

District 06 (San Francisco) Minutes for General Service Business Meeting  
**Tuesday January, 8, 2019**  
Old First Presbyterian Church at 1751 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA

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6:30 – 7 New GSR Orientation // 6:30 – 7:30 12 Concepts & Service Manual Study // 7:30 – 9 District Meeting

### **Opening of Meeting**

- Open at 7:30pm with Serenity Prayer
- General Service Preamble – read by Justin H. Dennis H. (*District Committee Member Chair - DCMC*)
- Reading of Tradition 1 & Concept 1
- Brief description “**What is a Service Sponsor?**” those willing to be a service sponsor raise hands.
- **Welcome new GSRs:** *Riaz A Waterfront, Lizzy W OADW, Kristen CRaising the Bottom, Johnny B High Noon Fridays, Adam F Sick AM at the Gratitude Center, Liz K Any Lengths Saturday, Teresa M Federal Speakers Group, Rudy S Anything is Possible, Greg M 6AM gratitude center (alternate), New DCMs Linda B 265, Luke H 230, Andy T 210, Jennifer D 245, Jackie B 270, Johnny G 315, Steve R 242, Hemanth 320, Beth S 375, Mac.*
- **Welcome Visitors:** *Erica G, Area Registrar*
- **Sobriety Anniversaries:** Luke, 7 years. Dirk, 31 years.
- **Prior Month’s Minutes:** approved as written.

### **Presentations**

- **Financial Report** – Beth S, District Treasurer: Financial report – reviews financial statements; funds in; expenses. Where does my basket money go? Different areas, we send 60% to SF General Office, 30% to GSO in New York, \$5 to California Northern Coastal Area, and 5% to our San Francisco district. Group contributions year to date: \$7520. (*Note: the recording secretary may have transcribed this incorrectly*)  
Total income YTD \$8830.21. Projected budget was: \$9,200, so around \$370 less than expected.  
YTD Expenses  
Budget – \$1,387.18 *over* budget. We are currently dipping into our prudent reserve.  
Q: My group isn’t on the contributions list..? A: It may be because they didn’t contribute.

- **Presentation of Concept 1:** *Hemanth S.* – “Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.” Excellent presentation.

- Jackie Bi presentation: What is a District, and Why Are We Here?

Before 1950 AA groups were fragmented. There was a Board of Trustees that supervised the National Headquarters (AA Service Office) that printed books, Grapevine, Press and PR, worked with the legal field (judges, etc.) and answered every personal letter with a personal reply. (AA World Publishing is now called AAWS.) AA Groups and Board of Trustees were tied together by Bill & Bob.

1950, Bob got sick and passed away. Bill realized that without Bill & Bob, there’s no connection between AA groups and the Board of Trustees. If AA groups stopped sending money to the Board of Trustees, the

board wouldn't be able to send out books, hold office hours for questions, answer mail, etc.

Now there's the AA Groups, the General Service Conference, and the Board of Trustees. The GSC gives AA groups a voice to the Board of Trustees. 3<sup>rd</sup> Legacy Election procedure came of this, starting with a pamphlet "Your Third Legacy, Will You Accept It?" written by Bill & Bob.

Delegates are sent to the General Service Conference to represent their local groups (their Area). Each area has a bunch of meetings that send GSRs to the big Area (California Northern Coastal Area) meeting. That Area sends a single Delegate to the GSC. Our area delegate is Teddy.

The pamphlet "Circles of Love & Service" describes this. The information doesn't flow only one direction, it goes two ways.

- Presentation: Erica G, incoming CNCA Registrar.

When I was new "I was just doing what this woman was suggesting to me," and I ended up at a Trusted Servant Workshop. People trust their GSR to represent their group and AA as a whole.

"The only way to do it wrong is to not do it."

"My sponsor told me I can't complain if I don't participate."

Our area has four assemblies each year, not every area has four opportunities like we do.

Last year a group in Oakland realized a page was removed from Living Sober and asked their GSR to bring it to area to have it put in. The GSR sent it to the District, and they said it should go to the Area. Because of that, it was sent back to the groups for discussion. The San Francisco delegate wrote a letter asking that it be put on the Conference Agenda. It was discussed, and the page was put back into Living Sober. This only happened due to our service structure and some alcoholics in Oakland.

The safety issue that came up last year... I didn't think it was important, but people all over the district surprised me with their varied safety problems.

There's the mindset of, "I came here and got mine... my sobriety," but with service work and participation I'm working at making sure AA is here for other people as well.

In general service, "Ask for help. Ask people questions." A service sponsor helps.

- DCMC Report – Justin H: Every month there's a meeting 12:30 – 3:30 area meeting in Petaluma. Conference is the Pre Conference Assembly April 13-14. This is where people share their group consciences about the proposed agenda topics.

Pacific Regional AA Service Assembly, March 1<sup>st</sup> in Irvine, CA. We (our GSR meeting) will vote in February to sponsor someone to go to this event.

Service sponsorship is super important.

- H&I – Brad K.

35 openings for jail meetings. San Bruno, 830 Bryant, both men and women needed. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of the month of the orientation at 2900 24<sup>th</sup> Street. We have around 30-40 other places that need meetings as well. One time a month commitment. San Francisco is dropping the ball with H&I coverage. H&I donations are WAY down and have been since 2017. We reduced operating budget by ~\$80,000. 95% of what goes in the pink can goes to buy books. SF provides far, far less than other areas.

San Quentin - H&I started in San Quentin we now have a program to sponsor inmates in San Quentin! No security clearance needed. Must be male, 5 years sober, and previous H&I experience. 20 volunteers are needed before this program can begin.

Q: is there only one H&I orientation a month? A: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday every quarter at Central Office at 6:00 PM (starting January 24<sup>th</sup>).

Q: Is the drop in contributions due to the announcement of the \$50k surplus, or could it be due to books available electronically? A: Probably due to the announcement of the \$50k surplus.

If you want to sponsor in San Quentin, the orientation is January 24<sup>th</sup>.

- GGYPAA Rep – Kristen: Business meeting this Sunday (*passed*). Comedy club late January or early February. Hosting a meeting at Sobriety by the Bay – the last weekend in January at Grace Cathedral (\$25 registration) meetings from Friday to Sunday.

Q: When is ACYPAA? A: First weekend in April in Los Angeles. GGYPAA is putting in a bid for ACYPAA.

- Intergroup Liaison – Steve R: SF and Marin are a single intergroup district. We are considering changing the URL to AASF**Marin**.org. AASF.org will still work if the vote goes through. There is a movement to separate Marin from SF intergroup and this URL change is meant to mitigate that. Intergroup is sponsoring a play at the Exit Theater on Feb 8,9,10 and 14,15,16 at the Exit Theater for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary presentation of “In Our Own Words,” an AA play.

PICPC – Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community. Interfacing with the public at large, cooperation with professionals who man interact with alcoholics in their profession (judges, cops, medical students, etc.) Meeting at 7:00 PM WHAT DAY AND WHERE? Bill & Bob once described it as the most important work in AA.

Hispanic Womens Workship representative – unavailable due to illness.

Elections for Bridging The Gap: Courtney W - Bridging The Gap helps connect people in facilities (inmates, etc.) with people outside so they can be brought to an AA meeting their first day out. I’ve been working for 1.5 years to revive Bridging The Gap in District 6. It’s been dead for years - not working in any facilities. I’ve been working with Pete to rebuild a robust committee for BTG. We’re working with two places closely and have reached out to many others.

BTG duties include: attend our GSR meeting, visit the Area, and running the entire BTG program..

Courtney is the sole person available for the 1 year position. Elected.

Pete Feliciano is the sole person available for the 2 years position. Elected co-chair.

Pete Feliciano: Future of Bridging the Gap. We have been a dead committee for a long time now. We’ve been in talks with intergroup and DCMC and several other people in our area. We want BTG under the umbrella of Intergroup, not the umbrella of the District. This helps with our local San Francisco culture, not the culture of our entire Area.

Q: is this something that’s all over the country flourishing elsewhere? A: Yes, even just over the Golden

Gate Bridge.

- Other Open Service Positions – district archivist, coffee maker for GSR meeting (Kyle T. volunteered – thanks Kyle!), H&, PICPC liaison, District 16 liaison (liaison with the Spanish speaking meetings in San Francisco).
- Q: are the rest of the commitments available by volunteer without the need for a 3<sup>rd</sup> legacy election? A: Available by volunteer commitment.

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition

Jackie B– DCM. 2 issues at the gratitude center. 1) They attempted to add a new meeting on Thursday nights called Pill Poppers which is specifically for alcoholics who are addicted to pills. Marin declined to include that meeting in the AA meeting list because it's a cross-purpose meeting. Jackie is going to bring to the group to have language restricting the inclusion of cross-purpose meetings removed from the AA group pamphlet. My meeting says they would like the bit removed that discourages cross-addicted group names.

2) 7th tradition at the gratitude center goes to the gratitude center and THEY distribute – the center has only been giving funds to intergroup, not to the rest of the place that include central office, etc.

Steve R – I neglected to mention The Point, the monthly news magazine, is now ENTIRELY digital. It is included in the bi-monthly email publication, The Buzz.

Chelsea W. – my home group had a business meeting and had problems with our landlord. There's a carpeted area in the church and the church doesn't let ANY dogs come in, including service dogs. (They're a church so apparently they can do that.) That's what's being discussed at my home group and we don't know what to do.

Linda V – DCM in the Outer Richmond. There's not one GSR in the Outer Richmond. I've been going to meetings in that area. Those groups aren't contributing so they're not part of the service structure at all. Their thought is that there isn't really a need for a GSR... **If anyone has experience with this situation, please see Linda.**

### **What's on your mind?**

Pete F - vice chair of the Intergroup board. We've been in talks how to structure when requests come in about what Jackie was discussing earlier (re: how to handle "should we include XYZ meeting, or XYZ meeting designation"). We're trying to figure out a mechanism on how to handle this sort of thing when it comes up.

Chelsea W. – I have a color-coordinated timeline of dates for upcoming events. Close the meeting early

tonight..? I would like us to get rid of the presentation on the Concept and instead have someone come up and have a “Meet the Meeting” to share about their meeting. We want to learn about your meeting!

Chuck F – I brought up something uncomfortable and asked that we have a formal election because of the unintentional and mostly-harmless verbiage that was used when election openings were mentioned. I urge you, please do that sort of thing if you notice something that isn't right – please raise your hand.

Q: Was there a report service manual for next month? A Justin: I've chosen not to ask for a volunteer for Concept 2. Instead I asked for a presentation on the service structure in AA.

Sample GSR Report given by Chelsea.

Meeting closed ten minutes early.