

Dakota Alano Board Meeting Notes
April 21, 2013

Board Members Present: Mary Jo, Julie, Frank, Rick, Mark, Brad, Rob

Board Members Absent: Susan, Dan

Advisory Board Members and Guests: Katie, Ellen, Keith, Tim, Gary, Brenda+baby, Mary

Mark opened the meeting at 5:58 pm with the Serenity Prayer and an opening statement. Introductions were made. Rob read the Twelve Traditions.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to approve the March Secretary's Report, as emailed, was made by Rick. Rob seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Julie passed out copies of the budget which is down for the first time since 2012, by about \$800. Some envelopes from the men's meeting were misplaced. This addition will be reflected in next month's budget. We are still on track with last year's YTD. Because of the decrease in donations there was a decrease in tracking. "Group events" is the same as last year. We did not have literature to purchase this year. Some expense from printing. "Supplies" on track. Utilities are up but that's because of our weather. "Accounts receivable" was polished, thanks with help from Mary. Up about \$4000 from last year due to the increase in donations. We're also managing our expenses better. A worksheet comparing our budget to our expenses was sent around. A year over year worksheet was also sent around which breaks down month to month expenses.

A motion to approve the February Treasurer's Report was made by Rob. Mary Jo seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Squad Leader and Visitor Questions/Concerns:

Secondhand smoke (Brenda): Her concern is the amount of smoking in front of the entrance on the front porch. She's made requests for years to get smokers away from the door. She is concerned about the health risk and wonders why smokers cannot smoke further from the door when other clubs have 25 foot restrictions, as stated by the law. Mark thanked Brenda for her concern. With summer approaching the picnic bench will fill up and seemingly always draws closer to the house. Frank offered to look for signage restricting smoking within a 25 foot limit. Gary suggested making an announcement at each meeting, getting flyers to each squad leader, and putting an announcement in the newsletter. Perhaps squad leaders, advisory board, and board members should be responsible for enforcing this. Mark suggested an inclusion on the website. Frank suggested bolting down the picnic bench which sprouted a conversation regarding the permanent placement of the bench on a graveled or paved section of the yard. This way the church does not need to move the bench whenever they mow. It will also keep

smokers at bay. Tim asked who owns the brick next to the garage. Turns out it is church owned. Mark stated that for the time being squad leaders, advisory board members, and board members will need to enforce this at each meeting. The topic will be discussed in greater detail at next month's meeting. Everyone agreed. We may see some resilience but it's the law. But with the worst weather behind us it shouldn't be a problem. Twenty five feet will be measured out and designated by the smoker's pole.

Gopher State Donations (Keith): A group conscious was made at Keith's meeting, approving a second passing of the basket for Gopher State donations. How do the treasurers account for this? Julie suggested that this money go directly to Brad. Mary suggested making a new inclusion as part of her donation budget. So, money will be given to Julie. Meeting treasures will need to designate the monetary difference on each envelope. Keith said he will let treasures know. Katie was curious if a group conscious needs to be had in order to do this at her meeting. It does because every group should be fully self supporting. There should be no resistance. However, we don't want to go to the well too often so it was suggested that the basket be passed a second time for the next four weeks. Tim said that the donations were incredibly helpful last year. Gary suggested giving away the left over food, so we don't sit on a bunch of superfluous food like last year.

Committee Reports:

Lit & Med. (Rick): Rick filled the bookcase 6 weeks ago. We should be okay. He purchased some newcomer packets, which cost \$1. Should we leave them unlocked and available on top of the bookcase or should we lock them up? It was decided to leave them on top of the cabinet, especially since the new comer meetings is taking off. He will buy more.

Publishing (Susan): Nothing new to report in Susan's absence.

Supplies (Brad): On budget. We now have coffee filters that fit the machine. Everything is stocked. He would like a list of what we will need for the annual clean in May. All is well.

Maintenance (Frank): Knobs are on of the lockers except for the three that are locked. He noticed some busted floor tiles. If we don't have anymore he will buy some. Will be doing some outside cleanup and touchups.

Security (Dan): Nothing to report in Dan's absence.

Archives (Mary Jo): Archives up to date. Brad wonders if we can bring any archival material to Gopher State to show potential new comers. There are some books upstairs that can be put on display.

Old Business:

Squad Leader Guide Progress Report (Julie): Guidebooks are printed and once Susan is back they will discuss how to distribute them. It cost \$45 to print. She has paper copies but not the electronic version which she would like so she can adjust some of the font. Mary Jo needs one for archives. Thanks Julie.

Tax Exempt Status (Julie): There's a problem with our application to maintain our tax exemption. The IRS is behind and we may not hear back for a couple months. Julie cannot get too involved because her name is not on file. Mary said she will get that switched over so Julie can have these conversations. In the future, this will be done online so treasurers, of that time, will be able to log in. Simplifies things. Julie made a motion for an email account to be created for the Dakota Alano Society through the IRS. Mark seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Gopher State (Brad): Brad didn't have a clue on the reservation. Julie said the reservation has been made. Our sign is missing for the front door. If we cannot find it we will be charged \$40 by the hotel. The big banner is in the front closet. We will have the same room as last year, #205. This past week Brad made a notice which was given to each squad leader. We are at \$165 in donations so far. Walking tacos will be served from 5:30pm to 10:30pm after each meeting. Coffee and beverages will be out full time. All food and beverage will be served out on the veranda. Do we want donuts delivered in the morning? Mark asked if a committee had been formed. Brad said about a half dozen people have expressed interest. It was decided that it will be up to the committee to make these decisions, that they do not need to be approved by the Board. The budget is whatever money can be raised. Julie suggested hounding down on a cleanup crew. Brad promised to be detail oriented. Is the coffee machine downstairs still operational? Yes. He can use that. Brad will report back this time next month. Tim has a count sheet from last year's food consumption which can be used this year. Julie thanked Brad for taking this on. Some talk about the charges we were forced to pay last year. Tim suggested a plastic covering for the floors. Marc said changing the floor would move liability to us if anything were to happen and we do not have insurance. Rick wondered what damages we were charged for last year. Dirty carpet. Frank has a carpet cleaner which we can use if need be. Charges from last year were about \$200.

Annual Picnic (Tim): Tim does not have a committee formed yet. It is still a little far off in the future. We do have a budget from last year which we can use as a guide. Mark asked if we should go outside the board looking for volunteers? Tim offered to be a part of it. It can be expected that Julie, Susan, Mary, and Martha will help out like they did last year. ☺ Julie suggested that we bring it up at next month's meeting and focus on Gopher State for the time being. It was agreed upon that it will be an old business item next month.

WiFi Discussion: The initial reaction was that the Board wasn't too keen on the idea. Ellen and Tim provided some information via email a couple weeks ago on the topic. Ellen favorably leans toward WiFi. Mark said that the other Alano houses that are open from 7am to 10pm are more than likely to have WiFi since they are open all day long but

we are not that kind of facility. In accordance with the church we are only open an hour before a meeting and an hour after. We do tell people to silence their phones. Mark does not support it. Tim says the “hour before, hour after” rule was a board decision. Mark stated that it is now a stipulation on the lease. Tim said that we can have WiFi for the same price as a landline, but is there a need? Julie said that if we change our status from business to residential in order to get the internet rate we would be putting our exemption at risk. Rick agreed with Mark. Gary remained neutral. Mary did not think it was needed. We are already losing touch with each other, because of technology, so why add more? Mark thought we should open up the floor to have a motion to bring WiFi into the house, allow a seconded motion, and a vote. In accordance to Robert’s Rule he believed this is how we should go about it. Brad thought we should open this discussion up to those people who brought the topic up to Gary in the first place, perhaps at next month’s Board meeting. Tim suggested we include it in the newsletter. Mark thought we would just be stirring up the hornet’s nest and that the general consensus would be that if the Board is willing to pay for it then we might as well have it. Rick thought we should have a vote. Mark agreed. That way it is in the minutes and in the archives that we discussed it. Ellen was hyped at first because in the past she had wanted to work on the website while she was waiting for meetings. She also thought that if someone really wanted WiFi in the future they would approach the Board and address the issue. To conclude this bit, Mark asked if there was any Board member, who at this time, would like to make WiFi available. There was no seconded motion. So for now, the issue has been tabled.

E-mail list (Katie): Ellen will put Katie on the email list as decided at last month’s Board meeting.

Email vote: Lee has resigned. Rob volunteered to fill her position. It was voted upon, unanimously, that Rob would fill Lee’s position on the Board via email. Julie made a motion that Rob fill the position vacated by Lee until the Board’s membership meeting in September. Brad seconded the motion and the motion passed. Welcome Rob.

Pledges: No new pledges were made. And the pledge drive is over.

New Business: No new business.

Motion to close:

A motion to close the meeting was made by Rob and seconded by Mary Jo. The motion passed and the meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer at 7:05 p.m.

Yours in Service,

Katie