

APR 2022 MINUTES

District 06 (San Francisco) General Service Meeting

Tuesday, April 12, 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 Emily E

• New GSRs

- o Janet S, Women at 5 SF
- o Tim H, West Portal
- o Emily E, Huntington Square

• Visitors

- o Michelle M, visiting from Sobriety by the Bay
- o Amy M, CNCA Reocrding Secretary
- o Isae W, IFAA Board Member

• AA Birthdays

- o Anna V, 5 years
- o Brad K, 15 years
- o Janet S, 33 years
- o Alexander, 5 years
- o Laurie L, 4 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 – no objections, so approved!

Tradition and Concept of the Month

- Tradition 4 (Paul S)
 - o “Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole”
 - o Freedom and responsibility for the groups – two principles of the unity that has held us together as a society of alcoholics
 - o Keeps us from trying to control each other
 - o Reminded Paul of a time when he went to a meeting in another place. At first he thought they were “doing it wrong” but then he realized they were still abiding by the primary purpose of carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic.

- Concept 4 (Beth S)
 - o “At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional ‘Right of Participation’, allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.”
 - o The right of participation is to prevent any one class or group from having an absolute authority over another. People have the right to participate and the right to vote, regardless of what their status is in the General Service Conference.
 - o Helps merge authority and responsibility
 - o Based on experience of early AAs and highly connected to Tradition 2 (spiritual principle that our ultimate authority lies within our group conscience)

- Next month Phil S will share on Tradition 5 and Julie S will share on Concept 5

7th Tradition -- Venmo information was shared on screen

Officer Reports

- Riaz A (Treasurer, unable to attend so Jackie presented on Riaz's behalf)
 - We are in the black – expenses are low as we have remained virtual
 - Motion later tonight about dispersing excess funds
 - Thank your groups for their contributions

- Jackie B (Chair)
 - District News:
 - Volunteers needed for Lick & Stick mailing party this Saturday, April 16. Perfect for newcomers and a good way to get to know members from our Spanish-speaking sister district. Housekeeping motion later tonight about using funds for pizza.

 - GSO News:
 - Looking for stories for:
 - 5th Edition Big Book (deadline October 31)
 - AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic pamphlet (deadline August 31)
 - Hispanic/Latinx community for the 4th edition of Alcoholicos Anonimos (deadline December 15)
 - 72nd General Service Conference happening April 25-May 1 in New York City
 - More info within Box 459

 - Area News:
 - Pre-conference Assembly in Petaluma April 2-3, attended by about 300 GSRs, DCMs, Officers and visitors. No votes taken for Area motions during Saturday morning business meeting.
 - Our delegate will deliver an in-depth report on the General Service Conference during the Post-conference Assembly on May 14 in Newark, CA. This is the next Area Assembly. There is a carpool signup and hopefully virtual participation. Listing of the different motions is available.
 - The other reports from District Officers are available online.

- There was a question from Ken H about the stories needed – Jackie clarified that stories for the Black and African-American Alcoholic would be in a pamphlet that has not been updated since 1992.

Sharing Session On Gathering Group Consciences for General Service Conference

- Patrick shared that his home group has a bunch of meetings so he presented to each group. He thought it was interesting hearing the different opinions and passing the group consciences along to the delegate. He heard back from our delegate and he felt honored to be trusted with that responsibility.
- Tim H shared an experience about taking a group conscience for West Portal group wearing masks – so not part of the Agenda Topics for this General Service Conference, but still an experience of gathering group conscience and group opinion changing. Jackie clarified for the group that we're hearing about gathering group consciences regarding the agenda topics but this would be a good thing to share during What's On Your Mind.
- Gary B was at the Pre-conference Assembly and spoke at the mic. He shared that this was a great experience compared to previous times he's been a GSR and been involved with assemblies. Made a plug for Say Hey group and explained how he was able to get them excited in taking a group conscience. Talked about how opinions changed while they talked through things.
- Allison T was also at the Pre-conference Assembly. She loved that they had nametags with different color stickers to indicate a person's comfortability with personal contact. She noticed that some people used the term "outside issue" when it was an issue that didn't apply to them personally, so she felt inclusivity was an aspect we can continue working on.
- Jackie thanked everyone for gathering their group conscience and participating in AA.

Housekeeping Motion

- "Our district contribute \$100 for pizza and beverages for the mail assembly party on Saturday, April 16 at the District 16 office."
- There were no objections so the housekeeping motion passes.

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.”
- We will not vote on this motion tonight but will discuss.
- Allison asked a clarifying question about who would be invited to participate in these workshops. Jackie answered that the format would still need to be landed but that typically this type of function would be open to any AA member who wanted to participate.
- Vanessa H asked a clarifying question if the total amount would be \$300 or \$900 (\$300 from each district). Jackie answered that it would be \$900 total or possibly a different amount if all districts decided.
- JB asked if this event would be virtual. Jackie said that would be up to the committee once we decide if this is even an event that we want to have. District 05 already voted and they are hoping for an in-person event.
- Eric A asked if we are voting on one event or an ongoing series of events. Jackie answered that we would be setting a precedent – that this would be a one-time event for now but if it goes well, then it would not require a new motion each time.
- Mark R asked if there was an overall goal or expectation that would come out of workshop. Jackie answered that the goal would be to build unity and provide education and fellowship.

Old Business

- “That the District disburse our excess funds in the amount of \$9,700 to CNCA Area 06.”
 - This was originally a Housekeeping motion but there was an objection so we weren’t able to vote right away.
 - JB said that Riaz said we can afford it so we should do it.
 - Mark R shared that groups should not hold on to money and should distribute funds that could be better served elsewhere. He was also curious about why there was an objection, but Jackie clarified that it wasn’t an objection to the motion but rather wanting to allow for discussion since it is a large sum.
 - Julie S was also curious about why there was an objection but said Jackie answered her question.

- Tim H shared that West Portal did have a group conscience about this motion and they voted to distribute the excess funds.
 - Dennis H shared his experience as past treasurer for Area 06 and said this has happened before, this is just a higher sum than what we or other districts have usually sent.
 - Anna V shared that we should be distributing excess funds but was curious why it was so high. Jackie answered on behalf of Riaz that our operating expenses have been lower the past couple of years because of pandemic, so this is a higher amount than normal.
 - We took a “sense of the room” poll to see if folks were ready to vote. People overwhelmingly voted that they were ready to vote (100% of votes).
 - We then established if voting by simple majority or substantial unanimity. Group voted for simple majority rule.
 - Group then voted on the motion to distribute funds:
 - In favor (43 votes, 100% of the vote)
 - Against (0 votes)
 - Abstain (3 votes, do not count toward vote)
 - **Motion passes and we will disburse the funds to Area 06**
- “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.”
 - Likely won’t vote on this tonight so just continuing discussion.
 - Laurie shared that a lot of meetings moved to online permanently. She lives in Colfax, so she wouldn’t be able to attend an in-person GSR meeting. This move might make it difficult for other GSRs to participate as well.
 - Jamie asked if we can get the DCMs to check with their sub-districts to see if there are any meetings that would have difficulty participating if we stayed online only
 - Julie stated that the word “permanently” gives her pause and if there are people who do not have the technology to participate virtually, how are we addressing them if we choose to stay virtual? Jackie answered that the word “permanent” was chosen to make folks

understand that it was a decision not made just for Covid and can always be overturned.

- Paul S shared that he has difficulty right now to participate in an in-person meeting so he would personally like to stay online. His meeting is online only as well.
- Janet S would love if we could have hybrid meetings if folks do want to go back in person. She is immunocompromised because of cancer and happy that she still gets to participate virtually.
- Allison T shared that she loves being in person and especially being fed in person, but that because of how we have so many online meetings now, there should be a district platform that aligns with that format.
- JB shared: inclusivity, accessibility, lower costs, and ease of voting – 4 points for staying virtual.
- Gabriella shared that JB covered her points. Virtual allows for efficiency, inclusivity, and ease of voting.

Plug for Ad Hoc Committee Regarding District Inventory

- Vanessa H shared a summary of main takeaways from the District Inventory we ran in November 2021.
 - We have implemented some of the asks: more polls, more breakout rooms, condensing reports for efficient use of meeting time
 - Other common callouts: ways to celebrate/foster unity, dinner provided if we do go back in person, confusion and feeling overwhelmed by meeting content
- Vanessa shared contact info for those interested in being a part of an hoc committee to address these concerns

Liaison Reports

- Allison T, Intergroup Liaison
 - Committees really need volunteers, you don't have to be an Intergroup rep. Sunshine Club especially needing help.
 - Intergroup currently has "Excellent" financial rating
- Julie S, H&I Liaison
 - Harbor Lights is going back in person.
 - Jails not open yet.

- Looking for new Literature chair
- Also looking for Walden House coordinator
- Encourage your groups to have H&I reps
- Financially sound

- Rudy S, PR Committee
 - Interviewed by Univision
 - Presentation at UCSF for nursing
 - Participated in Recovery Rally at Boedecker Park
 - Co-chairs are planning to rotate out soon, so reach out if you're interested in being part of PR Committee

- Anna V, GGYPAA
 - There is a website and new webmaster: ggypaa.wordpress.com
 - Lot of service commitments available
 - Upcoming events: Giants game on 4/26, hike and outdoor meeting on 4/24
 - There is a WhatsApp group chat

What's On Your Mind?

- Isae shared that there is a communications survey at aasfmarin.org to help Intergroup better communicate with our fellowship.
- Michelle shared that Sobriety By The Bay is looking for folks who would be interested in being on the committee

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.