

**Just for Today  
Business Meeting Minutes  
26 Mar 2022**

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**Opening** (Tracey, standing in as JFT Secretary)

- A Declaration of Unity (all):  
*This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depends our lives and the lives of those to come.*
- Thanks to Lisa W S (VMH), Jenny T (Taking notes); Sarah C. and the team at onsite location of the meeting; all are welcome
- Volunteers read *The 12 Traditions* and *An Informed A.A. Group Conscience*
- Meeting process and guidance
  - All JFT Meeting Attendees are invited to attend this business meeting; discussion and voting should be limited to those who consider themselves a *JFT Group Member*
  - Please mute when not speaking and unmute when speaking; VMH will assist to keep order
  - Onsite Liaison (with zoom access and projector) will monitor raised hands in room and request the 'floor' via raised hand feature
  - Please limit comments during the discussion period to critical comments, keep them brief, and please do not duplicate what someone else has shared
  - If multiple people stand for specific service jobs, we can vote as needed to select
- Purpose of meeting/review agenda: JFT Service Jobs, standing reports, other topics raised by group

**JFT Service Jobs** (Secretary)

- Current JFT Service [Job Descriptions here](#)
- Thank you to all who are rotating out of service jobs!
- [Service Jobs Chart for Rotation Beginning April 1](#)
- All open jobs were filled
  - Contact List Karen D.
  - JFT Service Jobs Coordinator: Molly R.
  - Steering Committees
    1. 6am Steering Committee: Julie Q. is chair and members include: Bray, Carol, Dave, Karen, Kit, Lisa, Mary Anne, Shelagh,
    2. 7am Steering Committee: Barrie B. is chair and members include: Karen, Peggy, Rebecca, Tracey
    3. In-Person Meeting Committee: Sarah is chair and members include: **SARAH WILL SEND**
  - Virtual Meeting Clerk: Nancy O.
  - Cards and Medallions: Tricia S.
  - Literature: Teddy/Mary Ann **(unsure which. to be clarified with on site)**
  - Coffee buyer: Terry H.
  - Milk Buyer: David B.
  - Supplies: Ken P.
- All those rotating in: please send [JFTSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:JFTSecretary@gmail.com) your email address, telephone number, and new service job so you can be connected with the outgoing person, who will train you.

### GSR Report (Kit)

- Every year there is a General Service Conference where delegates from across North America discuss issues and topics pertinent to AA and to vote the overall group conscience on decisions that need to be made. Our Area 30 delegate is Jan W and she wants your input! Please complete the survey at <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6751471/GSC> to help inform our delegate on your opinion on topics that she may be voting on at the upcoming conference in April.
- Please consider attending the Area 30 pre-conference Assembly were EVERYONE is welcome! All interested AAs are welcome: <https://aaemass.org/area30/>
- Also, they need volunteers to help make the assembly possible, including supporting the tech support (hybrid assemblies take a lot of work!) as well as set up, clean up, etc. Please let Kit, Dan, Jenny T, or Barbara know if you want to participate OR just go to the AA Eastern Mass website to get the info on the upcoming assembly.
- The District 22 Committee Member (who happens to be a JFT group member, Dan E), gave a brief update on activities the district is planning.
- ALL updates are on the JFT website at <https://justfortodayaa.com/jft-gsr-page>

### Treasurer's Report (David H)

- 1st Quarter 2022 (01JAN2022-20MAR2022) report provided
- Update provided on the 501c3 reporting, non-profit filings, and make-up/role of trustees; this is a work-in-progress. Taxes have not been filed since 2017 so there is work to be accomplished. We want to maintain our 501c3 status, so we do not have to pay taxes on our 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions. Treasurer has meet with the Area 30 former treasurer to understand how they file each year and how they determine the trustees. Progress has been made; extension will be filed in April, and a proposal will be brought to the next business meeting.
- Discussion: Topic was raised that our typical distributions are based on a very old group conscience decision and perhaps it is time to re-assess our distributions to ensure they go to the groups most in need. It was noted that this topic was raised and tabled at the prior business meeting. Acting Secretary provided update that the topic to be tabled until after the inventory completes Question 11 in the inventory. Motion was raised to vote on it now.
  - *Motion:* To wait on making distributions currently ready to be made to the various service entities and we reconsider the group's contributions to the various service entities. Motion was not seconded.

### Secretary's Report (Tracey for Wendy)

- JFT Inventory Update – [running notes from all meetings \(to date\) are here](#)
  - Steering Committees (3) are meeting regularly and addressing feedback from Inventory.
  - Using the Qs in the [AA Group Pamphlet](#) (page 29), and over the course of four meetings to date, we have considered Q1 through Q8, and began discussion of Q9 (of 13).
  - We will continue discussion with Q9 through Q13 with support from SS Chair (Catherine); on the two additional dates that were scheduled by group conscience: April 23 and May 28 (at which time we will assess status of inventory and any need for additional meetings)
- Website Update – Based on feedback, best practices, and plans for upcoming additions to resources and content, we have begun to adjust the design and structure of our website to best serve our primary purpose and reflect some of the feedback/format changes from the Group Inventory Process; Your feedback is welcomed (email [jftsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:jftsecretary@gmail.com))

- **7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Proposal** (from Secretary) tabled at January Business Meeting to bring to the Group Inventory, but then determined that this was group business and should not use the Service Seminar facilitator's time. Secretary proposes that ***we keep this tabled*** until we get through Q11 of inventory: *"Does our group do its fair share toward part, as it relates to our Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service?"* thus facilitating our further discussion having been informed by the inventory process. The summary of the proposal:
  - JFT AA Group consider the distribution of JFT's contributions to the AA Service Structure; and
  - Establish an Ad Hoc Committee to research, review, and consider JFT's contributions to service structure and bring recommendation to JFT Group; and seek group conscience about the recommendation

#### **JFT Service Jobs Update** (Tracey)

- We were short on VMHs so the JFT Service Jobs lead held a workshop which brought in 4 new VMHs; currently, we have 10 VMHs for 6am and 8 VMHs for 7am meeting
- JFT Service Jobs Coordinator created a new VMH reference guide
- Sign-Up Genius Monitor is an important job that is sometimes hard to fill; please be sure to encourage newcomers and sponsees to consider this service job!!!
- E-Cards coordinator job has been reworked and is working well

#### **Onsite Meeting Update** (Sarah)

- Hall is still being painted so in the basement of other building still
- Steering Committee ongoing
- Lots of going on; please be sure to communicate with the Steering Committee regarding all jobs
- **Reminder: the Onsite Steering Committee Chair is the key communicator regarding onsite jobs so please be sure to liaise with Sarah regarding onsite jobs**

#### **New Business**

- Group member raised the topic that the Grapevine is an important part of carrying the message in AA; the Grapevine is self-supporting. They have a new project called "Carry The Message". Motion:
  - *Motion*: Send \$1000 to the Grapevine "Carry the Message"; motion was seconded.
  - Discussion ensued; group members asking about frequency of the contribution (answer: one-time request), what monies would be spent, what about the plans to wait till after the inventory is complete before making decisions like this, what about the expenses involved in filing our back taxes and late fees, etc. WE have other group expenses not yet raised to the group (like that our onsite meeting literature is quite old). Treasurer responded to answer questions as needed. Note that while we have tabled the overall
  - *Motion amended*: \$600 to support Grapevine and La Vina
  - Vote: Yes: 18; No: 5; Abstain: 4. Minority voice: Those who voted "no" had the chance to speak; several noted that the minority opinions shared changed their votes.
  - After minority voice, the group voted again.
  - Vote: Yes: 10. Motion did not pass.

#### **Close meeting** (all)

*AA Responsibility Statement: I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible.*

*Serenity Prayer: God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference.*

## AA Resources to Support Group Discussion and Decisions

**An Informed A.A. Group Conscience:** The group conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive action is taken. This is achieved by the group members through the sharing of full information, individual points of view, and the practice of A.A. principles. To be fully informed requires a willingness to listen to minority opinions with an open mind. On sensitive issues, the group works slowly — discouraging formal motions until a clear sense of its collective view emerges. Placing principles before personalities, the membership is wary of dominant opinions. Its voice is heard when a well-informed group arrives at a decision. The result rests on more than a “yes” or “no” count — precisely because it is the spiritual expression of the group conscience. The term “informed group conscience” implies that pertinent information has been studied and all views have been heard before the group votes. (*The AA Group* [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/p-16\\_theaagroup.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-16_theaagroup.pdf))

**Concept 12.** The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action. (*The Twelve Concepts for World Service* [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/smf-114\\_en.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-114_en.pdf))

*Anonymity Online and Digital Media* [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_us/smf-197\\_en.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_us/smf-197_en.pdf)

*The AA Group* [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/p-16\\_theaagroup.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-16_theaagroup.pdf)

*The Twelve Concepts for World Service* [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/smf-114\\_en.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-114_en.pdf)