

FEB 2022 MINUTES

District 06 (San Francisco) General Service Meeting

Tuesday, February 8, 2021 / 7:30 – 9:00pm

Zoom ID: 840-2738-0768 PW: 1935

Opening of Meeting:

- Serenity Prayer
- Safety Statement
- Sign-in sheet announcement
- Agenda announcement
- GSR Preamble -- read by Paul S

- New GSRs
 - o Deborah, Lush Lounge
 - o Rhonda, Alt GSR Women's Kitchen Table
 - o Elliott S, Attitude Adjustment
 - o Gary B, Say Hey Tuesday
 - o Sarah D, Design for Living
 - o Becca W, Castro Sober Sisters
 - o David D, Alt GSR 6am Gratitude Center
 - o Andrea S, Alt GSR Creative Alcoholics

- Visitors
 - o Elena R, IFAA Board
 - o Chitra S, Area Treasurer
 - o Will L, Area 72
 - o Teddy B-W

- AA Birthdays
 - o Alison T, 6 years
 - o Tony A, 23 years
 - o Phil S, 29 years
 - o Michael P, 19 years
 - o Beth S, 22 years

- o Calamity A, 7 years
- o Elisa P, 3 years

- Service Sponsorship statement

- DCMs
 - o JB, DCM 225 Subdistrict
 - o Riaz A, DCM 250 Subdistrict
 - o Jill G, DCM 270 Subdistrict
 - o Vanessa H, DCM 310 Subdistrict
 - o Hemanth S, DCM 315 Subdistrict
 - o Dennis H, DCM 320 Subdistrict
 - o Tony A, Alt-Chair, covers any meetings not in the above subdistricts

- Approval of Prior Month's Minutes – approved!

Tradition and Concept of the Month

- Tradition 2 (Blu F)
 - o “For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority; a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience
 - o When AA was new, a lot of the groups were left wondering how leadership would work. A spirit of rotation was established and it was decided that there would be no rulers or “governors”.

- Concept 2 (JB)
 - o “The General Service Conference of AA has become, of nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.”
 - o In AA's early days, members realized that having General Service Representatives (GSRs) were essential in keeping the lines of communication open between the General Service Conference and the individual groups.

- Next month Gary B will share on Tradition 3 and Vanessa H will share on Concept 3

7th Tradition -- Venmo information was shared on screen

Officer Reports

- Riaz A (Treasurer)
 - We are off to a good start for the new year.
 - We took in \$692 from the groups last month.
 - There will be an item of new business about how we may be distributing some excess funds from 2021.

- Jackie B (Chair)
 - District News:
 - We will be creating an ad-hoc committee to review the District Inventory Summary for possible action items. To volunteer, email secretary@sfgeneralservice.org.
 - 50 scholarships available for virtual PRAASA on March 4-6. You can register and then submit receipt to Riaz for reimbursement at treasurer@sfgeneralservice.org.
 - SF Agenda Topics Workshop will take place virtually on Saturday, March 12 at 10am on Zoom.

 - General Service Board/GSO News:
 - Service materials on safety and AA are under revision and currently unavailable online.

 - Area News:
 - Final list of agenda topics is available!
 - Background summaries of agenda topics available March 1
 - Our delegate will hear group consciences at the pre-conference assembly April 2-3 in Petaluma
 - Area Committee Meeting (ACM) will meet again in-person in March
 - January ACM report is available by request

 - Next Area Assembly will be the pre-conference assembly

- This meeting will start with a business meeting to possibly vote on the old business topics of a graphic novel of first 164 pages and removing/editing specific language in “Living Sober”
- Important to get group consciences on these topics to help with votes
- Rudy S asked about what the health & safety guidelines for the pre-conference assembly will be. Jackie and Chitra said it will definitely follow whatever the guidelines for the county are, so still tbd. There will also be name tags with different color stickers to indicate level of comfort with interaction (i.e. fist bump, hug, keep distance).
- Maryanne asked if there would be instructions on how to conduct a group conscience. Jackie clarified that Chitra will speak at tonight’s meeting about what agenda topics are and how to determine what you bring to your group. Next month we will have a guest speaker to talk more about how to conduct the group conscience sharing session. Right now GSRs should talk to their group about scheduling their sharing session. Also the Agenda Topics Workshop will provide additional insights!

Quick poll

Poll to understand how GSRs feel about the communication they receive before each month’s meeting

Visiting Area Officer, Chitra S – Intro to Agenda Topics

- What are agenda topics?
 - These are items that will be discussed at the General Service Conference that year. They can come from anywhere or anyone – an individual, a group, a district, or an area.
- Jackie has gone through the final agenda topics for this year’s conference and struck through items that would not be pertinent for us to bring back to our groups for a group conscience.
- The topics are broken out by committees, except for Literature items which have been sprinkled across the committees.
- Our Area delegate Jennifer B will be serving on the Trustees committee.
- Recommend choosing 3-5 topics for your group to discuss.

- Background information and summaries about the agenda topics will be on the CNCA06 website in the coming weeks!
- Jackie shared where you can find agenda topics information on the district website.
- We then had a poll to choose some agenda topics to discuss as a district at the Agenda Topics Workshop.
 - The topics we will be discussing are:
 - Grapevine/La Vina Item A - Discuss the wide-ranging impact the Preamble change has had on our AA fellowship
 - Trustees Item F: Consider revising text highlighting service roles at the group level in the pamphlet “The AA Group”
 - Trustees Item G: Consider request to revise the pamphlet “Do You Think You Are Different?” to include stories reflecting greater diversity

Visiting Trusted Servant, Will L – Information about PRAASA

- PRAASA is Pacific Region AA Service Assembly
- The assembly allows folks to discuss what is happening at the General Service Conference and what is happening in their specific Areas/Districts
- You get to connect with other trusted servants who may also be new and learn together and gain new perspectives!
- Being virtual, the assembly itself will look a little different, but still impactful.
- You can also get clarification on the agenda topics for the upcoming General Service Conference.
- On the Sunday of the conference, there are two opportunities to ask questions of former trusted servants (i.e. The Ask It Basket)
- We had another poll to see who had attended PRAASA and if so, did they enjoy it?

New Business

- “That our District co-host an Interdistrict workshop with District 10 Marin and District 05 San Mateo at a cost not to exceed \$300”
 - Dennis had a question on the wording – need to clarify that the cost will not exceed \$300 for our District.

- Wording is now “That our District co-host an Interdistrict workshop with District 10 Marin and District 05 San Mateo at a cost not to exceed this District of \$300”
 - JB asked if it would be virtual or in-person – this has not been determined yet as we first need to vote if it will be happening.
- “That the District disburse our excess funds in the amount of \$9,700 to CNCA Area 06”
 - Riaz gave some context on how this motion came up – we’ve met our other financial obligations and still have an excess amount of money beyond our prudent reserve. Our 7th tradition in its long form warns against having excess money with “no stated AA purpose”, which is where this is coming from.
 - Jackie added that some districts may distribute excess funds to GSO, but our District has traditionally passed the funds along to the Area as that is the next tier of the AA structure triangle.
 - JB shared that he was in favor of passing the motion. Jamie M also supported the motion. Dominic B asked if the Area might use some of the money we give them down to the triangle to GSO – that may be possible if the Area determines they have excess funds and vote to distribute to GSO. Julie S asked if we knew why there was an objection last month when this was brought up as a housekeeping motion – we do not.
- These topics will become old business next month.

Urgent New Business

- “That the District expand PRAASA scholarship availability from District members (GSRs, DCMs, Officers) to all AA members with a home group based in San Francisco.”
- Paul S asked how the wording would affect virtual groups (are they “based” in San Francisco) – Jackie said that it is up to virtual groups to determine what District they are based in.
- Eric A asked if this is setting a precedent, does that mean it would affect scholarship availability for when PRAASA moves back to in-person. Jackie confirmed that is something to take into consideration when voting.
- Ken H said that it sounds like a good idea for virtual and that we have an abundance of funds for that format, but he is concerned that 1) some

District members would perhaps not get a scholarship if the demand from all AA members was high and 2) that the precedent may be tricky once PRAASA is back in person.

- Rudy asked what the typical volunteer ask is when PRAASA is in-person. There are usually a few volunteers and we take a vote because there is usually only one scholarship.
- Juan wanted to know how we would disseminate this information to our groups since PRAASA in March. Jackie said we would have to let our groups know immediately that the scholarships are available on a first come, first serve basis.
- We ran another poll to get a sense if folks were ready to vote on this topic since it's time-sensitive – 71% said yes ready to vote.
- We are voting by substantial unanimity ($\frac{2}{3}$ required to pass):
 - 38 votes
 - 29 votes in favor (76%)
 - 9 votes against (20%)
- Minority opinion: Dennis voted against because of the setting as a precedent. Dominic voted against because this should be dedicated to those who are involved in general service and already giving of their time each month.
- There were people who originally voted in favor that changed their vote after the minority opinion so we are running a 2nd vote with substantial unanimity:
 - 32 votes
 - 19 in favor (60%)
 - 13 against (40%)
 - **MOTION DOES NOT PASS** – eligibility remains limited to District members

Old Business – Skipped for time

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

Liaison Reports – Skipped for time, please refer to email packet

What's On Your Mind? – Skipped for time

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.