

District 06 (San Francisco) **MINUTES** for General Service Business Meeting **Tuesday 8th of May 2018**
St Mark's Church, Fellowship Hall (downstairs) 1111 O'Farrell St. San Francisco CA

6:30 – 7:00 New GSR Orientation

6:30 – 7:00 GSR Sharing Session

6:30 – 7:00 Bridging the Gap

6:30 – 7:30 12 Concepts & Service Manual Study

7:30 – 9:00 District Meeting

Opening of Meeting

- Open at 7:30pm with Serenity Prayer
- General Service Preamble – read by Dennis H. (*District Committee Member Chair - DCMC*)
- Reading of Tradition 5 Phil S [REDACTED] GSR for Sunday Speaker Step & Concept 5 Dirk B [REDACTED] Sunday Night Castro Speaker Discussion
- Brief description “**What is a Service Sponsor?**” those willing to be a service sponsor raise hands.
- **Welcome new GSRs:** Phil S [REDACTED] – GSR, for Sunday Speaker Step; Dirk B [REDACTED] – GSR, Sunday Night Castro Speaker Discussion • **Welcome Visitors:** Eric L [REDACTED] CNCA Recording Secretary • **Sobriety Anniversaries:** Gilbert G. - 27 years; Kristen - 9 years; Jerry - 5 years; Courtney W. - 5 years; Dennis H. - 22 years • **Prior Month's Minutes:** accepted as written

Presentations

- **Financial Report** – Gilbert G [REDACTED] District Treasurer: Reviews financial statements; funds in; expenses; there is one mistake/typo; the last row numbers have not been carrying over; caught this afternoon; will adjust; it means our amount over reserve is actually greater than what we have listed; also – please review group contributions and if you don't see your group, let me know and we can investigate what's going on.
- **Presentation of Concept Five** – Hemanth S [REDACTED] – GSR Say Hey //Volunteer for June Concept 6: Steve R
- **DCMC Report** – Dennis H [REDACTED]: this Sat is the post conf assembly; we'll hear what happened at the GS Conf in NY; who is going and who can drive?; one thing I'd like to mention - The God Word passed; but no more spoilers; the Area is putting on a workshop for Legal, Tax, and Insurance Considerations for AA Groups; August 25th 3pm-5pm at the Petaluma Community Center; Also – please keep in mind next month we will be meeting at the Urban Life Center across the plaza; Joann will be visiting to give the delegates report;
- **Intergroup Liaison** – Steve R; staffing the committee positions; teleservice is so low on volunteers there is consideration to either outsource or answering machines; not just answering calls but there is a new chat function; over night shifts; and we need coordinators; please come to the next orientation
- **PI/CPC Liaison** – Justin H: orientation next Monday the 14th at Central Office **at 6:30pm**; we are looking for volunteers to help at the booths we have for Sunday Streets for the next 9 months or so; We're in the process of coordinating a podcast in June with “What's Really Happening” on fccfreeradio.com
- **GGYPAA Rep** – Justin H: elections just happened; next biz meeting Sun June 10th at noon at central office; Next month event - volleyball; meeting; BBQ; June 23rd 11am-3pm Piper Park 250 Doherty Drive Larkspur
- **DCMC Report cont...** – Dennis H: open positions; think about DCM for next year; in July we will do a third legacy election for the position of Registrar; for now, circle back to the motion we passed a while back about hosting a Safety Workshop with Marin and Intergroup; we need to choose a rep from our D06; you'll be point person and then you will likely do the work of getting more folks involved; it is somewhat vague so far because it is in the early stages of planning; are there any questions? // Q: when is the first meeting? // A: that is to be decided by the people attended – might be a conference call; // Steve R: I can do it// Great// // Q: What is required of the Registrar Position? // A: it's for the district and the registrar coordinates with the CNCA registrar; you can find the 'Job Descriptions' on the San Francisco General Service website

Open Service Positions: Safety Workshop liaison – Steve R will do this position

- **Visiting Area Officer** – Eric L [REDACTED] CNCA Recording Secretary
Topic: *Why are we here?*: When I was first a GSR; I had no idea what was going on; I went to assemblies and

votes were going on and I had no idea what to do; my sponsor had me jump right in; I started learning how AA works beyond the group; for example, I can tell you a few things about what happened at the GS Conf last week; I'll only share a few things because the Post-Conf assembly is happening on Saturday and I really hope you all get to come; it's really great; so, the Conf decided to not create a new pamphlet specifically about ESH for the atheists, but instead they passed "The 'God' word"; also, the pamphlet for the Spanish-Speaking woman passed; the board will not be censured, nor reorganized; the motion that our area presented, about text being re-added back into Living Sober – that motion passed; going into this GS Conf, there were predictions this would be a contentious conference; considering what was on the agenda for the board; but it wasn't; it was very productive; I was surprised about the God Word passing; usually, the process of approving new literature is so slow; I am an atheist and my heart skipped when I heard this passed; it took me a long time to come out as an atheist; today I know that I don't have to believe in god; or conform perfectly; I know all this - now; such an obvious thing now; when I was new, I could have thought "I don't belong here"; because I was gay; but I saw the pamphlet "AA for the Gay and Lesbian"; I stole this pamphlet; that pamphlet is the reason I went back to my second meeting; when AA was first beginning, in 1939, there was a woman who lived in SF and she drove all the way to LA to go to an AA meeting; the first Friday she showed up, the AAs had her go make coffee and wash mugs with the wives; but when she got back to SF, she contacted the people in NY – at what was to become Central Office NY – and complained; then the next time she drove to LA for the meeting – the members were ready to welcome her as a member; seriously though, starting her, and driving to LA to go to a meeting – that is going to any lengths; and then imagine feeling unwelcome; and then imagine going back!; the conf talks about these things; and to bring it home, think about someone in your group who no one likes; actually, I was that person when I first got sober; I came to AA in booty shorts and a tank top; I'd skip up to guys and say "how much for a blow job?"; I was the opposite of appropriate; there was someone who wasn't afraid of me, and who let me feel welcome, and who also taught me a bit about how to behave; he was a large person, and bald; very tough looking; and he could keep control of me - the bald guy; so it was pretty obvious I was gay; but I had a way harder time with not believing in God; when I came out as an atheist – that was harder; my sponsor always taught me to look for that person who is super uncomfortable and extend a welcoming hand to them; that is how we practice inclusion; my service sponsor says "one day someone is going to come in with two heads, and if we wonder what we're supposed to do – we'll get them two cups of coffee, because I'm sure they'll need both!"; there are only three more assemblies this panel; I drive from SJ; I went with Diane O who was the Delegate in 1985; You're the most famous city in our area; it is a commitment to get to Assemblies when you live in SF because it's not a given that people who live here have cars; so I really love seeing a presence from SF because it means that you went out of your way to get transportation to get there; I really hope that I see a lot of you there // Q: if someone really like transcribing things, is there anything we can do to be of service? // A: yes actually; technology has essentially failed us; we have a motions book of all the motions ever made at CNCA and the document is so large it cannot keep up; so we are re-writing up all of it into a new document; so many people have made themselves available that each person is only doing about three pages; all the English speaking districts and two of the Spanish speaking districts have multiple volunteers; it's inspiring

***** 7th Tradition *****

Area Committee Meeting: Old Business at Area Assembly: "That literature be developed sharing experience strength and hope on meditation" - *Presented by District 90*

GROUP CONSCIENCES: what's in the book is enough; what we have currently have in our current literature is enough; getting into meditation was difficult; putting it in the right place is important; maybe we can have it as a Grapevine book; step 11 suggestions prayer *and* meditation to address both parts// the group pamphlet wouldn't be read// pamphlets were the things that made me want to stay in AA; pamphlets addresses more difficult topics; I want to see the pamphlet; why not; why not one more? // **Personal Opinions:** we have a whole chapter in the 12x12; upon reflection people kind of let it go; pamphlets are these things that are useful for inclusion and the cost of pamphlet are pretty tiny; no one is forcing a meeting to carry a pamphlet // I love

pamphlets and I find them useful; please keep in mind that it is totally non-denomination; I do feel that it is already well covered in our current literature // my concern would be to represent the diversity of all the paths of meditation; so how do atheists; Catholics and Buddhists; I would like to see diversity; // my experience with meditation is that I sought things outside of AA to boost my meditation; I feel strange about having AA publish those types of things; because would certain things be endorsed?; // this is my first day as a GSR; I am just taking this in; who is going to see that and walk out because of it? ok if we are going to talk about this – are we going step into outside issue territory; what if we drew from already existing AA literature?// I used to use drugs and alcohol to stop my mind from racing; what I have found about meditation is that it helps me to quiet my mind; there are many ways that the pamphlet can be inclusive; I am curious about what the fellowship will decide to do

New Business at Area Assembly: “That the Trustees’ Literature Committee consider publishing a 5th Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, with updated stories to more broadly reflect our current fellowship, as well as updates or additions to Appendices III and V.” - *Presented by District 40*

GROUP CONSCIENCES: when we were getting a group conscious, if members ask us a lot of Qs, how are we going to have access to the information to answer their Qs?; I rep a YP meeting and people are looking for reflections of their experiences as YP; expressed distaste RE gendered approach; the general sense was a desire for neutral pro-nouns rather than the whole written by men for men; // everyone was in support, specifically at least starting the preliminary process; being a part of an updated; felt pretty strongly about not changing the first 164; but def open to it// **Personal Opinions:** what I understand is that it takes years and years; we can update the forwards; stories in the back of the book; atheists; letting groups know the timeline; hella long; probably take two years to approve at the Area; then up to the Delegate to pass on to board who may or may not transition it to an Agenda Topic; then if it passes at the GS Conf – after that, two more years to gather stories and then another year or two to review the stories in the GS Lit Committee; then usually takes a little longer than regular lit production – bc it’s the Big book // is it time we look at We Agnostics? // here’s food for thought ‘why don’t we change To Wives’? this is going to be part of a much larger discussion// **DCMC:** How would you like to discuss this topic? // **Q:** how are we going to define the scope to our members; how would we know what we’re voting on? // **A:** Dist 40 has worded their motion pretty specifically; so the scope will be in their motion; the scope that is presented in their motion is the scope; but my experience has been that it’s important to hear all parts of the discussion; and it tends to be more important to hear what people are thinking and feeling – we are not bound by a particular wording of a district’s motion – or even the wording of an agenda topic; we are bound by what our group wants; so if our group has a lot of other ideas and feedback – maybe we need another motion? Does that answer your question?// **YES// Comment:** The soonest we would vote on this motion would be May 2019 at the pre-conf; so at the Post Conf it is *presentation* of New Biz; it will be New Biz in the Summer; in the fall we have the election assembly is only the election; we don’t do any business; we don’t vote on something until it is old biz and the first assembly that will be, is the Pre-conf in May 2019 // **Comment:** your job is to clearly define what the motion is but I would not limit the discussion; that’s just my personal opinion; you know your group better than I do; I think is really the heart of what we do; anymore opinions or questions or want to disagree with what // and I think also if my group spends a lot of time; supplemental literature;

What’s on your mind? Spanish speaking women’s meeting; Thursdays 6pm at Grupo Hispano// atheists agnostics conference in Toronto // Unity & Service conference Hilton Concord // teleservice really struggling need volunteers next orientation May 21st 6pm central office // I raised my hand earlier service sponsor and if you want to come with me to meet with me and my service sponsor- he is awesome; we can all meet together as a group and do this together// **Q:** who is your service sponsor?// **A:** I’ll tell you when you come talk to me// fccradio.com **Closing:** Sample GSR report// Close 9:01pm with responsibility statement