

District 06 (San Francisco) Minutes for General Service Business Meeting  
**Tuesday September 10, 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
- Justin H. reads the General Service Preamble
- Reading of Tradition Nine by Dave.
- Reading of Concept Nine by Mike B.
- **Welcome new GSRs or DCMs:** Tony, Alt-GSR Wharf Rats. Dave, GSR Say Hey Tuesday. Mike B., GSR Like a Prayer.

**DCM Introduction.** Beth S., DCM 375 evening meetings at 2900 Florida. Luke H. 230 by Alamo Square/Lower Haight. Jackie B. DCM 270, Inner Sunset near the Gratitude Center. Steve R., 240 Presidio Cow Hollow. Linda V. 250 the Richmond and Land's End. Chelsea W., alternate DCM for all other districts.

*Two minute break for GSRs to meet their DCM.*

Justin H. talks briefly about a service sponsor and asked for a show of hands of those willing to be service sponsors.

Assembly this Saturday – “I can drive / I need a ride” sign-up sheet is passed around.

- **Welcome Visitors:** Ravi, former GSR visiting. Miguel H., recording secretary for California Northern Coastal Area.
- **Anniversaries:** Scott 12 years.
- **Prior Month's Minutes:** Accepted as written with a note of misspelling of Ron's name – will be correct from here on out.

**Financial Report** – Beth S., district treasurer. Group contributions, all groups that have made contributions this year are listed. If your group is not listed but should be, ask your group's treasurer or see me. If you DO see your group on this list, please thank your group for their contribution.

Income/Expenses includes previous months and August 2019. Overall total income \$1,131.75 almost entirely from group contributions. Expenses 1,153.99 - a large expense was for our upcoming Unity Day. For the year we are “in the black” about \$780.

**Summary of Service Manual Study.** Jeff S.. Chapter 9. The General Service Board. Trustees came on board in 1951 when Bill and Dr. Bob gave up control running AA. There are 21 Trustees in two classes, 14 Alcoholic and 7 Non-Alcoholic. Interesting is that the non-alcoholic trustees serve 2 consecutive 3-year terms and they may go on to serve a third term, for a total of 9 years. There are 8 regional trustees. 2 Trustees at Large, 1 Canadian and one in the USA. 4 General Service trustees. They all serve on board committees. Last month we talked about the different conference committees, but these committees correspond to conference committees, but not all. The trustees do most of the work for the big-c Conference. They are the custodians of the Conference.

Justin – the AA Board just elected two new Class A (non-alcoholic) trustees. Dr. Al and Sister Judith. go to AA.org and see the Press and the Media page.

**DCMC Report – Justin H.** There are a number of things going on in the area. This Saturday is the Summer Assembly in Petaluma. If you just want to show up for the day it'll be really cool. Business meeting in the morning and workshops in the afternoon. There will also be a special election for the Area Treasurer.

Unity Day on October 12<sup>th</sup> in San Francisco at the Urban Life Center.

District 6 is hosting the Area Inventory Assembly in November Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Mary's Cathedral. It's like a group conscience for our District. (dinner the evening prior)

The Area is asking for input on: should Area assemblies be open/closed, are groups in favor of a new edition of the Big Book, and producing a pamphlet for the trans alcoholic.

### **Liaison Reports**

Steve R. – Intergroup SF/Marin. The Safety Workshop mentioned last month is an adjunct of Unity Day. Riaz and Shanna L. will be presenting on the Safety Workshop at Unity Day.

There will be a separate Safety Workshop in February. District 10 and District 12 (Napa/Marin/SF).

Justin H. – PICPC. Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community. Essentially, the outreach arm for AA. We do presentation about the program and dispel myths about AA. We talk about the spiritual principals to people who may never encounter that part of AA otherwise. We also talk to business professionals, schools, hospitals, clergy, seniors, and more about AA. We also make sure libraries have copies of the book Alcoholics Anonymous. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at Central Office.

BREAK to discuss four potential Area Assembly topics for approximately 8 minutes.

Justin H. - Area Treasurer will be elected at the Area Assembly this weekend.

Q: Why do we need a new treasurer? A: Concerns from groups about group contributions not being processed in a timely manner. There have been 6 monthly meetings about the Treasurer. Several translators and positions have not been paid for their work. Deposits have not been made.

Reimbursements have not been made in a timely or consistent manner.

Q: Will you briefly explain the treasurer's point of view that they were sick? A: No. There were shortcomings in the performance of the role and lack of communication. There was no determination as to why this happened, but a decision was made to have a special election for a new Treasurer. The Treasurer learned of an illness they had that is now being treated, but the election had already been called (decided upon).

Q: Is it to fill this panel, or just for the remainder of this term? A: Just for the remainder of this term.

Q: Can anyone vote? A: GSR, Alt GSR, and any voting member can vote.

Q: For the voting members at the assembly, there will be people eligible to stand for the position that are not currently in general service. If they are eligible to stand for the election, would they also be able to vote? A: If they are not currently serving, they cannot vote.

Justin H. – it is very abnormal to have an election of this sort, but it is not unprecedented.

Q: Is there any information about the general responsibility for Treasurer, including how many hours a week needed. A: Treasurer's primary and only job is to take check deposits and balance books, and do

reimbursements. It takes between 2-5 hr/week.

Justin H. – there are items before the Area. 4 items, but wants to focus on 3:

- Are Area Assemblies and Business Meetings open or closed?
- Pamphlet for the Transgender Alcoholic, is one needed?
- New big book.

Comment: My group voted unanimously that a pamphlet for the transgendered alcoholic IS needed.

Comment/Q: Our group was a bit confused by the assembly / business meeting if it should be open or closed. It was explained that people who live far away may travel with their husband/wife who isn't alcoholic – is that OK? If they're not in AA, should we throw them out? When would this situation come up?

A: This originated from the AA groups and a group thought this was important so they brought it to the Area. They Area is bringing it to more groups to see what AA groups think about this.

Comment: If you receive Chelsea's email w/sample GSR documents, each of these items is listed and a link is included to the exact page in the comments in the Area meeting minutes.

Q: Where did the motion about open/closed come from? Which district? A: It's not a motion, it's just a discussion topic. I do not know the district.

Q: I'm confused – these four topics, are these things that become an Agenda topic that goes to New York? A: They *can* be. Our Delegate may take these as agenda topics to bring to New York depending on how discussion at the Area Assembly goes.

Q: The trans pamphlet, our district can't decide that WE are doing this. It has to start here (Alameda district, actually) then go to the Assembly, then on to New York for the Conference.

Q: When is the big conference when these topics are brought up? A: April/May in New York. All the delegates from the country go there and they vote based on what their area tells them to do.

Assemblies are 4 times a year. It will probably take a whole year before an item gets through the Assembly to be decided to go to New York in April/May.

Q: Do all pamphlets have to go through New York? A: Yes, to get conference approval, yes. Q: But what about Intergroup pamphlets? A: Intergroup pamphlets are not AA Conference Approved literature. If you want AA World Service to publish a pamphlet, it has to be conference approved. An Intergroup can do anything they want individually.

Comment: I wasn't clear last month, we only discussed one of the four items [at the District meeting]. We didn't talk about the other ones and I didn't realize feedback was needed by this Saturday. It would be helpful to have been told, "We are discussing [THIS] and we need you to have your group opinion by [THIS DATE]."

A: Depending on how long each Assembly item takes, we may not get to everything. If the first item takes an extreme amount of time, it may be the only thing discussed.

Q: I brought up the trans pamphlet and the outreach to the African American Alcoholic. I had 3 Latino members come up to me after the meeting and asked, "Where's OUR pamphlet?" All the pamphlets have been translated to Spanish, but there's no pamphlet for the Latino alcoholic. Are there pamphlets for the Latino? A: No, and seems that there may be separation between Latino AA service structure and other AA service.

A: The Conference in New York said that there's a successful community for Latinos, there's a Spanish big book and translated materials. YPAA's have a successful community. But that same thing is lacking for the African American AA community. That's why we are doing extra work looking into ways to better reach African American AAs.

Comment: Just passed at the general service conference there will be a Spanish Speaking Women's pamphlet. That is the first, and this came out of the Spanish speaking women's community. However, there is no Latino-specific, but there is Latina-specific.

Comment: My group voted and agreed to have a transgendered pamphlet. I feel the chapter "There is a Solution" clearly states there is a solution for everyone. I think it's a lot deeper than just the literature, I think it's our attitudes as alcoholics in general. It's attraction rather than promotion. If we support a specific group of AAs, there will be conflict from other groups saying, "Why wasn't I included?" I think it's about outreach to AA as a whole.

Comment: Our main text is clearly written from one point of view, the male, one kind of alcoholic. Because of that I feel we do need these pamphlets to represent groups.

**Luke H. – Unity Day and Fall Assembly.** The panel speaker is in a remote community but used to be in SF – talking about what it's like in remote communities. Also people talking about general safety in AA.

We need help with Unity Day on October 12<sup>th</sup>. 200 people last year. Bring sponsees. Need greeters, decorations, people letting the fellowship know this is happening on October 12<sup>th</sup>. BRING PEOPLE. Last year 5 people on the committee enlisted 30 people to help, and those 30 made Unity Day happen.

Beth said it was fun, there was food, "all the cool people go to the AA events so I got to hang out with all the cool people." Great shares, opportunities to get orientation for various AA things all in one spot, and a scavenger hunt that was FUN.

Fall Inventory Assembly on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have a small ad-hoc committee meeting weekly on Tuesdays. See Luke H. If you've ever been to an Assembly in the past, *we would like your input.*

Comment: It's an Inventory Assembly, it's all about making our local AA better!

AA Groups could participate to host individual subsections of the Assembly.

**Beth S. – Budget Committee** – My first year as treasurer, the budget was already planned for my first year. I need a couple of people to help me with transparency on planning the budget for this coming year. [Jackie, Chelsea, and Steve volunteered.]

**Linda V., DCM for Land's End.** This area has ZERO GSRs. I am the voice for this area. That's bad. More people are needed and I would like another person to help me make announcements in my area in hopes to get more participation. Right now if there was a vote, MY opinion would be the vote for all of Land's End – *that's not how it's supposed to work.*

I need another DCM.

Justin H. – if you're a GSR and you think that's cool, you can go with Linda and tell the groups what it's like to be a GSR.

### **What's On Your Mind?**

Jose – We were talking about black African Americans. We looked at the schedule and noticed there were no meetings in Hunter's Point and Bayview (communities with many African Americans). I think we need to reach out to them to come to meetings.

Jackie – Yesterday registration opened for the 2020 International in Detroit. The hotels in walking distance have sold out. The other hotels all have shuttles to the convention. A letter of support was sent by the Area, and there will be a play put on about the history of the AA Grapevine!

Justin H. – if there are announcements PRSAA Pacific Region Service Area Assembly will be in Tuscon, Arizona next year March 6, 7, and 8.

**Sample GSR Report** given by Chelsea W. "Are you feeling crispy dry? Are you emotionally not sober? SERVICE IS THE ANSWER! We have some fantastic service events coming up!" Chelsea mentions the upcoming events for service this weekend and Unity Day in October and about the Fall Assembly.

Meeting closed at 9:00 with the Responsibility Statement.