is and being in touch with AA, they are not planning to hold anything in person until July 2021. Lori asked us as an area to think about our 2021 schedule and what we may want to do to keep people safe. She also stated that people are feeling left out if they cannot participate virtually, so that is a consideration as well. Jon asked for comments. Ted S. stated that sometimes people without access can get together with a person who does have access. This has worked for their District. Alvin asked whether they have all the options for connecting explained to them. Lori stated that these are people who want to meet in person. Jon S stated that District 4 has decided that they will meet virtually only until further notice. Mark M. stated that regarding thinking of locations for February and April, and this is dependent on what is happening publicly. Until enough people are inoculated, we should look to June as being the first in person meetings and whether we want to decide this afternoon by vote whether to keep the first two meetings virtual. Alvin mentioned that a preference vs. an actual obstacle, the travel is an obstacle for certain people. Now there are less obstacles than meeting in person and this seems more of a preference that people choose not to meet on Zoom. Jon stated that this should be a motion and put before the General Assembly and giving everybody some time to think about all the points surrounding the accessibility issue. Jon asked for other concerns. There were none. Group concerns was closed, and Jon stated that he will type in the chat box the code to get in the Finance Committee and DCM room.

**Afternoon General Assembly was called to order** at 12:15 pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Motion to accept the agenda. Agenda was accepted.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT: Stephanie G., (District 18)** [secretary@cmia32.org](mailto:secretary@cmia32.org); The secretary estimated attendees at attendees.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Kelly D., (District 20)** [treasurer@cmia32.org](mailto:treasurer@cmia32.org) Tracey G. read the Treasurer's report. See report. Motion to approve accepted and approved.

**ALT. TREASURER: Janell W. District 20 Absent**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Tracey G., (District 20):** [finance@cmia32.org](mailto:finance@cmia32.org) Jon asked for questions about the finance committee report. Tracey stated that the finance worksheet hinges upon statements being submitted from various treasuries. These have been very lax in asking and accepting reports at the finance committee meeting. Tracey recommended that in order to be transparent, going forward these reports need to be submitted so they can be incorporated into the minutes and record for the meeting. Motion to accept report asked and approved.

**REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Kamesha M., (District 12),** [registrar@cmia32.org](mailto:registrar@cmia32.org), **Absent.** Lori C. gave an update. The my portal is still not up. GSO suggested that each Area elect an Alternate Registrar in addition to the Registrar position. John B. mentioned that he saw that my portal will be launched December 15<sup>th</sup>. Lori stated that that date may be pushed back. John said that his district will be holding elections and wondered who to send group changes to. Lori stated that whoever is elected today should be able to assist with these changes.

### **Group and District Announcements:**

12:28 PM Jon asked for Announcements. Someone requested the date of a virtual service speaker meeting on Friday nights at 7 PM, zoom # 460 390 181. Flyer on [http://www.dist26aa.org/NEW\\_LIFE\\_AA.pdf](http://www.dist26aa.org/NEW_LIFE_AA.pdf)

**DELEGATE'S REPORT: Lori C. (District 2).** Panel 69, Area 32 [delegate@cmia32.org](mailto:delegate@cmia32.org) See attached report. Lori thanked the body for the opportunity through this most unusual year.

**ALT. DELEGATE: Don M. (District 2)** Panel 69, Area 32 [altdelegate@cmia32.org](mailto:altdelegate@cmia32.org); Discussed Traditions and Concepts 11 and 12. Discussion on Zoom meeting pros and cons. Thanked the body for the opportunity to serve and to continue service.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**LITERATURE REPORT:** Mike K., (District 2) [literature@cmia32.org](mailto:literature@cmia32.org): no report.

**ARCHIVIST:** Jim D. (District 6) Absent.

**ARCHIVES COMMITTEE:** Mark M. (District 4) [markmocer@comcast.net](mailto:markmocer@comcast.net). Report attached

**CORRECTIONS:** Keith S. [gizmotry@yahoo.com](mailto:gizmotry@yahoo.com) - Not much activity at the county or state levels. Inability to get literature into institutions. Last, there have been zero pre-release requests after February and only 2 in the entire calendar year. Treasury remains unchanged.

**COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY:** Don W., District 12 None

**FORUM:** Tom R. (District 2) None

**GRAPEVINE:** Kate L., [page88line8@gmail.com](mailto:page88line8@gmail.com) (District 2) Kate stated that the grapevine website is a great place to get involved. Also, the literature is available there.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION:** Currently open.

**ACCESSIBILITIES:** [specialneeds@cmia32.org](mailto:specialneeds@cmia32.org) (Carol) None

**TREATMENT FACILITIES:** Stanley P. (District 12) None

**INTERGROUP LIAISON:** Kirk F. (District 4) [saltcity@comcast.net](mailto:saltcity@comcast.net) None

**WEBSITE:** Jamie P., (District 22), [jamie.payne@michiganpipe.com](mailto:jamie.payne@michiganpipe.com) None

**YPAA:** Evan M. (District 4) [mckay1er@cmich.edu](mailto:mckay1er@cmich.edu) None

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Jon stated that he does not have any old business to discuss. Asked for input from the group. There was none.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Jon stated that he would start with open positions. For the 2021 / 2022

Starting at the top: Nominations for Chair. Asked for other nominations. Ted nominated Keith S. Keith declined the nomination. Mark nominated Lori C. it is a tradition in many areas that the outgoing delegate serves as chair. Lori stated that she will serve in any capacity needed for the area even though it has not been the practice in our area. Jon stated that there is also a precedent that there NOT be a progression from chair to Delegate to Chair. Tracey mentioned that Lori is already nominated for Registrar.

Jon stated that our current voting body includes past delegates, current delegates, GSR's, and all positions held at Area level. The simple majority method will be used per the handbook. Jon won by majority.

Alternated Chair. Evan was nominated. He declined. Jon asked for nominations for Alternate Chair. Lori C. nominated Stephanie. Stephanie declined. Jon S nominated John B and he accepted the nomination. John B was elected as alternate chair.

Secretary nomination was Keith S. Keith declined the nomination. He nominated Lori S. This nomination will be revisited. Ted S nominated James Parks. James accepted the nomination. Lori nominated Kim D. from District 10. Kim D. declined the nomination. James Parks was nominated by acclamation.

Alternate Secretary: Russ W. was nominated and accepted the nomination and was elected by acclamation.

Treasurer: Sherri L. was nominated; Ted moved that Sherri be appointed by acclamation. Voted and approved.

Alternate Treasurer: Kelli D. was nominated in absentia. Tracey stated that Kelli is not interested. Tracey stated that she would self-nominate and back up Sherri. Jon asked for other nominations. Sherri moved that Tracey be elected by acclamation. Voted and approved.

Two positions open for Finance Committee: Russ W. and Jamie P. have both been nominated and accepted the position. Tracey stated that Finance committee will need one more member since Sherri was already a member of the Finance Committee and will now be part of it as Treasurer. Jon asked for other nominations for full term Finance committee members. None given. Russ W and Jamie P were nominated by acclamation.

Jon asked for nominations for a one-year term on the Finance Committee. Don M. nominated Kate L. She declined. Keith S. self-nominated for the finance committee. Elected by acclamation.

Registrar: Lori C. is nominated and stated that Ted S. is also interested in that position. Don M. nominated Ted S. Ted accepted and asked Lori to be his assistant. Jon stated that Ted could form a committee and appoint Lori to that Registrar's committee. Ted S. elected by acclamation.

Archivist: Jim D. will continue as Archivist

Archives: Jon asked for nominations to the committee. Mark M. nominated Kirk F. and Kirk declined. Mark nominated Dennis S. Dennis declined. Jon asked for other nominations and tabled this election to allow Mark to find a suitable replacement. Sherri asked that everyone go back to their Districts to find a suitable person. John B. stated that if the committee meets several times perhaps a Chairperson will emerge as has happened in the past.

Corrections Committee Chair: Keith S. does not have a recommendation for Corrections Chair. Jon asked for nominations. None identified. Lori C. asked Tracey G. Tracey declined. Position tabled for candidate search by District. Keith S. nominated Stephanie. She declined. John B. was nominated. He declined and made a motion to table the discussion and hopefully the service committee can find a chair from within the committee in the future. Motion approved to continue search from within.

CPC- Jon asked for nominations for committee chair position. None. Sherri asked whether if there is no candidate identified, does the current chairperson carry on? Don B. is willing to serve on a meeting-to-meeting basis in hopes of identifying someone from within. Jon B. stated Don B. is granted a continuation as CPC Chair.

Lori C suggested procedurally that because of lack of interest in committee chair positions, perhaps asking for interest in Chair Positions be implemented instead of nominations.

Forum: Kate L. expressed interest in Forum unless someone else is interested. Jon stated that he has interest in the position based on the materials provided to him by Tom. John Bee asked whether Forum has been determined to be Zoom or in person. He asked that we ask for e mail addresses at each meeting to win scholarship spots. Mark M. stated that the funds are there, but we should wait until the Delegate received information regarding Forum. Jon stated that the Forum position and coordinating either live or virtual attendance would be necessary. Dennis S. stated that the 2021 Forum will be virtual and the next in person Forum will be in person in 2023. Jon Bee agreed with Jon S. regarding the need for this position. Jon S. self-nominated for the Forum position and Kate L. rescinded her interest. Jon S. was elected by acclamation.

Grapevine: Jon asked Kate L. for a nominee. Kate said she will continue to identify a person. No other nominees were nominated. Sherri asked Dan Hawkins and he respectfully declined. Jon asked for self-nominations. Molly stated that she is willing, but she does not drive far. Kurt volunteered to take her with him. Molly asked a question about CPC and how the outreach is performed. Jon asked for other GV nominations and Molly L. was nominated by acclamation.

Accessibilities: Jon asked for self-nominations. None. Don nominated Lori C. Lori C. stated that there are other committees with representation required at the statewide level and if she is looking at chairing a committee, she would direct her service there. She self-nominated for the Corrections Committee and was elected by acclamation. Jon S. asked for willingness to take over Accessibilities Chair. Jon B. stated that at Forum on Dec. 5 it was brought up that going forward after the pandemic it will be important to have a virtual component or access to meetings. Jon tabled the chair appointments.

Treatment Centers: Jon S. asked for self-nominations.

Jon skipped to Liaison Committee. Kirk said it was created in 2012 and it was attended well for the first couple of years but maybe we should consider dissolving this committee. He reached out to central offices and asked them to send representatives at the District level and from Huron Valley. This has not been successful. Jon asked for nominations and asked Kirk to make a motion. Kirk moved to dissolve the Intergoup Liaison Committee.

Website Committee: Jon asked Jamie Payne to give a synopsis on that the Website Committee Chair responsibilities are. Took over from Ted. Participation is very low, and they have not gotten much accomplished. There is a need for some reconstruction on the CMIA32 website. Getting help from Districts has been difficult.

Jon S. stated that we are also in need of a Webmaster. He asked whether there are any volunteers to combine both positions rolling into one position. Kate L. was nominated, accepted and was elected as Website Chair and Webmaster. Mark M. asked Kate L. whether she has knowledge of updating the current platform that the website resides on. She said that she will work with Dan H. to smoothly transfer the duties and work on the mobile aspects of the CMIA32 Area website.

Jon S. asked that anyone willing to Chair CPC, Treatment Centers, and Accessibilities. Keith self-nominated for CPC and was elected by acclamation. Don W. self-nominated for Accessibilities and was elected by acclamation. Lori stated that at the General Service Conference they combine Treatment Centers and Accessibilities as one committee. Don W. was asked whether he is OK with merging them together. He stated that he would like to speak with Lori C. about this further, but he is willing to accept the merging of these committees. Motion was made to merge the committees. Seconded, voted and motion was carried to merge Accessibilities and Treatment Centers.

John B. suggested that this body look at more ways to disperse information electronically especially considering the lack of interest in the Committee elections. We need to look at ways to attract people to service and electronic means may mean that we can strengthen the unity of the group as it is becoming increasingly fractured. This sentiment was echoed on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the virtual Forum meeting.

YPPAA: Tabled at this time.

New Business:

Lori asked that each person that was newly elected e mail her and she will send you a form so that you can fill out the form with your contact information, (full name and address including zip code, phone numbers, and e mail to go back to NY for their records). Keith asked Lori about switching contact information to keep receiving information. Lori said she would work with him to get the information.

Lori made a motion to make the February and April 2021 CMIA 32 meetings be held virtually. Seconded, voted, and unanimously carried.

Other New Business:

None.

Ted and Lori thanked everyone for their service and willingness to serve in the future during this difficult time.

**Motion to Close. Seconded and approved.**

**Meeting closed at 2:17 PM with the Responsibility Pledge recited by the group.**

## **Delegates Report**

**Lori C. Panel 69 Area 32**

**December 6, 2020**

**Zoom Meeting**

Well here we are at my last “official” Delegates Report of my service to Area 32. Wow, what blessings the two years of service to this Area has brought to me as well as some great lessons in humility especially in the year 2020. I will share more about this in a bit.

First, some business of Alcoholics Anonymous that needs to be shared. The General Service Board has concluded that the 71<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference will be conducted during the scheduled time of April 18-24, 2021 via remote technology. This will be the second General Service Conference in a row that has been held remotely but in light of the continued risk of COVID 19, the General Service Board decided that to hold it in person would put “Conference attendees at an unacceptable risk”.

Personnel changes continue to happen at the GSO. We had Voluntary Retirement Incentive Plan put in place and among these changes came a change to our Chief Financial Officer. Bob Slotterback has had some health issues that kept him from serving during the 70<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference so he took the retirement package that had been offered. Pat Konigstein is the new CFO and has an extensive financial background with a focus on non-profit organizations. Bob W. will continue to serve as his Assistant or Advisor. The change in CFO’s has kept the reforecasts, chart of accounts, and updates to office policies and procedures moving “forward seamlessly”.

A second authorization of drawdown from the Reserve Fund was for \$1.5 million, but so far AAWS has seen a need to withdraw \$1 million with the option to draw the other half million if needed. Our Prudent Reserve continues to sit at the level of 7.67 months currently.

The Insurance settlement on the International Convention loss will go far to cover our continuing expenses and AAWS feels that they will be able to repay the total drawdown in the next few years.

Gross Literature sales revenue at the end of September (the latest numbers that have been shared with Delegates) has generated 73% of the expected amount. “Since literature sales tend to peak in December, we appear to be on track to meet or exceed the reforecast”. On a good note, the “Big Book Summer Special Offer” resulted in \$2,088, 227 in gross sales.

Individual and Group contributions is at 73% of the expected amount at the end of September and again “since contributions tend to peak in October and December, we appear to be on track to meet or exceed the reforecast”.

The AA Grapevine is experiencing some challenges during this time. The cumulative effect of COVID-19 on book sales, not being able to sell books, materials and subscriptions at the 2020 International Convention and the decline of the La Vina subscriptions (due to the cancellation of some large-scale Spanish events) has brought some financial hardship. “As a result of the decline in income, the Grapevine Board has withdrawn approximately \$250,000 from the Subscription Liability Fund. Basically, they are giving an advance to themselves”.

Due to the retirement incentive plan that was offered, 20 employees took advantage of the opportunity to retire from the GSO. However, the office continues to function on an entirely remote level with an expected return to location on December 15, 2020 for some but not all the staff. The 8<sup>th</sup> floor renovation has been completed and has relocated Archival materials to this location. They were moved from a more expensive storage facility and the staff will now have more workspace to properly sort through the Archival materials. As a result, warehousing costs have lessened.

Gregg T. our The General Manager for the last five years is expected to leave the General Service Office on February 1, 2021. The GSO is searching for a replacement. Also, at the next General Service Conference, many of the Trustees and Board members will be replaced due to length of service commitments. There will be eight Trustees rotating after the 2021 Conference. Among these include our East Central Regional Trustee Mark E. and our Chairman of the Board Michelle G. I know they have done great work and I surely appreciate all the help and experience they have brought to the General Service Board and for me personally. Linda C will be presented to the General Service Conference as the Nominating Committees selection for Board Chair. Two more Class A Trustees will also rotate at the 71<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference.

Now on to my moments of reflection. What a year 2020 has been. Looking forward to going back to New York to serve our Area at the General Service Conference and then to be seated Delegate at the 2020 International Convention in Detroit (which I had planned on attending since it was first announce in 2008 that it was going to be held in Detroit) were just some of the items I missed. Traveling to the different districts throughout our Area and sharing my Delegates Report from the General Service Conference, seeing all of you face to face at bi-monthly Area meetings, sharing thoughts, ideas, concerns, meals and especially hugs gone from this year. Learning how to use a virtual platform especially for the General Service Conference but even prior to this event for meetings with DCM's on how we should continue to carry the message to alcoholics when the entire state was closed down for face to face meetings. How we should continue to follow the guidelines set down by our Traditions and still serve our fellowship, how to hold an Area Assembly strictly via a virtual platform and still serve our Area. How to vote using a poll on Zoom, how to navigate a Hybrid meeting in the outdoors and cold with virtually no internet connection using hotspots. The list goes on.

I have had many blessings as well. I have learned of a lot of service opportunities throughout the Country and attended many as well from the comfort of my own home. We had more meetings with our Delegates in the East Central Region than ever due to the convenience of Zoom. I have developed a closer relationship with many of these Delegates and our East Central Regional Trustee as result. I have learned to communicate more effectively and in a timely manner via emails because of these increased communications from AA as a whole concerning the fast, changing environment in our fellowship due to the pandemic.

Overall, it has been two years of feeling blessed and humbled and ever so grateful to be elected to serve all of you as your Panel 69; Area 32 Delegate. I pray that I have served you well.

In Love and Service,

Lori C.

Panel 69; Area 32 Delegate

CENTRAL MICHIGAN INTRA\_AREA  
TREASURERS REPORT  
NOVEMBER 2020 - DECEMBER 2020

**STARTING BANK BALANCE:** **\$7,734.77**

FORUM ACCOUNT BALANCE \$1,750.00  
ECRC CONFERENCE BALANCE \$750.00

**ADJUSTED CHECKING BALANCE:** **\$5,234.77**

**INCOME:**  
7TH TRADITION \$41.00  
GSO COFFEE POT \$33.00  
GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS \$2,010.76

**INCOME TOTAL** **\$2,084.76**

**ADJUSTED CHECKING BALANCE** **\$7,319.53**

**EXPENSES:**

DATE:	CHECK#	TOTAL	
TO: 10/4/2020 - Don Mc	2479	\$500.00	
10/4/2020 Lori C	2481 Delegate Expense Reimbursement	\$187.89	
10/4/2020 James D	2482 Non-Profit Annual Fee	\$20.00	
11/16/2020 United States Post Office	2483 2 books of stamps for receipt Ltr	\$22.00	
11/16/2020 Cartridge World	2484 1 black ink cartridge	\$23.32	
*10/4/2020 CMIA 32 Grapevine Kits	2480	\$100.00	<b>GV.KITS</b>
*12/5/2020 Kelly D	2485 10/20 Deposit Envelope	\$7.75	
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES:</u></b>		<b><u>\$860.96</u></b>	

\*Check Not Paid Yet

**TOTAL AVAILABLE CHECKING BALANCE:** **\$6,458.57**

**FORUM FUND:** **\$1,750.00** ON HOLD UNTIL F.N.

**ECRC FUND:** **\$750.00** MARKET

**SOLVENT TREASURY:** **\$3,000.00**

**AREA 32 GENERAL FUND** **\$11,958.57**

# CMIA 32<sup>h</sup>

## Finance Committee Worksheet

Today's Date 12/6/20

Meeting Place: ZOOM

District: \_\_\_\_\_

**Finance Committee Members Present**

Tracy G  At Large [thru 2017]    Lori C  Delegate, Panel 66, Area 32  
 Mark M  At Large [thru 2017]    Kelly D  Area Treasurer  
 Sheri L  At Large [thru 2018]    Kamesha  Area DCM Treasurer  
 Steph G  At Large [thru 2018]

Fin. Comm. Reviewed Area Treasurer's Last Bank statement  
 Fin. Comm. Reviewed Area Literature's Last Bank statement  
 Fin. Comm. Reviewed DCM Treasurer's Last Bank statement  
 Fin. Comm. Reviewed Solvent Treasurer's Last Bank statement

Standard Monthly Expenses	
DCM Committee	<del>37,000.00</del> NO
Secretary	_____
Treasurer	_____
Chair	_____
Registrar	_____
Forum Fund	<del>5200.00</del> NO
ECR Conf	<del>4200.00</del> MAXED
Payback Prudent Reserve	<del>5500.00</del> \$25
Host Expense	<del>5700.00</del>
<b>Total:</b>	_____

*2,475<sup>00</sup>  
5 x 5<sup>00</sup> SEC charges*

Beginning Available Checking Balance 6458.57

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
 The Finance Committee reviews all requests for money from the Officers and Committee Chairpersons of Intra-Area. This group makes recommendations to the GSR body for approval or denial of all requests. This Committee also monitors Intra-Area expenditures and income to ensure a solvent treasury is maintained

Committee Reimbursements	
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
<b>Total:</b>	_____

Every Committee Chair has the automatic approval to receive fifty dollars (\$50.00) seed money each assembly.

Officer Fuel Reimbursement @ \$0.20 per mile	
Chair	_____
Registrar	_____
Treasurer	_____
Secretary	_____
<b>Total:</b>	_____

- 1 Literature
- 2 Treatment Facilities
- 3 Archives
- 4 Special Needs
- 5 Corrections
- 6 Grapevine
- 7 Cooperation with the Professional Committee
- 8 Public Information
- 9 Forum
- 10 Website
- 11 Registrar
- 12 GSR Meeting, Alt Delegate
- 13 Finance
- 14 Liaison
- 15 Host (Potential \$700.00 +/- Bi-Monthly = \$4,200 Per Year)

Committee Requests: [Requires Approval of the Area Assembly]	
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
<b>Total:</b>	_____

**Total Expenses:** 25

**Beginning Balance:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ending Balance:** 6433.57