

**General Service District 11 Panel 71**  
**District Meeting Minutes**  
**April 9, 2022, 1:30PM**  
**Meeting ID: 87300225118**  
**Passcode: D11dbm2022**

**Opening of Meeting- Serenity Prayer**

**Tradition 4, Long Form-** Laura K

**Concept 4-** Jo M

**Birthdays:** None this Month

**GSR Take Back:** Phil B, who can do it this month? Jo Moore

**Visitors:** Maxie V - San Quentin Liaison – IVSS “Inside Visiting Sponsorship Service”- gratitude for being asked to speak. San Quinten H&A started 4 years ago. Sponsorship has increased since COVID but they have fallen behind. Here is someone on the waitlist for a sponsor. The responsibility statement, I am asking for volunteers.

Last year we had a sponsor pass away. I contacted the sponsee to let him know. He wrote back extending condolences and thanks, and also his acceptance. There is a program brochure, he can mail the brochure to anyone interested, along with a printout “Shortcut to San Quinten Sponsorship” with requirements for sponsorship. A required orientation, 5-year sobriety requirement, monthly visit commitment, [sanquenten.idss@gmail.com](mailto:sanquenten.idss@gmail.com) – information in the chat.

Laura- Knew someone that joined AA in San Quinten. They were there for 2 years and never drank again. Thank You.

**New GSR's?** None

**Introductions (in attendance):** Elisabeth Brumley- DCMC; Jeff Dickinsen- DCM 002, Chair of Web Committee, CNCA 06 Web Committee Editor; Michael Morgan- DCM 003; Jo Moore- GSR Tuesday Big Book Study, Intergroup and H&I Liasson; Mary N-GSR Talking Stick, District Registrar; Charlotte- GSR Serenity on Saturday; Michael Detweiler- GSR SASTO; Richard Waylen- Panel 71 Literature and Grapevine/La Vina Chair; Laura K- GSR Day at a Time Meeting; Thom Hinesley- GSR Sunday Night Big Book Study, District Treasurer; Joe Torres- GSR Tuesday Night Crosstalk at Crosswalk, Beginner’s Meeting Chair; Maxie- Visitor

**Approval of Minutes:** Presented for approval as published. Approved.

**Officer Reports:**

- **DCMC-** Elisabeth B- Thank you for participation in the pre-conference process. Exciting to see the whole room packed and catching up with old friends. Food is a big reason why I go. It was a lovely lunch. Appreciated the diversity of opinions. Listening to consciences from other districts and groups expanded my horizons. I will attach the Area Agenda Items for your information. I

wanted to give time to look at them and ask questions at discussion at the end of the meeting. Our website has updated information about our business meeting and our district. Updated concept and tradition checklists. I want to know your thoughts on moving the meeting to the Vet's Home.

- **Alt DCMC/PICPC Chair**– Open- Please Announce at meetings. Looking for speakers for the DDP- Alternatives for better life, private provider that provides classes for felons to reduce time to serve- Elisabeth asked to do a virtual presentation, looking for others to help out and I have all the materials ready.

- **DCM 001**- Sandy S- Unable to attend.

- **DCM 002** – Jeff D- I also went to the in-person Area meeting, it was great. The presentation was on Development of CNCA Spanish speaking districts, accessibility. It was a wonderful presentation. They are test running the hybrid ACM (Area Committee Meeting) they would like to hear from the Groups. Thank You. I will make myself available if any groups need held. Looking to serve with other SUBS.

- **DCM 003**- Michael M- I just attended the subdistrict meeting on the spirit of rotation. You should attend. I also attended the preconference assembly. Shrimp and chicken tacos. During what's on your mind I went to the mic. As an ex GSR I am still as nervous to go to the mic, wanted to pump them up. Good representation from the Hispanic Groups. Thank You.

- **Secretary** -Chris W- Nothing to report.

- **Treasurer**- Thom H – Screen share the District Treasures Report. Sizable contribution from Intergroup- there are no bank fees or outstanding checks- all cleared. Made deposit at the bank- not reflected on the statement.

Chris W- That seems like a lot of money. Are we looking at making a distribution anytime soon?

Thom- We look at that quarterly with the financial oversight committee.

- **Registrar**- Mary N.- At the area meeting the Area Registrar used QR codes to register people. It went very smooth.

- **Archives** – Open – Please Announce at meetings.

- **Literature** – Open – Please Announce at meetings.

- **Beginners Meeting**- Joe. T – A couple months ago I brought up a proposal to make changes. I have not had time to do this. The beginners meeting has been doing really well. We passed out a Big Book, 12 x 12, and a Living Sober to a newcomer yesterday. I am planning to look at revisions by the end of the panel, maybe beef up week 6 of the rotation. As the sub committee meets, I will update.

- **Bridging the Gap**- Teresa V – Not in attendance but she prepared a report. The BTG Area Committee was able to go into Duffy's which was closed for a couple months, looking at

changes to the Blue Cards. In the chat. The next BTG Meeting is the 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm. Next presentation is Monday May 22 at 7 pm. Looking for male speakers.

- **Intergroup Liaison-** Jo M- we just had the intergroup meeting, minutes already available. There are open chairs, treasurer has requested that groups identify portions of donations. H & I contributions have been winding up at Intergroup. Sales tax needs to be identified for literature contributions. The hotline has a chair and there are open positions for men and women. We need people. It is light but significant work. I rarely get a call but it's great when I do. We need this covered and need volunteers. Get ahold of him on the website or reach out for the phone number. We have a draft newsletter. It looks cool very well done. Informative. Reviewing By-Laws. Check website in next few days.

- **H&I Liaison-** Jo M- I missed the meeting, got the notes, they have been posted. Highlights are the contributions. There is an online payment option. Along with the notes a lot of places have had COVID outbreaks but think the facilities will be open soon. The forms should be available soon. Please fill out the application now so can go in when they open.

- **Tech Committee-** Jeff D. – We have an H&I section on the website they can use. Send stuff for posting. Web editor- there is a report in the packet. There are changes to the meeting schedule. Patty B and I updated the Spanish meetings and they are accurate. Intergroup is in charge of putting together the printed schedule but they use the Google Sheet. Update as soon as possible, looking to make changes within 24 hours. Realigning the dropdown menus to be more intuitive. The server was moved to a new facility in Los Angeles and is going to be better. We only lost a bit of information- working to replace. The website is more stable.

There is a what's new section that has the most current information. I posted the service manual study- it is our policy to put new meetings on this section. We decided to put the Service Manual Study in there. We changed the meetings that are once a month- they have a special section at the bottom of the sheet.

- **NAPYPAA Liaison** – Phil B – Not here today.

- **UNITY DAY Chair** (June 18) – Thom H – We have chair committees available, decided on a time. We will have someone make flyers. I have a speaker. Next meeting 18<sup>th</sup> of April – at 8 pm.

- **Visiting Area Officer-** Richard W. Literature, Grapevine & LaVina Chair will share his experience with next steps after the General Service Conference

Good to see everyone. Great Pre-Conference Assembly. I listened to it on Zoom. My topic is next steps. We had the preliminary agenda topics come to life. Everything was brought through. A lot of stuff due by tomorrow. Group consciences due by tomorrow. Sharing at the Virtual Mic was this morning. During the week of the conference, it is very busy with activity. Some of these things will result in Advisory Actions. There is a flow to the assembly. At the annual conference meeting there are matters that are important to the conference as a whole, then there is a question and answer before the vote. Screen shares a flowchart of the life of an agenda topic. There is discussion, breakout committees, then reports to the conference.

The committees make recommendations to take action. When an advisory action happens there could be a motion from the floor. They advise the Trustees to take action on an item. Trustees implement work. Earlier today Jeff gave a presentation. He posed a question that I would like to get to.

Before the post conference assembly, it is a great time to talk to groups about the inventories they have done. It is a good thing. How do we want to communicate the results? Where are we going to learn more, do we need to learn the process? We can learn what happened at the Post Conference Assembly, 14<sup>th</sup> of May, in Newark, CA, hybrid.

There was a cheat sheet created. If you can't go to the Assembly, attend your Unity Day, there will be information there. Now is also a good time to talk to your groups. Go out and seek the other GSRs. Share your behind the scene info. Invite people to the Assembly and the Unity Day.

I got into general service through an invitation. I was about 4 years sober. I came off of a breakup and she was in the program and then she went out. It was scary- I got into a pity party. I had a friend invite me to the assembly. Had thought that there may be something there I hadn't seen before. I am now 17 years in the program and love general service. This is the life that is second to none. How would you like to be approached about general service? You are the champions. Any questions?

Jeff D- when you mentioned the General Service Board Committees- do they have any influence on the votes?

Richard- good question, I would have to think on that. Even if you don't have a vote, you have a voice. I don't think they have a vote but they do help with presentations and networking. The staff, delegates, and trustees are the voting members.

Jeff- The conference committees use the trustee committees through the execution phase but I was not sure.

Richard- when they appoint someone to be a trustee their pool is people from the board. In some other areas their delegate does let their Area have any input. We are blessed with inclusion here.

Elisabeth- I like the screen share. I have been looking at the service manual. I want to say that the regional forum is a good thing to do when they are available. We have one coming up.

Richard- the original forum is put on by the general service office. We provide a location and they present on the different service entities. It helps identify areas that need more work and others that may not. PRASSA is one that we put on. I put the call for stories in the chat. The big book fifth edition is calling out for stories. Also, or other literature.

## **Break**

Housekeeping motion- Housekeeping Motions: A motion of a routine nature dealing with administrative or purely formal matters necessary to expedite House business. If there is an objection this will become new business next month

- **Old Business** – None
- **Updates from** Ad Hoc Committee for Beginners Meeting- will be continued to a later date.
- **New Business**- None

**Discussion:**

- Vet's home for In Person meetings?

Jeff D- The vet's home was originally chosen as a central location, they are still requiring masks and we would need to do our own setup. If we do hybrid, it wouldn't matter where we meet. The middle place makes everyone drive one way or the other. I would prefer virtual for business meeting.

Joe T.- what is the cost. Is there an increase since previous meetings?

Jeff- the Vets home changes the administration, they can't accept cash because they are state run. We donate to their coffee fund. Whatever we donate is acceptable to them. It was 25 a month for another meeting there (Friday night). Cost required is insurance – less than 100 a year from a local vendor.

Thom- clarification, specifically to the Vets home. I find this format more efficient for doing business. I know that is a component – meeting in person- but this is a business meeting. If we go in person, I strongly think we should do hybrid. Having gone to the Area hybrid and other meetings. Before I was thinking what was the cheapest, now I think we do the most efficient regarding hybrid equipment.

Mary- I live in far north of the county. I am open to hybrid but I do like to have some in person.

Jo M.- like Mary I am in Calistoga. I am also ill and having hearing difficulties of getting to meetings, the online format is very cool. I also would like to have the in person happening. I have missed the in-person forum and connection. Thanks.

Elisabeth- Would anyone else like to share?

Jo M. – There is one meeting that I go to on Zoom but there is someone there with an iPad. It is much simpler without need for translators.

Elisabeth- Because of something brought up, I had assumed that we would go back to the Vet's home, whatever we do when we move forward, I think it would have to be a motion and see what we do going forward. It should be done by Robert's Rules of Order.

Thom- I said Zoom quite frequently. At the Area meeting we could look at other video conference platforms. Its virtual not Zoom.

Charlotte- I feel like of course I want to be home, but before covid, it was in person. I would need to change and be willing to travel. I don't know, I have to remember before COVID there was another way that worked great.

Laura- I think about this topic often and have heard lots of opinions. My personal opinion is that going back to in person is exclusionary- (internet breaking up) ... limited technologically. I don't attend in person meetings or go out much out of fear of COVID, I appreciate the hybrid and virtual meetings, I feel like they are working.

Elisabeth- I'd like to have a show of hands to get a sense. It will need to be discussed further as a lot of people not here this time.

**(Show of hands, who wants In Person- 5 out of 12 hands raised)**

Area meetings in Petaluma are now going to be in person and car pools are available. If you would like to see what is about.

**On Your Mind-**

Joe T. – I noticed during the pre-conference assembly business meeting there were items that people were giving consciences on that I had not taken back to my group. Is there a way to be more formal as to what we needed to bring back to the groups? There were items about reverting the 12 x 12.

Elisabeth- I would like to have that discussed. I would wonder the same thing. I wonder how we could do that.

Jeff- in reporting as the DCMC you can refer to the Comments and Comentarios. Maybe we should put this out before the meeting so people can think about it. It also has reports from other districts about what is going on. Maybe we need to post the Comments and Comentarios maybe we should put it on the District Website.

Elisabeth- I have been forwarding them. There is a gap between what is sent and what I am to look at.

Joe- one of my concerns as a GSR I have a hard time keeping up with the vast amount of information. Is there a way to streamline the information? It is hard to manage the number of emails I get and go through all of it. Is there a way to have someone correlate it?

Thom- your right there is so much information that comes from the Area that needs to be addressed. There are topics that come up. Maybe have some put on the website and have one set... (secretary did not catch last part of this thought). They have a business meeting at the assembly the GSR has a voice which means that the group has a voice in it. It seems like there are more things than before. What I have done as a GSR is bring it up and ask the group and ask after the meeting to get an informal sense of the room.

Jo Moore- someone at the Pre-Conference said I think we ought to go back to not having the area officer do this as we should have a review. Then people thanked the officer for doing the summaries. Anywhere that the DCMC comes in there are people that want to go through it all and others that would like the Cliff Notes.

Elisabeth- one idea I had is divide everything up. I could share the minutes and the motions from the previous motions from the ACM. I could highlight and leave a note. "These are the motions I would like to know you or your group's opinion on."

Joe- Screen share- this is perfect "just started-Elisabeth", It shows what we would need to review with our groups. I think we had at one point discussed the Graphic Novel and the Living Sober. Some of the old business and new business I have not.

Jeff- That came out of the comments.

Elisabeth- I just saw this for the first time- we are all on a learning curve.

Elisabeth- I appreciate the ability to share documents virtually I think it is very efficient for the business meeting.

Thom- Printing has historically been one of our biggest expenses. It adds up.

- **Concept Study every 3rd Sunday at 6-** next one on following Monday because of Easter.
- **Volunteer for Report back:**
- **Next Business Meeting – May 7 at 1:30**

**Jeff- Motion to Close the Meeting Early- Seconded, thirded.**

**Close with the Responsibility Statement**