

**Napa District 11
Panel 73 General Service Meeting
Via Zoom 860-5600 2397 -PW 060455
10:00AM – 12:00PM
July 6, 2024 Minutes**

I. Opening of meeting: Serenity Prayer

II. Introductions, New GSR's, Alternates, and visitors, Birthdays

Laura: DCM 01

Derek: GSR Sunday Night Big Book Study/ District Secretary/ NAPYPAA Liaison

Melanie: GSR Monday Women's Group Keep it Simple Sister

Jason: District Intergroup Liaison Chitra: ACM

John: GSR Saturday 7 Men's Stag

Duncan: GSR Joe's Group/ District FOC Chair

Nell: GSR Freethinkers

Chris: GSR Friday Night Candle Light

Angela: GSR Calistoga Gliders

Happy Birthday!

Elisabeth 19 years! Terry 21 years! Joe M 37 years!

III. GSRs – 90 seconds– share about your group / check in / Questions

John: I have been out of town for most of last month and a half but the group seems to be functioning quite nicely. We have a slate of new officers and trusted servants coming in who are excited to serve.

Duncan: My group is doing financially well and is relatively well attended. We just switched over all of our service commitments. We've got a new secretary starting next month as well as a new coffee maker and literature person. Please come on up and see us Wednesday nights 8 pm in St. Helena at Grace Church.

Nell: We are doing good, please announce our meetings. 6 pm on Wednesdays and noon on Tuesdays at the Jefferson Street Senior Center.

Melanie: Unfortunately I have been scheduled at work and so have not been going to my meetings. I have been getting information through our previous secretary and have not heard any feedback other than we are filling out service positions and things are going well.

Derek: Everything is going really well. The biggest news is that we're trying out a new chair orientation which places us in a sort of a circle so that we can all see each other and everyone seems to really like it. We just rotated positions and got them all pretty much filled. We are going to try and elect alternates but we have only so many attendees.

Chris: Attendance is low, we have several commitments unfilled. We are doing well financially.

Angela: Very well attended. Financially very fit. A little issue with the pass it on as there was disinterest on both

sides.

IV. Volunteers for the month of August GSR Report Back, Tradition 8 and Concept 8 V. Tradition 7:

[Angela] Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

VI. Concept 7: [Duncan] The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purpose for final effectiveness.

VII. Approval of:

a. Minutes – June 2024

We had some technological difficulties last meeting with the fill in secretary

VIII. Upcoming Dates to remember:

a. Summer Assembly – August 10th, Campbell Community Center

Can contact Elisabeth for info, also on aanapa.org, Chitra will be there and is here today to share

b. Pacific Regional Forum – July 12th-15th- *find information at*

<https://area72aa.org/event/pacific-regional-forum-2/>

c. Fall Election Assembly – November 9th – Cornerstone Fellowship of Livermore, CA

d. PICPC Workshop - July

IX. District Job Descriptions: Archives Chair, Unity Day Chair, (3 minutes each)

Angla - Archives Chair: It is a lot of meetings, three Saturdays a month which is probably too many. The Officers Meeting which is an hour, the District Meeting which is two hours and a work day which is two to four hours a month. The work days are really pleasant, everyone is really enthusiastic about their job which makes it enjoyable. We are digitizing a bunch of cassette tapes currently. I have not had time to interview. 9 hours a month for meetings, estimating 3 hours a month for interviews. 5 hours a year setting up for Unity Day.

Melanie - Unity Day Chair: You just have to organize the event. You choose all the chairs that are under you but, there is a list including decorations, MC, trash, facilities, food. Coordinate with the chairs, there is a container out back of Crosswalk Church which supplies where stuff is stored from previous chairs. I got a Co Chair and had to utilize them to help run the event as life happens and I could not be there. I did a lot of one on one calls with people but a weekly Zoom meeting might be suggested to keep everyone organized and on task.

X. Financial Oversight Committee Update - Duncan Lange

We have not met but the sub committee did meet. We planned to meet once but only got one in since life happens. We got through two thirds of the previous guidelines and are working through the rest. We are looking to have another meeting or two in July where we will be sorting out operating guidelines, reimbursement guidelines into two separate documents, one being a charter of how the FOC operates and another on how spending is conducted.

John K: It has been six months for the budget, where does the District stand on expenditure versus anticipated

expenditure?

Duncan: We have not overspent, we are a little under previous group contributions. Should be available in the treasury report. Financial reports will start regularly in August.

XI. Sub-Committee to Review, how's it going? – Thom Hinesley

I am taking notes on what is working and what is not. We have figured out how to have one person talking at a time. It looks like we need a camera and possibly a mic as we are borrowing my personal one. We got the coffee set up and people brought snacks.

XII. Meeting in a Pocket – to get copies contact Sandy (707.363.0720) OR Jeff D (510.384.0731) for copies

XIII. Assembly Motions: Take these to your group prior to the Summer Assembly. They will be Old Business at the Summer Assembly.

- a. That CNCA 06 extend voting participation at the Area Committee meetings and at assemblies to the Chairpersons of Area standing and sub-committees - *Presented by Carol H, Jacqueline P, John O, Jose L, Thom H – Standing Committee & Sub-Committee Chairs CNCA06 Panel 73 12/16/23CNC*
- b. That CNCA 06 expand area officer eligibility to Chairpersons of Area standing and sub committees, who have served as a DCM or DCMC - *Presented by Carol H, Jacqueline P, John O, Jose L, Thom H – Standing Committee & Sub-Committee Chairs CNCA06 Panel 73 at the Area Committee Meeting on 12/16/23*
- c. That CNCA continue to provide hybrid functionality for every Area Committee Meeting and each Assembly. – *Presented by District 15, Humboldt/Del Norte at the Area Committee Meeting on 9/23/23*

John: Did the Area move to provide travel funds for tech people to go to Area Committees as well as purchase the equipment and software necessary?

Answer: Yes. This is just formalizing the fact that they already have people in place, spending the money to be hybrid and intend to keep it going.

Chitra: I am not giving my opinion, just the facts as I know them. The discussion has evolved since it was brought up. Since we have already purchased all of the equipment hybrid is here to stay but, if we formalize it then, what happens if there is a fire? Do we have to have the in person part of the meeting no matter what so that it is hybrid or what?

XIV. Open Positions:

a. Accessibilities Committee Chair

Elisabeth: It is included in the packet. It's a wonderful opportunity to reach out to the groups and help them with participation or questions they may have. Not only about accessibility but also about safety which, feeling unsafe at a meeting might create a difficulty with accessibility.

XV. Visiting Area Officer – Chitra S. ACM Chair [No visiting Area Officer August and December]

For me, the idea of a pass it on is where the principles of general service comes in. We as alcoholics are capable people but also we get irritable and discontent. We have the opportunity to be compassionate and understanding as new people come into our previous service positions. Under the right of participation we have to be of service or we die. In the spirit of rotation we don't really want to let

our positions go but we must. Even if nobody else wants it, we need to create the gap. General service is like a playground for alcoholics to see how they can fit into the real world but with other alcoholics.

Elisabeth: At this point I am a little tired of my position but it is coming time to pass it on and I find myself thinking about if the next person is really going to want to do it.

Angela: After my first year as GSR I wanted to do it forever but in year two I really want to let it go. It is important to realize that I don't have to do it perfectly, I just have to show up.

John: We are reviewing the formal job descriptions at a District level so that we can see what we would like done but it does not tell us how to do it. It is on us to gently nudge each other in the right direction when we are not fulfilling these roles. In the past I found myself to be more commanding in my suggestions to others, not even saying it was my opinion but as fact. As time has gone on I have found that there is a gentler, softer way to contribute.

XVI. Break and Seventh Tradition – PayPal – gsdistrict11@gmail.com

XVII. Officer Reports:

DCMC - Sandy: (Written report included) Is looking forward to the summer assembly, if you are looking to join the dinner please sign up soon. How do we reach our spanish speaking/ asl/ chinese meetings. DCM summer workshop topics, chosen topics are on the flier for the summer assembly. Please attend those breakout meetings, they are fun.

Alt. DCMC PI/CPC - Elisabeth: Last month we did not meet because there was a death in my family. The area PI/CPC is held on the fourth Sunday of the month (July 28th) at the Petaluma Community Center or online over Zoom.

DCM 01 - Thom: We met already, the Friday at the Queen has gone dark.

DCM 02,

Treasurer - Devyn: (Absent) (No written report) There was a death in the family, will have a report by next meeting.

Recording Secretary,

Registrar,

Archives,

Web/Tech,

Literature - Michael: (Absent)

BTG - Joe T: (No written report) (Absent)

Beginners Mtg - Matt: Attendance has been consistent. 15 - 20 people on average with a couple new members each week.

Tech Committee, No Written rept

Intergroup Liaison - Jason: The newsletter will be released this month, is in the process of final distribution so keep your eyes open for an email. We are looking for contributors for content in order to release it on a periodic basis. We need participants for service positions at the monthly meeting. We did get the Hotline Chair filled which is good since the hotline was falling apart.

John: Did Intergroup pass a budget?

Jason: Short answer, no. We are still working through what it looks like. We are using an extrapolation of expenses last year.

H&I Liaison - John K: (Written report) The meeting was last night, I ran it. We need volunteers to attend and hold meetings, we are working toward getting participation back up to pre covid levels. Some meetings are at half or zero participation. The requirements range per facility, for example it's simple to get into Archway. Once they say okay you just need an ID. There are many and varied opportunities, if you have any interest the business meetings are the first Fridays at Crosswalk. The

next NorCaL area meeting.

NAPYPAA Liaison - Derek: We are finally back up and running and were successful in filling our most important service positions. We have an event idea and are shooting for August 24th. It is going to be a movie night in the courtyard of Crosswalk Church where there will be popcorn with admission with drinks and candy to be sold to raise funds. We will also have a speaker meeting beforehand in the Fireside room. Everyone is super into it and really active, working hard to figure out how to hold an event and keep a budget.

Unity Day,

Guidelines: Voting members of District 11 are the District Officers, Chairpersons, and current GSR's/Alternate if GSR not present. During discussion, please wait to be recognized by the Chairperson. Remember all discussion should be direct to the chairperson. Please give only your own ideas and refrain from a debate or commenting on what other people have shared. We want all people to feel comfortable with their thoughts and ideas. Finally wait until all have had a chance to share before speaking again.

Housekeeping Motions: Housekeeping motions are simple in nature and usually do not set precedence for the District. There is no discussion, and they are accepted if no one disapproves of them, otherwise, it goes to New Business for the next DBM.

XVIII. Housekeeping Motion:

XIX. Old Business:

XX. Presentation of New Business:

XXI. New Business:

XXII. Discussion Items:

a. District 11 having scholarships for PRAASA on a regular basis given the District has the financial means. Include as part of the Budget? Who? Requirement – person in need? How to distribute?

John: Is our the GSO still below prudent reserve?

Elisabeth: Yes

Jo M: We are predictably below because of current events. If people would sign up for the Grapevine App and continue contributing, we are on track to be back on budget.

Chitra: We are also probably publishing the Plain Language Big Book which will help raise funds.

Elisabeth: The purpose for a scholarship is P.R.A.A.S.A. is to learn how different meetings/areas/districts do service and one time I went I was the Beginners Chair I got to go I met someone who had a similar position but it was called something different and we talked about the similarities and differences. I also got to go to a breakout session to FILL IN. I got the opportunity to enhance my service availability.

Laura: I would like to say something similar. I got to go to in one of my first years and I got a really good overview of the different service positions. We are building capacity at the District level by investing in our fellowship, that is the way I see it.

Duncan: I agree with what Laura said. In regards to scholarships, I think they are a good idea to have on the budget. There should be an application process. We don't have to spend it but we should earmark it. Anything we can provide won't cover the full cost of going but will help get people out there.

John: I don't have arguments against the benefits of going. I would feel most comfortable if all the groups knew we were spending the money since, they are supposed to fund it as well as each area assembly.

Duncan: I don't think the service manual says that groups should fund attendance to assemblies.

Thom: Point of order. Please speak loudly and clearly into the mic if you are in person.

Laura: I know that some groups put money aside but some meetings do not, I think that this would be for them.

Jo: I think this is part of the ground swell of people sharing their experience. Getting to PRAASA I see people there and now I see them here. I think this is a slow going process. In another area I saw a raffle. It is inspiring for me to see people who have been there show up here today.

XXIII. Area Committee and Assembly Motions: See attached Area Motions

XXIV. What's on your Mind?

Thom: This is our first hybrid meeting and I would love input on what did and did not work so it could be better for next time.

Angela: Thank you for all the behind the scenes work, from my standpoint it worked well. Besides the fire alarm

Nell: Chitra, have you heard anything about the development on the Plain Language Big Book

Chitra: November

Duncan: There was a letter that came out from the GM about some specific numbers for what each group could contribute to make AA solvent. Is there something we could do to spread the word to our groups.

Elisabeth: Sandy has been really good at sharing information from our delegate, it is the job of the GSR's to pass this on to our groups.

Laura: When I share to my group I find they do not know what I am talking about so, I provide background to what GSO ect does for us so they feel better about contributing.

Elisabeth: FILL IN sharing zoom suggestions on chat

Thom: We are at 364 days for the world convention. August open up for pre sales and rooms. Rooms go fast so, I suggest staying up till midnight to get one.

Duncan: I make a motion to close early

Nell: Second

Elisabeth: Seeing no objections we will close early

XXV. Close with the Responsibility Statement