

**Napa District 11**  
**Panel 73 General Service Meeting**  
**Via Zoom 860-5600 2397 -PW 060455**  
**10:00AM – 12:00PM**  
**February 3, 2024 Minutes**

**I. Opening of meeting: Serenity Prayer**

Sandy opened on time. Checked to see if it was okay to not screen share the agenda (approved)

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

Carla Jensen - Alternate GSR Serenity on Saturday     Derek Craig - GSR Sunday Night Big Book Study;

Attendance has gone up and we are getting our service positions filled     Duncan Lane - GSR Joe's

Group / Financial Committee Chair, Unity Day Chair     Devyn Poolos - District Treasurer; is expecting

Laura K - District Committee Member 01; Likes to garden and grow her own food Joe T - DCM 03,

Bridging the Gap Melanie A - GSR Keep it Simple Sister; just started baking and made a really good pie

Jason A - Intergroup Liaison; board member for Robert Louis Stevenson Museum     John Kent -

GSR Mens Stagg, PICPC; Hoping to have a more manageable text for agenda topics and questions who

has the franchise and who can vote at the business meeting     Jo Moore - District Registrar; Lives at the

Yountville Veterans Home with husband who, is the vet Thom Hinesley - DCM 02; Preschool teacher which  
is really fun     Micheal Morgan - GSR Living Sober, Lit Rep; Coach for special olympics and always get

to do the polar plunge     Elizabeth B - PICPC Chair, DCMC Alternate Chair; Very excited for public

information and where it is going Angela H - GSR Calistoga Gliders; Just got out of a hot yoga class and  
got in her unheated pool yesterday for three minutes and had 60th birthday     Chris (listening only)

Jeff D - Tech Host, Web Committee Chair, Web Editor CNCA 06;, Napa Valley Mental Health Board, in  
two weeks will have third grandchild     Eric Lee - Area Delegate; Was a very bad GSR and didn't

understand much of what was going on and still sometimes is so, it's okay if you are too.     Sandy S -

DCM Chair; Was at her fifth PRAASA when she realized it was about service

**III. GSRs – 2 minutes – share about your group / check in / Questions**

**IV. Volunteers for the month of March - GSR Report Back, Tradition 2 and Concept 2**

Angela H volunteered for Report Back

Melanie volunteered for Tradition 3

Micheal M volunteered for Concept 3

**V. Tradition 2: [Angela] For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving**

God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

**VI. Concept 2:** [Duncan] “The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.”

**VII. Approval of:**

a. **Minutes – January 2024** (approved)

**VIII. Upcoming Dates to remember:** Sandy S

a. **Agenda Topic Workshop - February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Santa Rosa, CA**

Lots of information and great presentations

b. **PRAASA – March 1-3, 2024, Mariott, San Francisco; <http://praasa.org>**

Our area is hosting, there are still rooms available

Eric L; Suggests not paying for parking, use spot hero or drive around and look for a spot

c. **Unity Day – June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Crosswalk Church**

Eric will be speaking, we still need a chair

d. **Pacific Regional Forum – July 12-15, Las Vegas, NV;**

Eric L; It is in July and in Las Vegas so please pack light. Hotels are cheap for the same reason and will have AC

Sandy - The General Service and staff come every other year to give information and also visit other regions in off years

**IX. Date Changes for the Year [dates that conflict with Area Assemblies & PRAASA]** Sandy S

a. March – change to March 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30-3:30PM

Conflicts with PRASSA

b. April – change to April 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30-3:30PM

Conflicts with area assembly

c. November – change to November 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30-3:30PM

Conflicts with area assembly

**X. Daniel B, PRAASA 2024 Attraction & Outreach Committee**

**XI. Financial Oversight Committee – Presentation of 2024 Budget**

Duncan Lane; Sandy sent out a copy for everyone to review. I am here to answer any clarifying questions, the budget as proposed is the product of discussion with the Financial Oversight Committee to come up with relative costs. We have done our best to forecast potential expenses including the expenses of moving the District Meeting to a hybrid in person meeting. All district committee members' expenses are included to attend all suggested area meetings.

John Kent; I have the budget from January 6th, I have a question about PRAASA. There had been no money budgeted for DCM's and sponsoring GSR expenses

Duncan Lane; No, it is not included and the choice to fund them will have to come from a motion from the meeting or a motion from the Financial Oversight Committee

Sandy; Was your question about funding DCM's?

John Kent; It was about funding anyone

Sandy; We consider funding DCM's if we have extra money to do so

John Kent; I am very happy that we are taking it on a case by case basis considering the financial times in the area and in New York

Sandy S; Is there anyone who disapproves of the 2024 budget? (no objections, approved)

**XII. Sub-Committee to Review District 11 Inventory and make recommendation – Update Elisabeth Brumley**

Sandy S; I forgot to include this report into the packet but I will drop it in the chat

Elisabeth B; I was the head of the committee to review the inventory with Derek and Laura. The recommendations we would like to suggest were fun, getting people involved and things we are available to do. 1) have workshops to raise awareness 2) make sure we have PRAASA scholarship but make it more accessible, maybe a lottery in the district business meeting to more than just GSR's 3) we should be more consistent in sharing our message for what it is like to be in service and collaborating with intergroup. The fact is that district, area and interdistrict get mixed up. 4) GSR's share about the conduit concept, when sharing service experience 5) Each month we could share some history of AA which would be fun things to share with everyone

Sandy S; Sorry again for not attaching the packet, I will send them out for review. Please send any motions to be made on these recommendation for our next business meeting

Angela H; Thank you for all your work, I really like the idea about a workshop/lunch to get into another meeting that is separate from the business meeting as a way to get people out. I think the most important thing is to collaborate with Intergroup because in my experience the two are like oil and water because the two do not communicate. The alcathon was hard to put together because of this. I would like to see some healing between the two. As a GSR it feels like Intergroup is waiting for me to fail.

Jason A; We probably need some better input for intergroup like, some solid action plan so we can better communicate.

Derek; I really liked the suggestion about sharing the positive aspects of general service as this is something I can do at meeting level

Angela H; I had an idea about stressing the alternate GSR to get people involved. Going to use the last year of service to get someone involved so that they can get trained up and excited about service.

John K; The idea of oil and water can argue against it being a perception with my service being in Intergroup. I have never heard anything negative toward the district. There is a natural separation in duties but we serve the same constituency. The same thing could be said about the separation between AA north and AA south and it could just be a common held belief.

Sandy S; Can I get a feel for the room if this should be on the agenda for next month (feel of the room says yes)

Angela H; Why is District running Unity Day when it is an Intergroup thing?

Sandy S; Unity Day is a District responsibility

Duncan L; A great way to learn about Unity Day is to volunteer for Unity Day Chair!

John K; Would the DCM's need to make a motion to put some of these suggestions into the agenda?

Sandy S; Please write motions to be brought up next month

### **XIII. Open Positions:**

- a. **Archives Chair** Angela H volunteers (approved)
- b. **Accessibilities Committee Chair** None available
- c. **Intergroup Liaison** None available
- d. **Unity Day Chair – June 15, 2024** None available

Sandy S; Please consider volunteering for this, we need one by April at the latest to get everything together. Duncan has a great pass it on and will help anyone who volunteers.

### **XIV. Visiting Area Officer – Eric Lee, Area Delegate – presentation on “the Conference Process”.**

There is no plan to replace or change the Big Book. The Plain Language is a separate book and has been funded. For a long time people have complained about the language of the Big Book because many newcomers find it confusing. There have been many motions made to amend this or that word and this is a way of making the Big Book more accessible. Plain Languages, like all of Grapevine or Pamphlet, is written at a fifth grade reading level so that it can be more easily understood. The conference approved funds to create a whole new book in plain english. A translator has been hired and is working to translate the Big Book, has been working on it for several years and shared the first six chapters which was shared with the conference. The people who read it had very good things to say about it, some people disliked that the jaywalker was changed to a woman. The first 164 pages have now been finished and now ready to be presented under the title “Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Understanding AA”. The idea of this book is to make it easier to read the Big Book. At the conference members will get to read the full book, and if we like it we might vote to publish it. If we don't we will send it back with suggestions to be worked on. I will have a report. There is no translation for the steps, instead they are explained in plain language. Including the traditions and concepts which I am excited about.

Jason A; If the Plain Language is a full translation of the Big Book, how is it only a tool?

Eric L; I will be reading it with sponsee, and then looking at how it was in the Big Book. Kind of like Shakespere in high school, the summaries sucks and the stories are not good. The original is beautiful once you know what it is about. Like the Twelve and Twelve did not replace the big book, this will no either Micheal M; Is this an agenda topic?

Eric L; This is an agenda topic but, none of you will see this book so how will you have an informed opinion on it? I want to get peoples hopes and fears around this subject so that I can bring them to the conference because this book has already been written. What do you hope from this book?

### **XV. Break and Seventh Tradition**

11:10 - 11:15

### **XVI. Officer Reports: DCMC, Alt. DCMC PI/CPC, DCM 01, DCM 02, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Registrar, Archives, Web/Tech, Literature, BTG, Beginners Mtg, Tech Committee, Intergroup Liaison, H&I Liaison, NAPYPAA Liaison, Unity Day.**

Sandy S; In the interest of time I would like to put this at the end of the meeting and refer to the packet I sent out. I included an area calendar for events coming up as well as area motions that are coming up, including assembly motions.

Devyn P - Treasurer; Fairly simple report. Paypal transfer of \$18. \$132 to the Beginners Meeting. We did not have any group contributions. Just a reminder, my email has changed so remember to send all future communications there. Are there any questions (none). I would like to submit this report for approval (seconded, no objections, approved)

Joe T - Bridging the Gap; I have no updates. We are going to Duffys next week.

Jason A - Intergroup Liaison; Most of the meeting was spent filling positions, all but the alternate chair. It is all on the

intergroup report back on the website. I will bring up the oil and water idea to intergroup at the next meeting.

Elisabeth B - PICP Chair; Report in the packet. We will be doing more in person presentations. Contact drinking and driving program and will have orientation meetings for speakers. Liaison John Kent was able to talk about forming a workshop with H and I, Intergroup and PICP

Derek C - NAAPYPAA Liaison; Still dark, attendance has gone up at the Never Too Young meeting so, I plan to bring it up at the business meeting since most of the former members attend.

Sandy S - DCMC; I have a report in the packet including all of the upcoming meetings and assemblies so please review them and consider attending

Laura K - DCM 01; Included my report in the packet. There is a power point that I forgot to put in there that is very helpful about how to attain the group conscious well, please let me know and I will email it to you.

Jo M - Registrar; I have everyone's information that is here, please ask for contact information at meetings who do not have GSR's so we can get in contact with them.

Micheal M - Grapevine / La Vina; The Grapevine will be at PRAASA so, please attend.

Matt H - (Not present but submitted report) Things are going well, requested to change the time from 5:30 to 6 pm and be moved to a smaller room. Will have to be discussed at another meeting

Jeff - Web Host; We meet about every two weeks, it is going well. One confusion is the difference between events and posts. We can't make everything an event. Things in the district will be under events, things outside like workshops will be put under news.

Thom H; We are having an agenda topics workshop at St. Helena Presbyterian Church on March

**Guidelines:** Voting members of District 11 are the District Officers, Chairperson, 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 chair-person. 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.

**XVII. Housekeeping Motion:** None

**XVIII. Old Business:**

**XIX. Presentation of New Business:** None

**XX. New Business:**

- a. **Motion:** *That district 11 adopt the updated Job Descriptions for Officers, Committee Chairs, and liaisons for District 11 – presented by Sandy S, DCMC*

(discussion)

Derek C; I noticed the tech host has to also manage the website, and that seems to be a bit much

Jeff: It is just to update it with info, not build it

Sandy S; Are we ready to vote on this motion (show of the room to vote) (approved)

Jeff; There will be an electronic post, hosts on Zoom will have to vote manually so, just be aware.

Sandy S; Can I see who wants to vote by substantial unanimity (6) or simple majority (5)

Vote - (passed unanimously)

**b. Motion:** That District 11 choose one of the following venues to return in person in a hybrid format - The Rock Church or St. Helena Presbyterian Church.

- The Rock Church Rental: Rock Worship Center – 1758 Industrial Way, #117, Napa; \$20.00/ hour & we can have coffee and donuts, snacks. Wi-Fi available as well; [contact [rmdematteo@gmail.com](mailto:rmdematteo@gmail.com), rates on website:<http://www.therocknapa.com/facilities> need liability insurance \$1,000,000 per occurrence; annual aggregate \$2,000,000; phone 707.337.0909 – Rebecca DeMatteo]
- Presbyterian Church, St. Helena \$75.00; Wi-Fi available; no food

| <i>Venue Name</i>              | <i>Address</i>   | <i>Wi-fi availability</i> | <i>Cost</i>         | <i>Table &amp; Chairs</i>  | <i>Size</i>     | <i>TV Monitor</i> | <i>Food Allowed</i> |  |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| The Rock Church                | 1758 Industrial Way #117, Napa, CA 94558               | Yes                       | \$20/hour = \$60.00 | Yes both tables and chairs | Large sanctuary | Yes               | Yes                 |  |
| St. Helena Presbyterian Church | <a href="#">1428 Spring St, Saint Helena, CA 94574</a> | Yes                       | \$75/for 3 hours    | Yes                        |                 | No                | Yes                 |  |

Sandy S; Since we wanted to vote with substantial unanimity last time we will be continuing that now. Voting up to five times until it is reached at which point we will “put it in the hat”. Any questions? Can I get a feel for the room if we should continue with the third legacy process? (unanimously approved)

(substantial unanimity for 14 voting members is 10)

First Vote - ( The Rock Church 8 St. Helena Presbyterian Church 6 )

Second Vote - ( The Rock Church 8 St. Helena Presbyterian Church 6 )

Third Vote - ( The Rock Church 7 St. Helena Presbyterian Church 7 )

Fourth Vote - ( The Rock Church 7 St. Helena Presbyterian Church 7 )

Should we have a fifth vote or go to the hat? (Fifth vote 0 Hat 17 )

Hat - ( St. Helena Presbyterian Church )

Sandy S; There are some logistics so, we will be meeting over zoom in March. I need a sub committee to put this together. Jeff, Thom, Derek volunteer. Thom volunteers to be chair of this committee.

**XXI. Discussion Items:**

- a. How to fill open positions for District 11

**XXII. Area Committee and Assembly Motions:** See attached Area Motions

**XXIII. What's on your Mind:**

**XXIV. Close with the Responsibility Statement**