

AUGUST 2022 MINUTES

District 06 (San Francisco) General Service Meeting

Tuesday, August 9, 2022 / 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 Kimberly H.

- New GSRs
 - Kimberly H., alt GSR for Bernal New Day

- Visitors
 - Elena R., IFAA
 - Eric L., Area Alternate Delegate

- AA Birthdays
 - Juan M., 31 years
 - Kim S., 10 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: No objections to last month's minutes, so they are approved.

Tradition and Concept of the Month

- Tradition 8 (Juan M.)
 - "Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers."
 - Juan shared the long form of Tradition 8 as well.

- This is a reminder that freely as we are given, freely we give. Also a reminder that money and 12th step work don't mix.
 - Juan also shared a story about how Bill W. thought about becoming a lay therapist in connection with his AA work but the early folks let him know why that would be an issue. He also shared another story about Bill and Dr. Bob receiving royalties from sales of the Big Book.
 - Finally excerpts from an article Bill wrote from the Grapevine were read. It makes it clear that there are a few individuals who should be paid fairly for their work within AA, but these are for administrative purposes.
- Concept 8 (JB)
 - "The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities."
 - JB suggested looking at the concepts in the updated service manual.
 - The concepts can provide insight into the changes we've made to AA over the years and why.
 - The entities referred to in this Concept are AA World Services and The Grapevine/La Vina.
 - Next month Elizabeth Z. will share on Tradition 9 and Gabriella M. will share on Concept 9
 - 7th Tradition -- Venmo information was shared on screen

Officer Reports

- Riaz A., Treasurer
 - We are on track to meet our financial goals for the year! Thank you to the groups and individuals for their contributions.
 - Katherine M. asked what would be helpful to share with our groups to get them to contribute more? Riaz answered that we are pretty good at the district and area levels, so perhaps talking to your groups about distributing more to Central Office and AAWS as they could use some extra help.
- Jackie B., DCMC
 - District News
 - SF Unity Day will be a hybrid event on Saturday, Oct 8, 2022 from 10am-2:30pm. The in-person component will be held at the First Unitarian Universalist Church at O'Farrell Street and Geary. There will be box lunches for in-person attendees in the outdoor courtyard. This event brings together service committees from Intergroup, General Service, H&I, and YPAA to educate and provide in-person orientations.

- District job descriptions have been updated and will be presented today for District approval over the next two months.
- GSO News
 - Due to staffing shortages at the NY office, the Final Conference Report will not be available as PDF until September and printed in December.
 - Deadline to submit an agenda topic for the 73rd General Service Conference is September 15.
 - Free registration is now open for the Pacific Regional Forum on Sept 16-18 in Salt Lake City.
 - Call for stories in the 5th Edition of the Big Book – deadline is Oct 31, 2022. Also call for stories for the AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic pamphlet and the 4th Edition of Alcoholicos Anonimos.
- Area News
 - Summer assembly is Saturday, Aug 20, 2022 in Salinas and virtually.
 - There will be a business meeting in the morning and the topics that will be discussed can be found in the packet sent this month.
 - July Area Committee Meeting report is available upon request.

Updated Job Descriptions for Panel 73

- We will be going over a few of the updated job descriptions for the District officers and voting on them as housekeeping motions.
- There are a couple of new positions being recommended, including Communications Coordinator (replacing Mail Coordinator) and Virtual Meeting Coordinator(s).
- Gabriella asked if we are keeping archives of previous job descriptions somewhere and if so, where. Jackie answered that they are in the digital archives located within the District Google Drive. You can also email Jackie if you want to see a side-by-side comparison of previous descriptions and new descriptions.
- Tim H. asked when these descriptions would take effect – Jackie answered they would take effect with Panel 73 so in January 2023.

Visiting Officer, Eric L.

- The Pacific Regional Forum in September will be held in-person in Salt Lake City only, no hybrid component.
- The forum happens every 2 years in different cities within the Pacific Region.
- Some officers, trustees, and other workers from the General Service Office attend and meet with folks – it keeps the lines of communication between GSO and our Region open. It helps us humanize the board members and workers at the NY Office and not just a mysterious “them” who does important work.
- Eric shared the website for the Forum.

- The District officers are putting forth a housekeeping motion to create a scholarship for anyone who wants to attend the Pacific Regional Forum.

Housekeeping Motion

- That the District provide a District member (GSR, DCM, Officer, or Liaison) a scholarship to the Pacific Regional Forum on Sept 16-18, 2022 in Salt Lake City, to cover the costs of travel and housing in a total amount not to exceed \$750.
- Mark R. asked how folks would be selected for the scholarship. Jackie answered that if the motion passes, we will hold an election tonight. He also asked if we are in good financial standing to allow for 2 scholarships. Riaz answered that we are.
- Jackie asked for any objections to the housekeeping motion, there were none so the motion passes.
- Beth S. raised her hand as being available to go and then provide a report back to District. We took a vote of confidence and there were no objections, so Beth will receive the scholarship and provide a report at the October District meeting.

SF Unity Day Committee, Tony Averson

- Tony is putting a call out for 4-5 volunteers to help with the logistics of running a hybrid SF Unity Day. Will only meet a few times before the event.
- Looking for: Speaker/Panelist Coordinator, Box Lunch Coordinator, Outreach Coordinator(s) to spread the word, and Event Emcee.
- If interested, you can contact Tony or let other folks know how they can be involved.

Sharing Session – What is happening at your groups?

- Gabriella M. shared that her group is considering a group conscience on Covid-related matters and possibly staying virtual until further notice like the District did.
- Paul Schneider shared how impressed he has been with his group, which is and always has been virtual.
- Elizabeth Z. shared that her group did discuss possibly having a virtual-only District. There were a variety of opinions in favor and not in favor.
- Michael P. shared that his group is having a dance party on Saturday!
- Tim H. shared that his group had a vote, heard the minority opinion, and the vote was then changed because of the minority opinion. The vote ended up meaning that they are continuing to require masks at their in-person meeting.
- Barbara H. shared that her group tried to do hybrid but it was difficult. So right now there is one group that meets online and another group that meets in-person. The in-person meeting takes a vote each week around whether to wear masks and is well-attended. She is proud of how the group has handled it!

Liaison Reports

- Alison T. (Intergroup)
 - There will be a pop-up book drive in Marin – logistics being worked on.
 - Intergroup is also looking for volunteers for their committees – you do not have to be a member of Intergroup to be in one of their committees!
 - Faithful Fivers!

- Other Liaison reports are in the packet

What's On Your Mind?

- JB shared that he is leaving Sunday for almost 3 months and he is sorry that he will miss SF Unity Day.
- Elizabeth Z. shared that she would love if we could list in the meeting schedule if a meeting requires masks, proof of vaccinations, etc. so that meetings can be accessible. She is also disappointed that the Pacific Regional Forum won't be a hybrid event. Jackie shared that it may be possible that there will be future hybrid formats of the Pacific Regional Forum.
- Alison T. shared that there is a way to include Venmo information for your meeting's 7th tradition on aasfmarin.org
- Elena R. also shared that folks can contact Central Office for ways to include mask information to their meeting page (i.e. the meeting can opt to include the word "masks" in their notes. More work is also already underway to include that as an option as well.
- Jackie also shared that SF AA does not currently have an Accessibilities committee. We used to have one through Intergroup, but it died out a few years ago. There are currently discussions to revive this committee, especially as we are one of the few major metropolitan areas without an Accessibilities committee. Gabriella stated that she was the last chair of the committee before it ended, so she will be reaching out to Jackie.

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.