

District 06 (San Francisco) **Minutes** for General Service Meeting **Tuesday, October 10th, 2017**
St. Marks Church, Fellowship Hall (downstairs), 1111 O'Farrell Street, SF, CA

6:30 – 7:00 New GSR Orientation: 8 attended – led by Justin H. *Alt. DCMC*

6:30 – 7:30 12 Concepts & Service Manual Study: 7 attended – led by Alison W.

6:30 – 7:00 BTG Committee

Opening of Meeting

- Open at 7:30pm with Serenity Prayer
- General Service Preamble – read by Dennis H. (*District Committee Member Chair - DCMC*)
- Long Form Tradition 10 read by Fiona B. & Concept 10 read by Susan K.
- New GSR/DCMs Fiona B. – GSR Surf; Susan K. – GSR women's promises; Jennifer N. – Alt GSR Wharf Rats; Paul R. – GSR Embarcadero Group; Sean Ridgeway – Alt GSR Men's Gentle Touch; Lex C. – Alt GSR Cow Hollow Young People; Susan C. – GSR Road to Freedom; M.J. G. – GSR Came to Park
- **Anniversaries:** Jennifer N. 3 years;
- **Visitors:** Joann L., Delegate CNCA, Petaluma
- Prior month's minutes (Sept 12th 2017) approved with a spelling correction: Micael B.

Presentations

- **Financial Report** – Gilbert G., District Treasurer: an amends couldn't print out financial report corrupted; reviewed financial reports; standard expenses; that leaves us with; finally above our prudent reserve; Reviewed financial report and group contributions; expenses;
- **Presentation of Concept 10** – Jerry O. – GSR Reality Farm
 - Volunteer for 2 minute presentation of Concept 11 (Nov 14th: Fiona B. – GSR Surf)
- **DCMC Report** – Dennis H. (*District Committee Member Chair*): flyers are up here on the table; something exciting- our CNCA Delegate who is here tonight is preparing a bid to host the International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous in 2030; in order to do this, we need some commitment from the area; this is definitely something you'll want to talk to you groups about; Joann – would you like to say a few words about it? //

Joann: Yes! So how do you all feel about throwing a party for 300,000 people? We will need about 4,000 volunteers ready and able to host the convention; so please ask your group and get a general number of how many people are willing to commit to make it and help out in 2030; I keep telling ACYPAA to sign up to help; i figure they are the ones who are going to still be young and strong enough to do a lot of the work right! I mean it's over a decade away!; so once you get the number of willing volunteers from your group, you can send that number to us at this email: AA2030@CNCA.org; be sure to do this soon; we're submitting paperwork at end of Nov//
Q: the what? //A: International convention of AA – happens once every five years; the previous one was in Atlanta in 2015//

DCMC Report cont... Dennis – reminder for registration if you haven't received your GSR orientation packet from GSO please make sure our registrar Neil has your information // Q: I used to get the comments a week before this meeting, but now I don't get them until afterward; do you know why?//A: well yes – so for each panel, one of the districts takes on the commitment of producing, printing and mailing the Comments; sometimes it takes the new district a while to get the hang of it and get it going in a timely manner that you're used to; Make sure you pick up your conference report; the theme is "Supporting Our Future" and there are lots of great ideas in here about how; Looking forward - our Nov District meeting will be turned over to our group inventory; at this point are there any Qs about the inventory?//Q: who do I talk to get on the email list?// A: when you register with Neil – he will send your email to Caleb who is in charge of the distribution list// Q: who do I talk to get my GSR packet?// A:

after you register with Neil your information goes to the Area and GSO; GSO was backed up and running behind getting out all the GSR orientation packets in a timely manner; usually it takes about two months but it's been taking a lot longer// Comment: I just got mine and and it's been a year and i put in my request two or more times// Q: So the information in the emails, and also all the information that everyone has been talking about tonight; can I get the emails from tonight and will I be able to receive everything that was just talked about?// A: if you want the emails that were sent out for tonight, please make sure your email is on this sheet and I'll forward it to you// Comment: I just found finding the email address for the conference teddy's report in the CNCA comments it is pg 3// Q: How to make a change to the big book; to wive should be to spouses// joann is a great resource // get a group conscious have a discussion or more than three months; then when the district is in favor; take to the area; and discuss; then delegate send to NY as an agenda topic; that's a good reminder

Officers/Liaison reports

- **PI/CPC Liaison** - Justin H.: PI/CPC provides information about what aa is and what aa is not to those who encounter alcoholics in the real world; medical doctors, clergy, therapists, mental health providers and others; the 2nd Monday of the month is the orientation at 6pm at central office; all you have to do is attend; or you can contact us and schedule orientation for your group; the website is aasf.org/PICPCservice
- **H&I Liaison** – Brad K.: H&I really needs support now; there are something like 45 slots that are still open; facilities are asking for us to bring meetings in and we aren't able to do it because we don't have the people; come to the orientation to help out; always on the 3rd Sat of month; 11am – noon;// Q: are you going to have an orientation at Unity Day?// A: yes, the H&I orientation is 2pm Oct 14th at the Urban Life Center during Unity Day.
- **GGYPAA Liaison** – Mac E.: filling in for GGYPAA liaison; SCCYPAA hosting Bay Area wide Halloween dance October 29th 2017. San Jose Masonic Center 2455 Masonic Drive San Jose, CA 95125; 7pm meeting featuring horror stories in sobriety; Dance after meeting; ACYPAA is co-hosting; sumit for 2019; if you have any Qs I can talk with you after the meeting; and i have a digital file for the Halloween meeting & dance
- **Recording Secretary** - Chelsea W.; please send me your liaison & officer reports;
- **Intergroup Technology Committee** – Fiona B.; we're going to have a presentation at Unity Day this Sat Oct 14th that was given at the most recent National AA Technology Workshop in Sacramento; Fred, who is in general service in NY, will be giving an amazing presentation that he gave at the workshop which will be recorded and using an Aasf.org web chat prototype;
- **District Events Co-Chairs Report**: Elena and Neredia – Unity Day; down to the wire; we really do need as many of you as available; thank you Fiona for talking about the Tech web cast; Brouck lives in phoenix and he is flying in especially for this; he was the speaker at Unity Day 21 years ago; Brouck needs a place to stay; so just putting it out there that if you're able and have a guest room for Friday night please let me know; we can still use Volunteers on the actual day too; we did have a couple people sign up but now it turns out they cannot help; we still need people to be of service for registration, lunch, clean up; also, please get the information out to your groups; fliers over there; take them and hand them out at your groups; if you're unable to go to the summitt ACYPAA are going to be at unity day// Q: should we bring a pie? //A: no – no thanks; we'll have a ton of food // Q: should we be announcing this at our meeting// A: yes absolutely and these next few days are your last chance! Get the word out!

Visiting Area Officer

Area Alt Delegate: Joann L Area Delegate CNCA

Has anyone read AA comes of age? It's really incredible to read; it shares all about early AA and how in the early days there was a lot of working with wet drunks; because it was still so early and the program

wasn't yet what it is today - somebody would die and they would be like that doesn't work; we don't have to reinvent the wheel; we have this great tradition of inventory; we grow by our willingness to admit and rectify our parts; what I always say is courageous conversations; the questions for the Area Inventory on Nov 4th are already online; and we really want to know how you feel about them; is there something in that Q you feel needs to be changed;// Q: when you did an inventory at your group level, how did you get your group to be willing to do it?// A: I believe the way I mentioned it was "I think it's a violation of the traditions" and would you be willing to take an inventory; I did my homework; I called NY; called other groups; I was prepared for that inventory; I wrote everything down I wanted to say so I wouldn't forget my points; not soon after, amazingly, the steering committee position opened and I made myself available; some of the suggestions I made, the group voted in; it took an awful lot for me as a very shy person; I kept reminding myself- courageous conversations; there are so many opportunities; whether it's at your area, dist, group; if something doesn't feel right – you can speak up; The way I was taught to do it is - can I say what I mean without being mean?; I want to get a point across; it's so important to do your homework; writing down if you have something to say when you go up to the microphone; call NY they will talk to you; we put their number on back of comments; try to come up with some solutions; make sure to have a note taker at all inventories; remind everyone that an inventory is not the time to make a motion or a change; it's a time to speak our minds, our concerns, our experience; later, as a group, do we want to make a motion to change this? – it's for Later; my home group had an issue where we weren't being welcoming to new people; we had a group inventory and it was discussed; as a result of the conversation the whole group changed its behavior - they were kind of self correcting; in AA that does happen; putting it out there people will change their behavior due to bringing it to light; do your homework; be courageous; bring some notes; participation is the key to harmony; when we all share our voice, it works// Any Questions?// Q: What was the problem with your home group when they weren't following traditions?// A: they were paying a babysitter and the money was being paid out of the 7th tradition// Q: I've actually been asked to facilitate a group inventory, how do I do that?// A: select your Qs, have them known before the inventory, so people have them do their homework; bring an outside note taker who will write down what people say and return to the group so they can review what was said; explain ahead of time that it's important to be mindful of the time and be a good time keeper; when everyone present has had a chance to share, ask them - are you done with this Q or do you need to go around second time; let the group decide; not every Q is pertinent to the group; the checklists Qs are other good inventory// Q: I've never been to a group inventory at the Area, what happens?// A: well, the facilitator will be Bob W, a past Trustee, the qs are already on the Fall Assembly flyer that's out; review it ahead of time and see if you can bring your group's conscience; have the experience of participation; be sure to look at his socks; our facilitator has a sock sponsor; he'll show them off too! He puts his leg up on the podium; we are not a glum lot!

****** 7th trad ******

Dennis – going to talk a little about our district inventory that we'll be having at this meeting next month; these are proposed Qs for our district inventory; there should be a list of the Qs on your tables; I'll talk a little about the inventory we're going to do next month; proposing these Qs to be the questions we'll discuss; they are based on the traditions checklist, the group pamphlet, the concepts; we're open to any suggestions to change any of the Qs, remove or add to them, clarifications;... so, how we do it here, traditionally, we always have an inventory in the middle of the panel; it's a good time to take inventory; during the first year of the panel; even if newer GSRs don't have a year of experience, we still hope for your participation; newer experiences tend to be really helpful; what we do not so well, and what we have done that is working; we divide up into groups; we just count off into three groups; Qs chosen at random; we invite facilitators so everyone in our district can participate; but traditionally, the

DCMC doesn't participate; we have our visiting area officer facilitate one group, and two DCMCs from other districts will come and help too; we'll have about one hour; good chance to talk in your group between now and then; facilitators will bring along a note taker and will present for about five mins on what happened in each group's discussion; the things that we're not doing well - these are not set in stone; we can always make adjustment// Q: do we know ahead of time which Qs will be discussed in our group?// A: no it's random; // Comment: my experience has been that when we draw from the hat, while the questions asked seem specific to a topic, my experience has shown that if there are underlying issues in the group – no matter the topic of the questions presented – the underlying issue rises to the top; so even if you have your heart set on discussing a specific questions, don't worry if your don't get it – chances are you'll have multiple opportunities to present your specific concerns, just be open to different avenues to get there;// Q: the use of the word 'district' is confusing. Is this for the assembly inventory or our meeting- like the group I represent or here for the GSR meeting?// A: we're taking our dist inventory – not inventory of your group- the meeting you are GSR for; the focus is on this meeting; this as a service;/ anything else; if you have a question, I'm sure others do as well; read them over and please let me know// Q: I don't understand one of Q's – what is the spiritual principle underlying the right of participation – What's that?// A: you can find more information about the answer in your service manual under Concept 4; also you should know that someone will be there to help explain //Q: when is a good time to talk to my group about this?// A: anytime – you represent your group so you can make your best judgement// Q: So I'm supposed take this home and read it and keep the district in mind?// A: yes - it should raise issues in your mind; give me a call or send me an email if you want to discuss or give back before the inventory; we'll be talking about these next month at the dist meeting; just to assess this group; we want to know things like “how's the information we provide working?” “how are you participating?” and we're asking these Qs about this group; not your home group; but how the district is serving you? we're at the halfway point of the panel so if we are going to make adjustments, this is a good time.

Dennis – now we're going to hear from our District Treasurer Gilbert; he will give a presentation of the proposed Budget for 2018; it's basically how we are going to spend the money that is sent to us from the groups; please ask Qs depending upon what you see; this is generally done as a housekeeping motion; we want to make sure you agree with what's happen with your group's money; hopefully we'll vote in Dec; depending on if we're going to be able to discuss at the Nov meeting;

Gilbert - Please see the proposed budget previously sent out; I apologize that one of the attachments wasn't able to open in a printable format //Q: how close to the estimates are the actual numbers so far? // A: are we on track //Q: why is the amount for events so different?// A: as i recall the reason has to do with the timing; we paid more than previous year; we're not anticipating the same expense because we expect dif timing//

Dennis – at this time I'd like to hear any group consciences on the issue of full face PSAs; we'll be discussing this at the ACM; any group conscience you'd like to present?// I kind of knew where my group was going to go with this and my group was is disagreement; they disagree with it; // we had lots of opinions; mostly attraction rather than promotion; would this be promoting a 'face of AA'; they like the idea of AA being nameless; treading the line on traditions and others were saying let's trust our trusted servants; // discussed with group and they felt that to have an actor portray an alcoholic goes against rigorous honesty; it's not honest to have these are actors portraying members of AA; they were in disagreement with the motion// ultimately we were unanimously against it; first in a semantic debate; but then we concluded we're against it // I'm a director so I think a lot about situations like this; a big part of what PSAs do is share what AA is *not*; there is a huge recovery movement putting out so many

experiences with a ton of full face advertisements; these are for treatment centers; people portraying that center's recovery; there's currently a lot of patient brokering; potential for scandal; one very simple way to differentiate AA from all those advertisements is to not do what they're doing with the full face ads; PSAs are about information; the Australian full face are really about the problem and not about the solution; and I can't go to AA to get away from the problem; that's the information needed// when I saw the Australian 'morning after' PSA; the look on her face was so spot on; and the other video 'business man in the bathroom stall'; that can't be replicated without a full face // adults don't need full face but younger people do; so it depends on who we're aiming this PSA at//

Dennis – Thank you; and remember, there's lots of information about this topic in past cnca comments; this topic is still at the area meeting; still have time to take a group conscience from your group; make sure your group's voice is heard; go to the area and share so your group has a say – it's why we have these discussions

What's on your mind? // Will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary at the Brisbane Community Center (under the library), 250 Visitacion Avenue, in Brisbane. Speaker is John C., from San Francisco. Potluck at 10:00 AM; A.A. Meeting starts at 11:00 AM//

Closing:

- Close 9:01