

District 20 Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Date: June 30th, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:13 PM ET

Location: Zoom Online

1. Opening & Welcome

- **Call to Order:** DCM Julia H. called the meeting to order.
- **Opening Devotionals:** The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer.
- **Meeting Format:** The district reviewed the virtual meeting guidelines and welcomed all voting and non-voting members in attendance.

2. Officer Reports

- **DCM Report (Julia H.):** Julia welcomed everyone and reminded the committee chairs and GSRs to keep their contact information updated. She encouraged members to visit different online meetings to build connections and help "dark" meetings find representation.
- **Alternate DCM Report (Darrell A.):** Darrell thanked the district for their support during the May Assembly and noted that he was ready to assist with any district needs.
- **Secretary Report (Jenny):** The minutes from the previous meeting were presented. They were approved as distributed.
- **Treasurer Report (Julie J.):** Julie presented the financial reconciliation and current balances. The district remains in a stable financial position, on track with the approved 2026 budget.

3. GSR Group Reports

- **This is Just for Today (Jenny):** Jenny noted that the group went international with the transition to Zoom during the pandemic. They feature a changing format each Saturday and hold a business meeting every three months. They recently filled all open service positions. Jenny will rotate out of her two-year commitment as GSR in September but will remain active as District Secretary. She emphasized the importance of stepping down so others have the opportunity to step into service. The group is doing well with about 30 regular weekly attendees, bringing in newcomers and providing opportunities for sponsorship. Meets Saturdays at 12:30 PM ET.
- **Rainbow Recovery (Deandra):** Meets seven days a week at 8:30 PM ET, featuring daily reflections, Big Book, 12 & 12, Saturday topic/discussion, Friday meditation, and bi-weekly speaker meetings. This past Saturday, they combined their business meeting, anniversary meeting, and elections. They elected a new alternate GSR and filled several other open positions. The group is a closed meeting averaging 20 attendees daily. Deandra also shared that DCM Julia celebrated her 26th AA anniversary with the group this month.
- **This is It (Diane Green):** Diane was welcomed as the GSR for this newly added women's group. The group meets once a week and originally started in March 2020, transitioning from an in-person suburban fellowship club online due to pandemic lockdowns. Diane previously served as the group's treasurer for over two years. She plans to share information about other district meetings with her group and confirmed they will be setting up their financial contributions.
- **Borderline Big Book (Theresa P. & Malcolm):** Welcomed as visitors/GSRs to District 20. Julia added their names and group to the district list.

4. Committee Reports

- **Accessibility:** Erika was not present; no report.
- **Corrections:** Felicity was not present; no report.
- **Finance Committee (Darrell A.):**
 - *Meetings:* The committee meets on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM ET on Zoom.
 - *Budget & Reconciliation:* Darrell and Treasurer Julie J. met on Thursday, June 11th. The district is on track with all necessary funds to meet the approved 2026 budget, carrying an excess of \$20.30 at the end of the current cycle.
 - *2027 Budget:* A working document is underway. All district officers and committee chairs are requested to submit their 2027 budget needs to Darrell or Julie, or attend an upcoming meeting to discuss them. The goal is to have the new budget voted on by November 2026.
 - *Prudent Reserve:* The committee is evaluating whether the current \$350 prudent reserve is sufficient and will likely bring a formal motion to the district in the future to allow for a full group conscience.
 - *Next Meeting:* Scheduled for July 9th at 7:30 PM ET.
 - *GSO Contribution Issue:* Darrell reported that AA World Services (AAWS) is currently not accepting seventh tradition contributions sent through Home Group Online (HGO). This was confirmed by the Area 48 Delegate and the Northeast Regional Trustee. No official explanation has been provided by GSO. Darrell contacted the GSO self-support desk but received a vague response; he has sent a follow-up inquiry asking directly if GSO will cash physical checks issued by HGO.
 - *HGO Discussion & Workarounds:*
 - Deandra asked if the committee needs help; Darrell welcomed her to join their meetings.
 - Julia asked about workarounds for groups. Darrell noted that HGO suggests treasurers write a check from their personal accounts, or make direct contributions using personal PayPal or credit cards.
 - Lizzie C. (aaHG GSR, non-voting) shared that members can make direct online contributions on the AAWS website under "self-supporting" by inputting their group number.
 - Kathy P. (Our Common Welfare) noted her group successfully made contributions via HGO earlier this year, indicating this non-acceptance policy is a recent change.
 - Marcy T. (Alt Records) advised that groups experiencing trouble finding their GSO group numbers should contact Records Keeper Ted W. or herself. Some newer groups do not have their numbers yet, but they are working to secure them.
 - Treasurer Julie J. noted she has been tracking this issue since April 13th and has reached out directly to Aaron at HGO; the situation is currently "wait and see".

- **Grapevine & Literature (Nancy P.):**

- *Literature Study:* The district held its first literature study meeting with 11 attendees. They began reading the pamphlet *The AA Group: Where It All Begins* and had a highly engaging discussion. The study will continue on July 8th at 7:00 PM ET using the district Zoom credentials.
- *Grapevine Events & Subscriptions:* Grapevine holds an open meeting every Wednesday at noon ET for all AA members. A free one-month digital Grapevine subscription is currently available online.
- *WhatsApp Channel:* Grapevine/La Viña is now offering a WhatsApp channel; contact Nancy for more information.
- *Trivia:* Grapevine recently celebrated its 82nd anniversary, having been founded during World War II by New York members to help isolated groups stay connected.
- *Discussion:*
 - Jeff (visitor, AA Home Group) offered to email Nancy a document listing "12 reasons why an online group should have its own Grapevine representative" to share with local groups.
 - Marcy T. (Alt Records) shared that Area 48 hosts a "Grapevine Story Hour" on the second Tuesday of each month. It is a highly engaging and intimate meeting where published authors and members read stories followed by discussion. Meeting info is available on the NENI AA website. Julia confirmed this event is also listed on the District 20 website Google Calendar with the Zoom link.

5. Liaison & Webmaster Reports

- **Webmaster Report (Gail - Submitted via Email):**

- *Updates:* Updated the "What's Happening" section on the district homepage.
- *Finance Pages:* Updated the meeting details for the Finance Committee as requested by the committee chair, and updated the link on the Committees page to point directly to the Finance Committee's home page.
- *Calendar:* Met with the DCM and Alt DCM to update the District Calendar located on the main menu.
- *Area Requests:* Sent a fourth request to the Area Webmaster to update the District Events page with the new District 20 meeting flyer.
- *Outreach:* Sent an email to the OIAA Communications Chair, Carol G., inviting her or a member of her committee to attend monthly District 20 meetings to inform GSRs of OIAA services and events.

- **Getting to Action (GIA) Liaison (Jeff Z.):**

- *Surveys:* Two surveys have been distributed, which Julie J. should have received. One covers a proposed fall agenda item regarding the rewriting of the AA group pamphlet (*The AA Group: Where It All Begins*, P-16) to officially incorporate and address online groups.
- *Upcoming Workshop:* The second survey concerns an upcoming district workshop. The committee is currently seeking topic ideas and member participation.
- *Follow-up:* DCM Julia H. will look for the survey materials and forward them to Secretary Jenny to include with the final minutes.

6. Old & Ongoing Business

- **Elections for Vacant Positions (Alternate Treasurer):**
 - The district's vacant positions were reviewed: Alternate Treasurer, Inclusivity, Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC), and Alternate Tech.
 - Hannah D. (GSR, Peacemakers) volunteered for the Alternate Treasurer position.
 - **Motion to elect Hannah D. as Alternate Treasurer:**
 - *Made by:* Hannah D. (self-nomination)
 - *Seconded by:* Darrell A.
 - *Vote Count:* YES 10; passed unanimously with no opposition.
 - Hannah will reach out to the Area Tech officer to set up her district email account and will work with Julie J. to write a formal job description for the role.
- **NENYAA Email Access:** Committee chairs who still cannot access their official @nenyaa.org email addresses are requested to contact the district officers so requests can be sent to the Area Tech team.
- **Online Meeting Challenge Update:** Julia asked if any members had accepted her challenge to visit a new online meeting:
 - Hannah D. visited two meetings. She attended Katelyn's group (*One Day at a Time*), enjoying their large group format and music, and also spoke at a smaller meeting.
 - Marcy T. (Alt Records) shared that she regularly uses Zoom to travel to diverse international meetings, finding it a great way to experience how different groups operate globally.
 - Jeff Z. (aaHG, non-voting) reminded the district that *AA Home Group* runs meetings 24/7, holding 22 meetings a day, including speaker, Big Book, tradition, and late-night Grapevine meetings. Lizzie C. posted the group's Zoom information in the chat.
- **Website Meeting Directory:** In response to a question from Deandra, Julia confirmed that District 20's active online meetings are listed on the district website. Clicking "Meetings" filters the Area 48 Meeting Guide specifically for District 20 groups. Julia encouraged members to keep visiting new meetings and to advocate for unrepresented or "dark" online groups to find a voice by joining an online district.

7. New Business

- **Motion to Establish a Guidelines Ad Hoc Committee:**
 - A motion was introduced to create an ad hoc committee to revise and update the current District 20 guidelines (last revised in May 2024, with treasury updates in January 2026). During the revision process, the ad hoc committee will also determine if future updates should be managed by their own standing committee or placed under an existing one. Lizzie C. raised the importance of discussing inclusive or "borderless" language regarding international participation during the revisions.
 - *Made by:* Darrell A.
 - *Seconded by:* Ted W.
 - *Vote Count:* YES 11; passed unanimously with no opposition.
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 - *Action:* Members interested in serving on this committee were asked to drop their names in the Zoom chat so Julia could coordinate a scheduling email.

- **Motion to Reimburse Darrell A. for May Assembly Expenses:**
 - A motion was raised to reimburse Darrell A. for the remaining balance of \$190 from his May Assembly expenses.
 - *Made by:* Hannah D.
 - *Seconded by:* Kathy P.
 - *Vote Count:* passed with no opposition (exact counts not recorded).

8. District Announcements

- **District 20 Service Support Hour:** Held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM ET using the standard district Zoom login. The next meeting is scheduled for **July 14th**. It is an informal, unstructured space for members to ask questions, seek guidance, or discuss their service roles.
- **District 20 Monthly Traditions Workshop:** Held the third Sunday of each month at 7:00 PM ET. The upcoming workshop in July will focus on **Tradition Seven**, featuring Julia's mother as the speaker.
- **GSR Forum:** Open to all AA members (GSR status not required) to learn about service. Held on the first Sunday of every month; meeting details can be found on the distributed agenda.
- **DCM Correspondence:** Members are reminded to CC Alt DCM Darrell A. on all emails sent to DCM Julia to ensure a timely response.

9. Treasurer's Supplemental Report & Adjournment

- **Late Contributions:** Treasurer Julie J. reported that the district's bank account received direct donations today from *Love and Tolerance* and *Global Eye Openers*. Confirmation emails will be sent out to the respective groups.
- **Adjournment:** A motion to close the meeting was introduced.
 - *Made by:* Julie J.
 - *Seconded by:* The body
 - *Vote Count:* Passed unanimously by voice vote.
 - The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:13 PM ET and concluded with the Responsibility Pledge.