

District 06 (San Francisco) **MINUTES** for General Service Meeting **Tuesday, March 8, 2016**
St. Marks Church, Fellowship Hall (downstairs), 1111 O'Farrell Street, SF, CA

8:00 – 9:30 District Meeting: Facilitated by Rhys G., District Committee Member Chair

A. Opening – Standing Items

- General Service Preamble – Rhys G., Tradition 3 (Long Form) – Kellie S., and Concept 3 – Riaz A.
- Welcome of New GSRs, DCMs, and Visitors: Kellie S., GSR – *Pocket Aces*, Riaz A. – *Pen & Paper Group*; Michael Q., CNCA 06 Assembly Coordinator
- Recognition of Birthdays/Anniversaries since our last meeting: Virginia M. – 37 years, Kellie S. – 5 years
- Approval of prior month's minutes → ACCEPTED
- Presentation of current month's Financial Reports: Lauren, Feb. income low group contributions 50% lower than previous 3 years; year-to-date only 15% less; high expenses: ½ rent, insurance for year, into prudent reserve; group contributions: 22 groups contributed in Feb.; Q: Do all groups give monthly/A: No, it depends on the group.
- Presentation of Concept 3 – Virginia M.
- VOLUNTEER for a 2-Minute Presentation on Concept 4 for March meeting – Neil F.
- District Committee Members / Officers / Liaison Reports (please submit written report to secretary prior to the district meeting)
 - DCMC – this weekend is Agenda Topics workshop; AA conference in Concord, not sponsored by AA – workshops, etc., \$60; pre-conference assembly 4/9-10 in S. Rafael
- Presentation from Visiting Area Officer, Michael Q.: Some area announcements: Have an opening on interpretation/translation committee as member – don't need to be bilingual; deals w/ASL & interpretation; give name to Rhys if you're interested; pre-conference assembly: please bring FM radios for translation to understand Spanish-speaking members – very important to hear them; PRAASA: "Our Spiritual Life"; "The hand of AA always to be there"; feasibility study: running in background – trustees got this at last min. – didn't really have time to deal w/this; What is feasibility study? No decision to be made this year; GSB did report to get advice from delegates – brainstorming ideas; review feedback after 66th GSC; background: How we think future will be will likely be different; financial projections; current trends, implications (negative), reasons for concern, hope this discussion will rally the fellowship; brainstorming ideas: improving internal/external communications, increasing revenues; reducing expenses, flat membership; downward contributions, literature sales – shift to digital; had negative feelings about this, but then went to PRAASA & then felt like AA will be ok; keep reaching hand out to newcomer; PRAASA was incredible experience – our area has reputation for being very well informed – e.g. agenda topics & way we disseminate & create summaries; Agenda Topics workshops will give you "mock" sharing session, how to get groups to show up, how to get informed group conscience
- Presentation on PRAASA: Matthew: like going to 1st meeting; didn't understand what was going on; flight there was 4 hours delayed; saw some friends from home state in Hawaii from 20 years ago; got sober at age 20; very exciting; so much happened at conference; Sat: panels & roundtables: "anonymity," "going to any lengths," La Viña; What stood out? Much talk about "plain language" version of Big Book; personally have always found BB to be outdated and sometimes offensive; heard many others voice same opinion; spoke of it as a "translation" project; not about "replacing" the BB; it's about putting in language people can understand (analogy: King James Bible vs. modern); many LGBT people voiced concerns about factually incorrect items in BB; was cool to have mike's on either side of room to go up & talk to panel presenters; other topic: "demographics of AA don't match gen. population." "Is AA relevant?"; recognize who is NOT coming back; another panel: "Anonymity & Social Media" – very interesting discussion; education on privacy technology, people showing sobriety chips, etc. – but need to engage in social media; attracting & protecting our members – safety is a real issue for many people in our region: safety for women, meeting in safe location?, sexual

predators, people stalking affluent newcomers to get \$\$ from them; transgender people;
other topic: revising Concept 11, removing barriers to membership

- Shares about PRAASA: Went to workshops for GSR's even though I'm a DCM now; alphabet soup, people in workshops were pretty rowdy; brainstormed about what to discuss: What is a GSR?; What is a service sponsor?; What are agenda topics?; went to Al-Anon meeting & workshops//Dennis H: I gave a presentation at orientation "inclusive never exclusive" to 1200 people – didn't do a lot of research; tapped into own experience to create presentation (only had 7 min.); touched on thought such as "Is our literature open & inclusive?"; I feel some of our pamphlets and books aren't very welcoming; personal opinion: would be useful to have literature written in different kind of language; my experience is that people come to AA & don't get BB/12X12 – put off by language – would like to have alternatives to our literature – want every tool I can get to help the person who really wants help; mine was one of many presentations

B. District Business [Business of the San Francisco District. Items here will either affect our local district or may be referred to the Area if items could affect A.A. as a whole.]

C. Area Committee Meeting Business [Business being discussed at the Area Committee Meeting. [We may obtain a district conscience on these items and/or you may obtain your group's conscience]:

Old Business Items

- *"That CNCA 06 expand area officer eligibility to include Alternate District Committee Member Chairs and current members and chairs of area standing committees and sub-committees who have served as a DCM and/or DCMC. Presented by Eric, Jennifer and Laura. CARRIED OVER TO PRE-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY*
- Discussion held at District meeting: Current pool of candidates – 130 people eligible in area but not all are available; lots of people go to area assemblies & serve on committees, but not eligible to serve as area officers; Q: Should we expand eligibility? Many of these people are untapped resource w/lots of experience who can't serve as officers; Is the candidate pool too small?//Why was the restriction put in place?//It's always been the tradition in our area – area decided a long time ago//How soon would this change?//1st we would decide if we want to do this, then decide how to do it//Not everyone who serves on an area committee is eligible – must have been a DCM to be eligible//I served on an area committee & I thought it was strange that I wasn't eligible to be an officer – really know area business quite well; should open up to more people//Would expanding pool make 3rd legacy go on forever during elections?//Again, 1st we decide if we want to do it, then decide how to do it//Michael Quirk: If we change it, we'll have to do our election assembly differently than we've planned it – takes a lot of planning; would have to do election assembly differently to avoid having elections take too much time.

9:15-9:30

E. Closing – Standing Items

- 7th Tradition
 - What's On Your Mind? Sub-district map – shows who supports each sub-district; DCM's are resources for GSR's to help guide you through agenda topics process; I have contact info for all DCM's if you need help [contact info given for Amber, Lauren, Dennis]//My group decided to do a group inventory – need someone to volunteer as facilitator – will probably be on a Sat.//Hope everyone can come to agenda topics workshop – need a few more volunteers to help out w/event
- 9:30 Close**

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