

District 06 (San Francisco) **MINUTES** for General Service Meeting **Tuesday, May 12, 2015**  
St. Marks Church, Fellowship Hall (downstairs), 1111 O'Farrell Street, SF, CA

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**8:00 – 9:30** District Meeting: Facilitated by Rhys G., District Committee Member Chair

**A. Opening – Standing Items**

- General Service Preamble: Rhys G., Tradition 5 (Long Form): Heidi P., and Concept 5: Amber G.
- VOLUNTEER for a 2-Minute Presentation on Concept 6 for June meeting: Jonathan
- Welcome of New GSRs, DCMs, and Visitors: Heidi P., GSR – Agnostics & Freethinkers; Spencer, GSR – Ass in a Bag; David H., GSR – Mon Hi Noon; Paul G., GSR – Show of Shows; Thomas, GSR – Cow Hollow Men's Group; Visitors: Linda T. – DCM & Recording Secretary for DCM sharing session in Sonoma, Michael Q. – CNCA Assembly Coordinator
- Recognition of Birthdays/Anniversaries since our last meeting: Lauren H. – 27 years; Dennis H. - 19 years; Meg – 5 years; Steve Young – 24 years; Gilbert G. – 24 years;
- Approval of prior month's minutes → **APPROVED**
- Presentation of current month's Financial Reports, Lauren H.; April: group contributions page different on this report - \$522; average April group contributions last 3 years - \$722 – down 28%; total income year-to-date: up; April expenses – average April expenses last 3 years - \$905 – up this year 31%; highest expense this month sending GSR to PRAASA; now dipping into prudent reserve funds.
- Announcements:
  - Rhys G.: Unity Day – Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> at Urban Life Center; Assembly – delegate here next month in June to give report at District 06; will be a potluck – will send list around for food items to bring; agenda items update – tried to send it out, but had problems (large document to forward); want to sponsor Grapevine subscription for an inmate? Have list of inmates who want to receive Grapevine
  - Dennis Hopkins – new GSR orientation every month; please join

Presentation by Michael Q., Area Assembly Coordinator – Topic: "What happens now that the conference is over?" Relax - deadlines are met, but more work to do;

- Advisory Actions: Items discussed in committees & recommended to full conference to become items for trustees to act on
  - Revised pamphlet for Grapevine/La Viña be approved
  - Literature: update LGBT pamphlet, including more stories about LGBT perspectives – title be revised to be broader in scope; progress report due at next year's conference – will go to Trustees' Literature Committee for development – might be couple years before new pamphlet is published
  - Pamphlet on mental health issues: will solicit member stories; bring progress report next conference; need perspectives of members with mental health issues & sponsors helping alcoholics who have mental health issues
  - Pamphlet for AA Woman: solicit stories from women of diverse backgrounds; literature committee development; bring progress report next conference
  - AA regional directories: nobody ever uses; cost is \$1,000; recommend making available for purchase on request only
  - Raising limit for personal contributions from \$3,000 to \$5,000 - failed
  - Committee considerations: review workbooks, etc. – no group conscience on these (like housekeeping items)
  - Delegate contributions from areas – don't raise contribution amount
  - Ask all areas to participate in Grapevine subscription drives
  - Literature: review suggestion for 12x12x12 – took no action; concepts are fine where they are now in Service Manual

- Literature: review of “recovery” literature – bring back to 2016 conference – pamphlet no longer in demand; phase out without going through whole committee process
- Public Information (PI): anonymity in digital age – suggested refining existing tools; use Twitter, Google to disseminate info about AA;
- Special needs/accessibility: public service piece of 12 concepts in ASL
- Floor actions (these are like minority opinion to ask whole conference to reconsider an item):
  - Reconsider 12x12x12 proposal – not approved
- Notes on Summer Area Assembly: asking for suggested topics to discuss in roundtables at assembly; GSRs please ask your groups what they want to have discussed; Aug 1<sup>st</sup> in Petaluma

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#### Comments from Post-Conference Attendees

- Lance: Amazed at how much enthusiasm and participation was at assembly; people put a lot of thought into what they said at the mike during discussion on business items
- Dennis: Got real feeling for how AA works; how things get done; delegate talking with/GSRs; votes very interesting – process; substantial unanimity; failed; minority opinion; not large assembly; motion to reconsider; how much impact people have on issues
- Amber: last year’s delegate report – much focus on failure of proposal for mental health pamphlet; heard about people speaking at conference about knowing someone with mental health issues; this year: jubilation of getting this proposal approved – will get update on mental health pamphlet at next year’s conference; inspiring; “keep coming back” to Gen Service; encourage folks to come to summer assembly

#### Housekeeping motions (if any) arising from reports:

- “Resolve that an ad-hoc committee be formed to review the current uses of District 06 databases, and report back findings and recommendations.” (presented by Dennis Hopkins) → **NO OBJECTION**; contact Dennis if you want to be on committee
- “That SF Gen Service put a link on the home page linking Deaf to [http://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/special-needs-accessibilities-committees](http://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/special-needs-accessibilities-committees)” (presented by Virginia M. & Michael B.): : Gave example last month for deaf participation); make website more inclusive; Blue spoke with web-master – no response when asked if any cost involved in adding button (implies no costs involved); will bring back to D06 if cost becomes issue; we already pay for web hosting (probably included in price of our existing service); Q: Are there any guidelines on aa.org site for creating accessibility features on websites; A: There are AA guidelines on accessibility but they’re old with difficult language); this method being used in other places; Q: Do you want to put this feature on AA GS site or AASF site?; A: There is already a button on AASF homepage (links to request ASL interpretation); proposal is to have similar feature on AA GS site – will take user to link to ASL message; Q: Is there a resolution?; A: Tight time frame; that’s why it’s a housekeeping motion; Q: Can you explain what a housekeeping motion is?; A: We just had another housekeeping motion tonight (brief explanation given); if there are any objections, item becomes new business; Comment: I deal with this kind of issue on my job; important to look at accessibility as a whole; Q: Does this proposal contradict anything on Gen Service guidelines regarding videos of people doing ASL?; A: Will be links to other sites; ASL’s are professional signers, not AA members → **OBJECTION**; will become new business at July’s meeting
- Alternate Housekeeping Motion; Put button on AA Gen Service site homepage to link to AA.org site directly to pamphlet on accessibility → **OBJECTION**; will become new business at July’s meeting

#### D. Assembly Business

##### Old Business Items

- *“That future printings of the A.A. Service Manual include blank Group Change and New Group forms on the last page of the service manual.”*- District 06. Voting deferred to Post-Conference Assembly → **MOTION FAILED**

- There is New Business as well, which will be discussed at the Pre-Conference Assembly. *“That the General Service Conference reconsider the Panel 61 Public Information Advisory Action regarding A.A. videos containing full faces.”* –Presented by CNCA PI/CPC → **DEFERRED** (to Summer Assembly)

- *“That CNCA 06 expand the area officer eligibility to include Alternate District Committee Member Chairs and current members and chairs of Area standing committees and sub-committees who have served as a DCM and/or DCMC.”*: to make service available to more people – discussion notes will be printed with minutes from assembly

**9:15-9:30**

#### E. Closing – Standing Items

- 7th Tradition

**Closed at 9:15 pm with Responsibility Statement**