

Alcoholics Anonymous Area E Committee
Minutes of Meeting: Friday 6th April 2018 @ 7:30 PM

Chair: David P

Attendance:

Note: Ensure we have the email for each member.

David P	Area Chair	Chatswood Sun AM	Present
Steve	Area Secretary (Acting)	RtR Kirribilli Fri PM	Apology
John B	Area Delegate	Seaforth Tue PM	Apology
Anna S	Area Alternate Delegate	Dee Why Thu PM	Present
Michael S	Area Treasurer	RtR North Syd Tue PM	Present
Rosemary	Area Group Liaison	RtR North Syd Tue PM	Present
Trevor	Area Webmaster	Lane Cove Mon PM	Present
	Area Public Information Coordinator		Vacant
	The Mixer Editor		Vacant
Mary H	GSR	RtR Kirribilli Fri PM	MIA
Michael B	GSR Alternate	RtR North Sydney Tue PM	Apology
John R	GSR	Royal North Shore Thu PM	Present
Garry T	GSR	Gordon Mon PM	Present
Pam W	GSR	Seaforth Tue PM	Present
Pam W	GSR	Collaroy	Present
Chris C	GSR	Dee Why B'Fast	Present
Chris C	GSR	Manly Sun AM	Present
Tina S	GSR	Mona Vale Sun AM	Apology
Peter	GSR	Wahroonga Sun AM	MIA
Bernie	Secretary	Wahroonga Sun AM	Present
Peter T	GSR	Long Reef Tue AM	Apology
Steve	GSR	Cremorne Mon PM	MIA
Jean J	GSR	Kirribilli Sat AM	MIA
Meg	GSR	Telopea Wed PM	Present
Linda	GSR	Cromer Fri PM	Present
Lee S		Dee Why Curl Curl Bfast	Present
Patrick C	GSR	North Curl Curl Sun 4pm	Present

Meeting Opened: 07:30pm

12 Traditions Read By: John R

Previous Minutes: Accepted

Action Items:

Note: A motion was carried in the November 2016 that if an action item is open for 4 months and not completed it can be automatically closed.

Action Item	Description	Owner	Due	Status
20180406.01	➤ All committee members and GSRs to send their reports to the secretary 1 week prior to the next meeting.	ALL	20180430	New
20180406.02	➤ Anna put her proposal forward for discussion that the Area E Committee, instead of meeting monthly and having 4 assemblies, reduce it to 5 assemblies a year and carry out the monthly meeting activities at the assemblies. After some discussion the consensus of the meeting was for the Area E Committee to meet every 2 nd month and have 2 assemblies. This will be discussed in further detail at the next Area E meeting in April.	Anna S	20180507	New
20180406.03	➤ Steve C has been nominated for the position of secretary and it has been recommended he be voted in formally at the next assembly.	David P	20180507	New
20180406.04	➤ John R asked for the following notification to be added to the Area E Website advertising the next Big Book Study	Trevor	20180507	New

	<p>BIG BOOK STUDY Tuesday 10th April Community Centre Avalon (Upstairs opposite the library)</p> <p>For inquiries contact Karen on 0414182003</p>			
20180406.05	<p>➤ Next meeting agenda and topics for discussion to be sent to Area E members 1 week prior to each meeting so each person can come prepared.</p>	David P	20180430	New
20170406.03	<p>➤ 20171205 – MOTION PASSED to place an order to the CSO for 20 Concept Banners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Area E will pay the one off design costs of \$530. ○ NSCSO will pay for the banners and recoup the costs when sold to the groups. \$40.70 x 20 = \$814 <p>20180110 – John B has contacted GSO to order the banners and they will inform John B when they are available.</p>	John B	20180406	In progress
20180301.01	<p>On the Area E Website, move the link to the AA survey to a more obvious place like the main page.</p> <p>20180406 – No action taken following further comments from John B / Anna S regarding the decision to not actively solicit more survey responses.</p>	Trevor	20180406	Closed
20180301.02	<p>Add a link to the Herbert St Thursday night schedule to the Area E Website.</p> <p>20180406 – Trevor raised the question with Mark W (NSCSO Trustee working on NSCSO website project). The response was that because H&I is a CSO activity, the proper place for the information is on the NSCSO website when built. Trevor extended the invitation to include the information on the Area E site for the time being but was declined. Trevor suggested that we might include a link on our site to this information when the NSCSO website is built.</p>	Trevor	20180406	Closed
20161202.04	<p>AA 30 Sec Commercial at movies: at 2017 year end look at having the commercial screened at Warringah Mall for 1 movie for 3 weeks over the Christmas period. It will be screened 25 times a week for a total cost of approx. \$1000.</p> <p>Also review commercial screenings as part of the new unity project, possibly raising special contributions from meetings.</p>	Rose P	20170109	Hold

NOTE: It was agreed that the November 2016 motion be amended by inserting after automatically closed “unless retention of an item is approved at an Area E committee meeting”.

New Chairman's Opening Address: David P

Welcome to this Meeting of AA Area E

It is my role in chairing this meeting to use the relevant guidelines contained the Australian Service Manual. In particular

- I encourage the meeting to be informal as possible, but that attendees attention during this meeting be kept on the subject at the time.
- I prefer to use a "sense of the meeting" approach to seeking agreement in general discussions. For matters of importance such as elections and voting on certain matters, I will adhere to the Third Legacy voting procedure, and will discourage departures from it.
- I encourage all attendees, particularly the GSR's to contribute to all matters in discussion.

Those involved in AA Service use the Traditions as guidelines. I ask that the Traditions be read.

From these Traditions there are three pertinent ideas which should not escape our attention

- personal recovery depends on AA unity; the concept of being "we are all equal" shall prevail
- the sole authority in AA is a loving God as he may express himself in our Group Conscience.
- it was Bill W's desire that whenever an alcoholic reached out for help, the fellowship could and would respond immediately.

The members of this Meeting play an important part in allowing the fellowship to respond accordingly.

I offer a Prayer on behalf of this Group

God, this is David P of The Area E Meeting NSW Australia Aril 2018. I ask that knowledge of you will for members of this group is expressed in the group members actions for this meeting.

Amen.

Chairman's Report: David P

The following report was tabled:

This is the first opportunity I have had in the role of Chairman. Our Delegate John B has acted on my behalf in my absence at the Feb Meeting. As such I am not able to formally report on Group activities for the month.

I do however take the opportunity to comment on my observations of Area E activities in the past year in my capacity as GSR for the Chatswood Sunday Group. These comments are not made as criticisms but as simply statements of fact.

We continue to face matters relating to how AA Service is seen in the eyes of many members. In particular we have had long term difficulty in filling service roles.

The feature of a low number of meetings being represented in service by appointing a GSR has continued.

The service function does not appear to be attractive to many of our members.

In many cases effective communication between the committee and the Groups via the GSR's is not being made. I hear the comment made by group members "I don't understand the minutes".

The level of understanding and use of the Service Manual by members of the GSR's and the committee is varied.

In many cases committee members including GSR's do not have awareness of the history of AA in respect to the Three Legacy's, The Traditions, and The Concepts and what Bill W and Dr Bob were trying to achieve.

I would like to mention the NSCSO. It is evident that there is a lack of understanding of how this function sits in the AA Sydney structure. In addition, it has become clear that the protocols for communication are not understood, or if in place, may not be relevant to today's needs.

These observations may not be inclusive of the all challenges in play.

Having made these observations and despite the shortcomings and handicaps imposed, I am pleased to see that Area E service has still performed and fulfilled its obligations to the Groups. It is my assessment at this time that Area E has not fully fulfilled its obligations to the Conference Charter.

I am keen to be part of the team as your Chairman and as a trusted servant in seeing that solutions to the matters raised above are identified and implemented. I have already at hand a list of ideas for discussion.

Given the challenges we face and to be more efficient, it is my intention to change the manner in which we hold meetings. An Agenda will be issued for each meeting

PI Report: Position Vacant

A report was not tabled.

Treasurer's Report: Michael S

The following report was tabled:

- The Area E total current funds balance is \$7056.78
 - Anna reimbursed -179
 - NSCSO donation +\$1382.61
 - Levy -\$750

Delegate's Report: John B

A report was not tabled.

Alternate Delegate Report: Anna S

A report was not tabled due to time constraints:

Group Liaison Report: Rosemary

A report was not tabled due to time constraints:

Web Master Report: Trevor

Area E Website <http://areaeraa.info>

The following report was tabled:

- We adopted Rosemary's suggestion that we post the minutes as linked .pdf files for better readability online. The result is better than putting the minutes in the body of the posts.
- The minutes for both the last meeting and the AGM were posted on 6th March and announced by email to the Mailchimp list that day, along with the reminder for this month's meeting.
- Suggestions for the website are always welcome.
- Trevor will add any content in the current formats; any structural changes will need to involve Lachlan B.

2019 National PI Conference: Committee to be formed

A report was not tabled.

GSR Reports:

GSR	Meeting	Overview
John R	Royal North Shore Thu PM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This meeting has now resuming on Thursday 18th Jan, 0730 to 0930pm in a very nice room in the Mental Health Rooms on the first floor of the Clinical Services building.• The group also sponsors a 12 Step Recovery Programme which is a Big Book Study Group starting 10/04/18.
Garry T	Gordon Mon PM	STATUS UPDATE:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance approx. 30 to 35 people. • Serving hot food after meeting and finding members stay on. • Consistently getting lots of visitors to meeting.
Anna S	Dee Why Thu PM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves pamphlets at a Centrelink and Police and find the 'Message to the Teenager' is a popular one.
Mary	RtR Kirribilli Tue & Fri PM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx. 35 members over the 2 meetings. • H&I initiative at Northside and Herbert St have generated many more people attending the meeting. • They have a GSR and Alternate GSR so there is a GSR at each meeting. • Donations have been dropping off and are looking at a possible electronic method of donating. • Running a PI initiative, June/July, to bring family, friends, professionals together to provide a glimpse of what AA is about.
Pam	Collaroy Fri PM Meditation	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance approx. – 10 to 18 • Meeting has been going for 7 years. • Very nice venue in the Collaroy Surf Club.
Pam	Seaforth Tue PM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance approx. – 25 to 35 • South Pacific bring their clients to the meeting which attracts a lot of visitors. • Last GSC was in Jan, the next one is 17th April where they will discuss having them more regularly. • Their 61st birthday is coming up.
Chris C	Dee Why B'fast	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups going well. • South Pacific bring their clients to the Curl Curl meetings which attracts a lot of visitors. • They have generated a group specific birthday card. • Dee Why has a meeting 6 days of the week, each with a separate secretary. Each meeting the secretary chooses a Chair for the meeting and they are encouraged to choose an older sober member.
Chris C	Manly Sun AM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance approx. – 20 • Last 6 weeks they have provided the ability for people to attend online.
David P	Chatswood Sun AM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting is healthy with 20 to 30 attending each week with a good mix of sobriety. • Group members are interested in knowing more about the Service Structure and hence have agreed to read 1 tradition each week at the group meeting.
Meg	Teloopa Wed PM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 to 25 attend • Quite often have visitors who come from the Central coast. • Regularly have 10 speakers • The group supports the idea of fewer Area E meetings/assemblies.
Trevor	Lane Cove Mon PM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have solid attendance, about 30 people with a good mix of sobriety. • Northside clients have been attending in variable numbers which is great for our primary purpose. • They hold their GSC every 14 weeks. • The group supports the idea of fewer Area E meetings/assemblies.
Bernie	Wahroonga	STATUS UPDATE:

	Sun AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They hold the meeting outside. • Membership to the meeting is not constant but it is getting stronger. • The meeting has been going for 8 years. • They do a lot of work with newcomers.
Linda	Cromer	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance approx. – 15 to 20 • Being encouraged to have more regular GSC.
Patrick	Curl Curl Sun PM	STATUS UPDATE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the last Sunday of every month they have a bbq at 3:30 followed by a speaker meeting. • The shares can be accessed via their website.

General Business:

- Meg and Anna raised a similar request that the Agenda and list of items for discussion at the next meeting be issued before the meeting so people have time to review the potential topics and can come prepared.

NOTE: The meeting was stopped due to lack of time leaving a number of matters not addressed.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 7th May at 07:30

APPENDIX:

Area E Meeting Agenda April 6, 2018

Presentation and reading of reports

By Report

Each Committee Member and GSR's

Agreement to accept the Reports.

All Committee members and GSR's

Discussion of each report

All Committee Members and GSR's

Determination. Are actions required and if so to be referred to General Business

All Committee Members and GSR's

General Business

Matters carried over from previous minutes

Discussion and agreement on action required

All Committee Members and GSR's

Referred Matters.

Discussion and agreement on action required.

All Committee Members and GSR's

Matters on notice

GSR Report Guidelines – suggested by Chairman

All Committee Members and GSR's

Sharing Sessions – suggested by Chairman

All Committee Members and GSR'S

Other General Business

Matters presented will be handled in the order of items raised.

Discussion and agreement on action required.

All Committee members and GSR's

Next meetings

Assembly

Chairman

Committee Meeting

Chairman

Close meeting

Chairman