

Minutes for D53 meeting, January 17, 2026

Zoom 872 7863 5783

Pw: 214963

Members present:

Angel — GR
Gerald
Audrey
Arlene
Steve— treasurer
Martina

Report from Secretary, (Angel B)

Reading from How Al-Anon Works, page 57, about TRUST.

All quiet at this time in the GEA.

Note from Jerry: The GEA chairperson is Brenda. The GEA delegate to the World Service Conference (WSC) is Burt. Angel can contact either of them with concerns or questions.

Next meeting is in March, Angel will attend.

The main concern for every group and the district and area is not getting enough volunteers for service. We cannot force people to participate; we must keep encouraging them.

There are two groups which are not participating in the district, which she is trying to connect with, one is Spanish-speaking, and one is a phone group.

Report from Jerry about the wider need for groups to link in to us:

He has not been able to do as much the past 3 months due to personal needs. He was a part of the setting up of districts, and feels hopeful to try to get the non-participating groups to work with us. The WSO is watching these other groups to see if they are active. 3 groups so far are still without a GR and are not participating.

Treasurer's Report, (Steve R.)

We have a new website, he has been transferring old material to it.

We have a new bank acct. There is \$408.75 in it.

The web address for donations to our district is: district53AFG.org

GR reports:

Arlene, (Key to Harmony)

\$100 sent to district through PayPal from this group

There is a new set-up which is working to get more shares and comments.

Buddy put this in a format of give a share, and then people comment back.

They are following the Traditions.

Martina (3 legs)

We had the end of the year inventory, and no new issues. We have discussed the possibility of a treasurer. We are going to try a zoom meeting immediately after our next District meeting in February, to try to build more fellowship.

Audrey (Hope for Today)

No changes

Steve (A Serenity Place) (Kathleen not here today)

Stable group. No changes.

New business:

Proposed District meeting to discuss KBDM with members in our district.

(Martina).

“You have to have new information in order to change your mind.”

The process invites participation and for people to understand how the group conscience works.

(Jerry) — the process invites us to give service, and service improves our own personal recovery, through attraction rather than promotion.

We each take a turn and then listen to each other. Most people start Al-Anon in a state of total burnout, and having given so much they are exhausted. Only after beginning recovery is there new energy to do more within Al-Anon. He recommends the book “When I got busy, I got better.” Page 78 is a good point of reference about the fear of stepping up, and of making mistakes.

(Steve)— KBDM is an excellent tool, for making decisions that work. In his group (ASP) they have decided to move the business meetings to quarterly. Email discussions have to have time for people to read, think, and then reply. Absorbing this means a process of about 9 months for an issue to be fully covered and a resolution found.

Also, their group has decided to consider zoom for its social community and fellowship aspect, as well as for decision-making conversations.

He sent us the ASP bulletin on KBDM, for us to share in our own groups. It may be best to give time for us to discuss this in our own groups.

(Arlene) — the business meetings are monthly now, by email. Zoom was suggested, but some did not want it.

(Steve) Passing the basket is the treasurer's job. We want and need to be self-supporting. The costs for ASP add up to \$150/month. IT is a discussion to consider the prudent reserve, and then decide on the threshold to pass funds upward to the District and the WSO.

Their break-down for this donation order is

60% to the District,

30% to the area

10% to the WSO.

There is concern about the WSO being more directive than responsive to the groups, in that the amount of time given to the area meeting was 50% devoted to Administrative issues, and there is little time for discussion. So doing email work, giving time for reflection and discussion is a big and important concern. Giving KBDM in the emails, and then getting all information to ALL members matters. If no consensus is reached, we need to resume discussion at the next meeting. No vote happens until there has been full discussion, not just in breakout rooms.

Jerry added information on how the groups were set up, across 24 time zones, and many languages. The effort was to have no more than 3 time zones in each districts.

We were one of the last designated groups, so we did not fit into the earlier paradigm.

We were put into a group made up mostly of email groups, but some text groups and some phone groups were also in our district.

Steve said he feels it would be possible to use the regional trustee maps, and let groups choose which region they fit best into. The idea is that groups might be best affiliated in districts where similar needs occur. Some reorganization around this may be needed. Groups should be allowed to re-organize according to their needs.

After discussion, we decided that all of us in this meeting will send notes to Angel with our thoughts about this issue, and about any other things she should bring up with our Area leader, Burt, at the next meeting.

We tabled any further discussion of a District-sponsored workshop/meeting on KBDM for now.

Respectfully submitted,

Martina