

# OCT 2021 MINUTES

## District 06 (San Francisco) General Service Meeting

Tuesday, October 12, 2021 / 7:30 – 9:00pm

Zoom ID: 840-2738-0768 PW: 1935

### Opening of Meeting:

- Serenity Prayer
- Article 12 of the Conference Charter (also Concept 12). -- read by Yanz C.
- Tradition 10 and Concept 10 – read by Cara and Virginia J.
  
- New GSRs
  - Cara, Alt GSR Cow Hollow Young People
  - Virginia J., Artists & Writers Worldwide (Online)
  
- Visitors
  - Leslie W., District 08 DCMC
  
- AA Birthdays
  - Vanessa H., 11 years
  
- Service Sponsorship statement
- DCMs
  - JB, DCM 225 Subdistrict
  - Riaz A., DCM 250 Subdistrict
  - Jill G., DCM 270 Subdistrict
  - Vanessa H., DCM 310 Subdistrict
  - Hemanth S., DCM 315 Subdistrict
  - Dennis H., DCM 320 Subdistrict
  - Tony A., Alt-Chair, covers any meetings not in the above subdistricts
  
- Approval of Prior Month's Minutes – Adjusted date of meeting to reflect September 14 (accidentally left August date on the minutes) → otherwise approved

### Officer Reports

- (Chair) Jackie B. reported:
  - We are ready to accept online payments on our District website!

- A proposed 2022 District budget by our ad hoc Finance committee will be shared tonight. Questions and concerns will be heard tonight and will be voted on in December.
  - Vince B. will be unable to continue as Bridging the Gap co-chair, so there will be an election tonight to fill that role.
  - Last month the Area Committee voted on the following old business to fund the translation of the CNCA Discussion and Reports section of the Area Motions Book, at a cost of \$4,640 {PASSED}
  - Fall Inventory Assembly is Saturday, November 6 on Zoom from 9am-5:30pm. The business meeting will be at 9:30am and inventory at 1pm. New Business (not for voting) includes:
    - That CNCA distribute the area newsletters (Comments / Comentarios) electronically unless requested by mail. A district may also request that the default for their district remain US mail.
    - That the Trustees Literature Committee consider deleting or changing the following wording in the book Living Sober "Better to be chubby or pleasingly plump than drunk, right? Did you ever hear of anyone being arrested for "fat driving"?" Which is located in Chapter 9 titled "Eating or Drinking Something--Usually, Sweet" on page 23 of the 2019 printing.
    - Old business possibly to vote on: That the Trustees' Literature committee develop a graphic novel or a series of graphic novels that depicts the first 164 pages of the Big Book.
  - Next Area Committee Meeting is Saturday, October 23 at 12:30pm. Motions to be discussed and possibly voted on include:
    - That the Area purchase two Adobe Acrobat Pro Software yearly subscriptions to be used by Area Web Committee. Costs not to exceed \$312 per year.
  - Board is requesting ideas for the 2023 General Service Conference theme and presentations. You can fill out the form with ideas to [Conferencesa@aa.org](mailto:Conferencesa@aa.org) by December 1, 2021.
  - 71st Final Conference Report is still available as an anonymity protected PDF. Printed hard copies are available at Central Office.
- (Alt Chair) Tony A. reported:

- Saturday, November 6 will be the Fall Inventory Assembly and all are welcome!
- To-Do List:
  - Announce Fall Inventory Assembly to your group
  - You can also announce that the District Inventory Assembly will be Tuesday, November 9
  - Is your group interested in doing a group inventory?
  - Send 2023 conference theme and presentation ideas to email address Jackie provided earlier.
  
- (Treasurer) Riaz A. shared that:
  - September contributions were slightly down but nothing of concern
  - In September, we collected \$328 from group contributions and \$63 from GSR Meeting 7th Tradition
  - Treasurers aren't always writing the name of their group on the check consistently so share that back with your group
  
- (Mail Coordinator) Michael P. shared:
  - We got a first look at the District website and where folks can make their contributions -- both individual and group contributions -- rather than mailing checks to Riaz
  
- (Literature) Beth S. reported:
  - New and updated Safety literature
    - Expanded PDF on aa.org
  - Reduced shipping costs end on October 18
  - Two new pamphlets (Hispanic Women in AA, Our Experience Has Taught Us -- An Introduction to the 12 Traditions)
  - Changed title "Members of Clergy Ask About AA" to "Faith Leaders Ask About AA"
  - New preamble wallet cards and placards with updated language available online and to order
  - New AA Service Manual will be out soon in November
  
- (Grapevine/La Vina) Blu F. reported:
  - New book on prayer and meditation
  - AA Grapevine weekly podcast is live

- Follow the Grapevine and La Vina on YouTube and Instagram
- You can sponsor a subscription via the Carry The Message project
- (Bridging the Gap) Phil S. reported:
  - Volunteer orientation is 6pm on first Tuesday of the month, meeting at 6:30
  - New SF-specific pamphlet for Bridging the Gap (sections include To the Alcoholic On the Inside, Pre-Release Contact Program Procedures, Dear Professionals, Other Resources)
  - Phil's time as co-chair is almost complete, so it's important that we fill the open co-chair position tonight
- (Service Manual Study) Kelley C. shared:
  - This month they read Chapter 10 and will read Chapter 11 next month. Please come if you have any questions about service, the service manual, or want to talk to others who are familiar!

**7th Tradition** -- Venmo was shared on screen

### **Officer Election**

- Co-Chair of Bridging the Gap
  - Responsibilities include:
    - Attends and if necessary facilitates the monthly BtG committee meeting (1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm)
    - Attends the monthly District meeting (2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:30-9:00) and reports on BtG activities
    - Ensures that all local officer positions are filled
    - Serves as a filter for local issues and engages in limited public relations involving SFBtG within the area
  - We then opened the room for those who are able to serve as the Bridging the Gap Co-Chair
  - No hands were raised so GSRs were asked to bring this to their groups for volunteers and we will vote on this again in December

### **Poll #1**

- We ran a poll about experience with group inventories
  - 58% of folks have participated in a group inventory; 42% have never

- 18% of folks have already done a group inventory this year, 45% are not doing one this year, and 36% of folks are discussing doing one

### **Presentation on Group Inventory (Leslie W., D08 DCMC)**

- How and why would a group do an inventory?
  - For the same reason we conduct 4th steps over and over as individual alcoholics -- our groups change and we need to continually ask if what we are doing still serves our group's intent (our primary purpose)
  - This is intended to see how your group is doing, both positive and negative. It will prompt attendees to think about what they can do for the group, what is being done right and what can be done better.
  - Lots of AA resources on how to conduct a group inventory -- there is also a pamphlet with 13 questions that many groups use. You can also choose different questions or create questions that may be specific to your group.
  - Make announcements to your group that this might be a good idea. Also get outside folks to act as facilitator and scribe -- they won't be too familiar with your group dynamics and able to be neutral.
  - Decide on the format for your group inventory. Many groups do a sharing session where each attendee has a set amount of time to speak on a question. Make sure you do the inventory outside of your normal meeting time.
  - It doesn't need to be done in a hurry. Take the time to ensure everything is in place and folks have enough time to plan to attend.
  - Suggested to bring the scribe's notes back to the group in a business meeting and discuss together, as you would do with a 5th and 6th step.
  - Jackie shared the link to the Group Inventory folder in the Google Drive -- Leslie's presentation is also available there, along with other resources to help run a group inventory

### **Poll #2**

We launched another poll asking folks which questions they would like to include in our group inventory next month and if they would like for it to be open to all SF AA's or closed to just those who are GSRs/Officers in the District. The top six questions were:

1. What can we do to make General Service more attractive? (68% votes)
2. Are we doing enough to encourage participation from the Groups, GSRs and DCMs in our district? (61%)
3. What is the basic purpose of our District? (61%)
4. How do we support new members to General Service and do members stick with us? (55%)
5. Are we communicating effectively with our GSRs and DCMs? Are we using technology responsibly and effectively? (53%)
- 6. How engaged are we during our virtual District Committee meetings? Is there anything we can do differently during virtual District meetings to increase engagement and participation? (47%)

**Liaison Reports** -- these will be shared out as slides rather than verbal reports

### **2022 Proposed District Budget (Riaz)**

- We had an ad hoc committee come together to go through a potential budget for 2022.
- Because of COVID, there were certain expenses we did not have this year but would possibly have next year, so there may be differences year over year because of that. We are assuming that we will be back in person for 6 months next year at least.
- Slightly higher projected income for 2022 because of the above bullet point. We are also anticipating higher bank charges.
- Events and regular in-person meetings account for difference -- SF Unity Day, monthly rent for GSR meeting, etc.
- Having scholarships for folks -- including the DCMC -- to attend conferences like PRAASA and Pacific Regional Forum also account for higher budget in 2022.
- We have a surplus in our budget for this year and we will need to discuss how we will distribute that (to GSO and/or other entities).
- Blu asked if we could use some of the surplus funds for additional scholarships for attending conferences; Jackie answered that this will be discussed by the committee on how they will distribute the surplus.
- This will be voted on in the December GSR meeting. GSRs are welcome to take this information back to their groups for discussion.

### **Presentation of New Business**

“That the District Committee Meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month remain on Zoom. Other District special events such as the Agenda Topics Workshop, Delegate’s Report, and SF Unity Day may be held in person with remote access whenever possible.”

- Tony reiterated that this motion reflects thoughts in our August GSR meeting and the September District Officers meeting. Right now we are not voting on it, but we are allowing questions, edits, etc.
- JB asked that we take the proper name “Zoom” out of the motion and replace it by saying “remain on a virtual platform”. There was agreement so we will make that change to the motion.
- Rudy S. wanted to clarify that the regular GSR meetings would stay virtual, but the other special events like assemblies would be in-person with a virtual option. Jackie clarified that assemblies are Area events, so it would be up to the Area to decide what they do. But this would apply to District-managed events like SF Unity Day.
- Discussion on this motion will begin in December and will likely take some time as we allow folks to collect group consciences

### **Old Business**

“That the District establish an annual budget of \$500 for its Bridging the Gap (BtG) subcommittee.”

- Yanz and JB both expressed their support for this motion
- Jamie M. shared that his group discussed “Working With Others” and that based on their conversation, he and his group would show support for this motion
- Phil restated that this came up because funds were needed for the new pamphlet and the BtG subcommittee realized they could use this funding regularly rather than asking for one-off motions when needed
- Gabriella clarified that this was just for Bridging the Gap to use; she is in support of this motion as it gives simplicity and autonomy for BtG and for our GSR meetings
- Virginia also showed support for this motion because BtG helps folks who do not have access to recovery resources
- The majority of GSRs agreed they were ready to vote. We are voting by substantial unanimity (needs  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority) since it is creating a precedent.

- The poll ended with: 91% in favor, 0% against, and 9% abstaining (which do not count toward total vote), so this actually **passed unanimously** and will become part of the annual budget.

### **Last minute Liaison Shareouts**

- We ended up making up some time so we re-opened things back up to the Liaisons to share verbal information.
- Rudy shared that the PR Committee is still in need of members, so you can reach out to him if you are interested in joining
- GGYPAA will have a “Bay-Wide Dance”
- JB shared that Unity Day was successful and wanted to thank everyone who helped make it a great day
- Tony will be sending out a sample GSR report after the meeting, Jackie will be sending out the slides. It is always up to the GSR on what they share back with their group!
- Alison shared that Intergroup financial status is down to “Fair”, Intergroup is also going into a group inventory, and the Board is also still conducting their search for an Executive Director.

### **What’s On Your Mind**

- Gabriella shared that it’s been difficult to get folks to commit to service positions in general -- Covid recovery is not easy. She was curious if there was any way to simplify the number of commitments.
- Jackie shared that Maury P. is resigning from the Executive Director position at Central Office and there is a Kudoboard (virtual greeting card) you can sign with well wishes.

### **Closing with the Responsibility Statement:**

I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there, and for that I am responsible.