

District 06 (San Francisco) **MINUTES** for General Service Business Meeting
Tuesday March 13, 2018
St Mark's Church, Fellowship Hall (downstairs) 1111 O'Farrell St. San Francisco CA

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

6:30 – 7:00pm Bridging the Gap Orientation – led by Courtney W. BTG Co-Chair

6:30 – 7:30pm 12 Concepts & Service Manual Study – led by Nereida G. GSR Sesame Step

6:30 – 7:25pm GSR Sharing Session – led by DCMs Christopher C. & Chelsea W

Opening of Meeting

- Open at 7:30pm with Serenity Prayer
- General Service Preamble – read by Dennis H [REDACTED] (*District Committee Member Chair - DCMC*)
- Reading of Concept One - Neil F; Reading of Tradition One long form - Kristee O [REDACTED] GSR
Kookoo Humpday Wed 6pm Davies Campus CPMC
- **Welcome new GSRs:** Kristee O [REDACTED] GSR Kookoo Humpday Wed 6pm Davies Campus CPMC;
Niko B [REDACTED] GSR Ocean of Sobriety Weds 8:30pm
- **Welcome Visitors:** Nora H [REDACTED] Alt DCMC Dist 70; Teddy B [REDACTED] Alternate Delegate; Nicholas Alt DCMC Dist 40; Drew [REDACTED] Love & Service Group, Contra Costa; Ema District 16 Spanish Central (San Francisco/ San Mateo)
- **Sobriety Anniversaries:** - Brad K [REDACTED] 11 years; Tasha 4 years; Chelsea W [REDACTED] 10 years
- Brief description of “**What is a Service Sponsor?**” and those willing to be a service sponsor raise hands.
- **Prior Month's Minutes:** approved with spelling amendment for Nereida's name; a big thank you to DCM Christopher C for filling in as Recording Secretary last month (Feb 2018)

Presentations

- **Financial Report** – Gilbert G [REDACTED] District Treasurer: Financial report – make amends, was super sick and haven't been able to do the duties; that is why there are no group contributions; stay tuned for updates
- **Presentation of Concept One** – Steve B. GSR at 2900 24th St, Mission Fellowship, Fri 6pm
- Volunteer for April Concept 4: Beth Saunders GSR
- **DCMC Report** – Dennis H [REDACTED]: if you need back ground material for the agenda topics I'm happy to share with you via drop box, please email me; Important agenda topics summaries are up here; Pre-conference assembly fliers (sorry I only printed the flyer in Spanish); Remember we have important Area Business meetings before the sharing of group conferences on Agenda Topics – and at the Business Meeting there is a Motion that we will discuss about asking the Board to consider publishing a 5th edition of the Big Book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, so keep that in mind; still waiting on the Post-Conference fliers – Save the Date it's May 12th in Solano County; keep in mind we have a number of open positions, we have many DCM positions open; Also, our District Registrar Neil F. had to step down due to lack of time for the commitment; we are

going to hold off on electing a new Registrar at this time because there are changes happening at the Area level that would probably mean whoever takes on the position would have to learn the current way and then another way right after that; so Justin and I will be updating the registration database for the next few months and then we will elect someone for this position; if you're interested in Archives I have someone helping me, but let me know if you're interested; We also need to fill the position of Intergroup Liaison// Steve B volunteers to fill the service position// And we'll be filling the Co-Chair position for BTG through Third Legacy Election next month I believe; And very important this weekend we have our and with that I will turn it over to our Event Co-Chairs.

- Agenda Topics Workshop – Nereida G. & Luke H. Event Co-Chairs: The Agenda Topics Workshops is happening so soon! Here's the high-lights: you'll learn how to get a group conscious; you'll learn what the delegate needs to know; what goes on at the Pre-Conf Assemblies; getting a sense of what's going on in AA as a whole; I didn't understand what any of this was when I showed up at my first Agenda Topics Workshop – so if that is where you are – know that is totally ok! Now I know generally what's going on and how people are recovering and passing it on as far the organization which saved my life; and I really started being able to get it just by going to the workshop; I'm looking forward to presenting on the Agenda Topic – Item E under Public Information about proposed revisions to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity"// Q from the floor: "how do these items get in here?"// A: these topics all come from the fellowship; someone can write in on an issue – send their idea directly to GSO, often a Group usually presents an idea to their district which gets discussed and voted on and then presented at the area where it will be discussed and voted on again, and if the fellowship decides to send it on, the Delegate passes it on to GSO where the board decides whether or not it will become an agenda topic// Q: so as a GSR, am I supposed to get feedback from my group for the Agenda Topics Workshop? // A: you can – but it's more important to have your group's conscious for the Pre-Conference Assembly – this year April 7th & 8th in San Jose// stresses the importance the importance of the GSR to the group; if you know a group who doesn't have a GSR, you can let the group know that many member from the Group can come to the Agenda Topics Workshop; it starts at 12:30pm on the dot and doors open at noon. It's not just for GSRs invite all group members; there will be food!

- 2018 Unity & Service Conference – Drew: from the group Love & Service: I'm here to let you all know about the 3rd annual Unity & Service Conference in Concord, CA on July 20th-22nd; in a nutshell this conference is about experiences in service and applying the principles in the Traditions and Concepts in their lives; great speakers on many topics; please take a stack of fliers; would anyone like spread the word about the conference; if you talk to Nick had a great time; thanks for your support and we hope to see you all this year.

- DCMC cont... – Dennis H: We are going to hear from Ema on the Hispanic Women's Workshop; I'm very excited to hear from her; you might not be aware of this, but Spanish speaking women are considered a remote community in Alcoholics Anonymous; now here's Ema and Nicholas will be translating for her-

• Hispanic Women's Workshop – Ema, Co-Coordinator for 3rd annual HWW 2018: I want to start with my experience about one of the 12 promises; presenting up here is a demonstration that I loose fear toward people; I want to first say thank you for allowing me to present on the HWW the third in the state; this is truly a gift that we get to host this year; my sobriety date is April 21st 2006; for my entire sobriety, I was hoping something like this would come about; I'm going to share about 5 mins my personal experience and I hope to communicate to you why the HWW is so important; when I came to AA I was looking for something I could not find; I thought in my mind I needed someone else to live off of; I thought it would be AA; they were going to show me how to drink; but there wasn't a woman to approach when I came in; I didn't know who to approach; I was kind of scared; but I had a good friend help me with what was going on in that moment; I got into an emotional path; I started believing it could work for me; I tried to find a sponsor – my only options were a male sponsor; before I knew, I had three months of abstinence; that's something that never happened for be before on my own; when I was drinking it was very difficult for me to stop by myself; I didn't know how to confront what was happening to me; true I was not drinking now that I was at meetings but I didn't have anyone in the rooms; it really felt like there was no one to help me because I was the only woman I saw; there were a lot of people there, but no one could help; I was the joke for my community; because I was female no one would help me; there was one other woman who would come by sometimes; she was the only person who approached me; She had 8 months – and then I was about 8 months as well; but she didn't have a program either; she came and said – we need to help each other; and I said yes; we can do this; and we need to do something for our women because no one is doing anything for them; right after we had that talk, that woman was killed by her husband and then he killed himself; and when I was so new to sobriety and did not have a program, I went to jail for Domestic Violence; so I felt like she could be me – or I could be her; I see what it is like to have untreated alcoholism – even with no drinking; the disease will still take our sanity and our lives; when this motion about a pamphlet specifically for the Hispanic Female came out I understood a lot about why we need it; a Higher Power gave me the opportunity to live and she had to leave us and I now feel this huge commitment toward service; because I get to stay her; sober and alive; so when I got a call from a fellow member from Area 05 about us here in the San Francisco Bay Area hosting the 3rd Hispanic Women's Workshop, I knew I had to say yes; we need this workshop; we are community that has so much machismo; and I was scared to say yes; I told Teddy "I don't have anyone"; Teddy said "we can help you"; this is how we started; and now we will host the HWW in December 2018; I also ask you, please to consider request for development of a new pamphlet the Hispanic women in our fellowship and community; there's a lot of Hispanic women and if they read this type of experience - the new comer can identify with the pamphlet; would be the hand of AA to the woman who is still suffering; this will be extending the hand of AA to the woman; to let them know they are not alone; that they do not have to feel embarrassed to be part of AA; they ask why are there not any Spanish women alcoholics in the group; they are alone and abandoned; we cannot have this be any more; now we are the first generation; they have very little resources; they don't feel safe; they don't have access to what others have and no one has come before; I was at the 2nd HWW in Pasadena and we had attendance of appx 145 women and our goal is that we have 200+ this year; I am very grateful to your District; there is a lot of work to do and we have to start somewhere; it's like when you look at the topics and I see the

topic for the Hispanic woman; I know that there is going to be a great outcome out from this - thank you again for supporting us; to be truthful – I feel very happy; excited; at the same time; and I know that things happen for a reason; any questions?// Q: can men come?// A: not yet; there will be other ways for men to get involved as we grow; // Q: how can we help support? // A: first committee this week; Richmond; tomorrow; I can tell you after meeting. // Q: We went to Spanish speaking meeting and it was hostile; the men treated us terribly; what's the status of Spanish speaking meeting for women in San Francisco?// A: we do not have any right now; we go to the Spanish speaking meetings in So. SF and San Mateo

- Visiting Area Officer – Teddy B-W. Alternate Delegate CNCA 06:

Topic: Agenda Topics – stimulate interest in our groups about the agenda topics; different topics mean different things to different group; dif groups find dif topics of dif importance; you know your group so reflect on what they might be most interested in; Also, let them know that if they don't give you their opinion, then you'll just be taking your own opinion to pass on!; consider providing food; get a budget for having the group conscience meeting; tell them why they might want to be involved in sharing on the agenda topics; our founders had the vision that we would grow up if we take responsibility for ourselves; back in 1950 at the very first convention of Alcoholics Anonymous the founders set it up so they passed on the leadership of AA to the groups; If we want it to remain this democratic process that we love – we need our group members to show up and let our delegate know; this year there are topics such as producing literature called The 'God' Word; and, to meet the needs of Spanish speaking women in Alcoholics Anonymous a pamphlet for this group; so grateful those topics are in there; the world around us is changing at a fast rate; so how do we stay true to our traditions and still keep up where we have to?; how are we going to embrace social media; I think we're going to make a lot of mistakes; good people and good motives; and how we are going to make mistakes?; so I am really glad that we get to talk about what to do with the lawsuit and what happened; email today that really threw – I was asked "what would have happened if bill had died without having general service structure in place?"; I'd like to think AA would have survived; any questions? // Q How is the delegate elected? // A: Every two years at the Area 06 election Assembly // Q: What was it like to get to get your group's consciences? // A: We'd do a sharing session; and think about how important it is; several hundred thousand groups in North America; if you even have sharing session on one topic - you're already doing a lot better than a lot of the groups // Q: What if we have too limited time for a sharing session? //A: that's fine; you can do what you're able; it is typical that timing is tight; you can tell your group that we're going to get one crack at it; / Also keep in mind that the Pacific Regional Forum is happening this year in San Jose, September 7-9; happens this close to us only once every 30 years! It's where GSO comes to us; I highly recommend it! Not to be missed.

DCMC closes meeting at 8:58pm