

**General Service District 11 Panel 71**

**District Meeting Minutes**

**July 2, 2022, 10:00AM**

**Meeting ID: 87300225118**

**Passcode: D11dbm2022**

**Opening of Meeting- Serenity Prayer**

**Tradition 7 – Doug**

**Concept 7- Thom H**

**Birthdays:** Elisabeth 17 years!!

**GSR Take Back:** Thanks Jane for your “take back” Next Month- Joe T

**Visitors:** Eric Lee-Area Alternate Delegate

**New GSR's:** None

**Introductions (in attendance):** Elisabeth- DCMC; Jeff D- DCM 002, Web Committee Chair, Web editor; Doug Manning- GSR Saturday Men's Stag; Jo Moore- GSR Tues Big Book Study, H&I Liaison and Intergroup Liaison, FOC Member; Michael Morgan- DCM 003; Thelma- GSR Sunday Tucker Farm Center; Mary- GSR Talking Stick, Registrar; Thom H- GSR Sunday Night Big Book Study, Treasurer; Walter N- GSR Napa In the Park at Senior Center; Annalise- GSR Never too Young; Charlotte T- GSR Serenity on Saturday; Chris W- Recording Secretary; Eric Lee- Area Alt Delegate; Joe T- GSR Crosstalk at Crosswalk, Beginner's Meeting Chair; Kelly G- GSR New life Woman's Group; John T- GSR No Mam, Hut Group; Laura K- GSR Day at a Time; Sandy S- DCM 001; Jane FC- GSR Keep Coming Back

**Approval of Minutes:** Approved as Published

**Officer Reports:**

- **DCMC- Elisabeth B-** I appreciated everyone's work at Unity Day, panel spoke from heart. Wonderful to hear the Delegate. Seemed successful. I always imagined it would be about this, was able to reach out to people including someone from another area. I had a great experience. I added the motions page from Area into the Agenda Packet. If you have a chance to participate in the assembly in Salinas, check the flyer. It is virtual as well. The breakout sessions sound awesome.

- **Alt DCMC/PICPC Chair– Open- Some members of the committee attended the Area Joint**

**Meeting for PICPC, Bridging the Gap and H&I** – Teresa attended the joint committee with PICPC H&I and BTG. How we have cooperated more during the pandemic. If there are other questions ask Elisabeth. One handout that is in the Agenda Packet talks about what our continuum of cooperation could look like.

- **DCM 001- Sandy S-** Have a written report. I went to the Sharing Session topic about the regional forums and what is different between that and PRASSA. The Forums are every other year. Sept. 16-18 in Salt Lake City. I missed the last forum in Hawaii. It is where General Service Board goes to give reports about their activities. It is different from PRASSA where the theme is about General Service Conference.

Today that Sub District Meeting was on Concept 5. Q&A. Summer Assembly changed to August 20<sup>th</sup> in Salinas.

- **DCM 002 – Jeff D-** Not much to report. I am attending the Pacific Regional Forum. There is an Alanon component. In the job description for the GSR it is expected that you go to the Assembly as well as the District Business Meeting. You have a vote at the Assembly.
- **DCM 003- Michael M-** I also attended Sharing Session and got to share on my experience on how to speak in front of a lot of people. Got to ask a question to the General Service Board. They are sharing job descriptions at the Area. 2024 PRASSA is coming up and I am volunteering as a greeter. It is in San Francisco. Get ahold of me if you want to volunteer at PRASSA.
- **Secretary -Chris W-** Nothing to Report
- **Treasurer- Thom H-** Want to clarify that 2023 PRASSA is Southern California, 2024 in San Francisco. Longer treasurers report. Had Unity Day and wrote lots of checks for that. Paid insurance for our events and we are covered for 1 year. All deposits recorded. Some outstanding checks. There is a discrepancy for \$16. Cannot find where it is from. Making a placeholder until it can be rectified.

**Treasure's Report Approved as Presented** after clarification of Unity Day expenses.

- **Registrar- Mary N.-** Everything is going well.
- **Archives – Open**
- **Literature – Open**
- **Beginners Meeting- Joe. T –** Beginners Meeting attendance low last few weeks. Continue to announce the meeting. Had a newcomer on Friday. Today I want to remind everyone that we are using my personal equipment for the meeting. There is a need for hybrid meeting equipment. It is a need for the Beginner's Meeting. Would like to keep the hybrid format open. There are virtual attendees weekly.
- **Bridging the Gap-** Teresa V
- **Intergroup Liaison- Jo M-** Open positions at intergroup including NAPPYAA and the hotline. Get in touch via the hotline or via email or at AANAPA.org. It is a great commitment. I have taken the calls on the hotline. There are people in need. If you're on your it. 24 hr. shift. We need more intergroup reps. There are only 6 reps. Birthday meeting is going well. Looking for coffee and cake commitments. Get ahold of Meghan at the AANAPA.org website. Our Bylaws are being reviewed. Next meeting is next Saturday. The newsletter is on the website.
- **H&I Liaison- Jo M-** Meeting is at Sea Scouts. If you know anyone interested forward them to the meeting. We have new pink can stickers with the credit card donation options. First Friday of the month is the meeting. We need a new Chair. You are a communication person so more available the better. Our treasury is good. We sent money back. H&I not so strong with the pandemic but there is hope of taking more meetings in soon. Encouraging contributions. The contact at the Jail has retired so it is a little more difficult. I have the application; it may be on the website and if it is not, I would like it to be. The South Shelter is closed. Center Point is holding meetings and needs secretaries for Sunday at 7pm. Need English Meeting Secretary. Vallejo Detox closed; Crestwood closed. St. Helena mental health looking for

meetings. Shemaiah Meeting house looking for secretaries. Vallejo house open but needs secretary and coordinator.

- **Tech Committee- Jeff D-** Had a meeting on Thursday. We are writing the Op Spec defining pass it on and job responsibilities. We were originally proposed by intergroup and are asking if we should become a full standing committee. Work with CNCA, training on spam and email. We get a lot of Russian Spam, there is various software that could help. We get the spam quite often. I am attending national AA technology workshop in November. Is there anything from NAPPYAA and H&I needing to post to the website? Let me and Patty know.

- **NAPYPAA Liaison – Annalise-** Changed meeting time to see how attendance would be. Now on the third Wednesday after the Never Too Young meeting. We are proposing an event. Tailgate in the Crosswalk parking lot. “I’ve Got Friends in Low Places” there are positions available. July 20<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting.

- **UNITY DAY Chair (June 18) Thom H-** Attendees, we underbudgeted, I would like to rescind my previous \$170 budget because it looks off. I got a pass it on from 2019 there were people there. Will come back with a full report in August.

Sandy- wanted to mentioned that when you do the report money collected are not 7<sup>th</sup> traditions but donations to the district.

- **Financial Oversight Committee- Jo Moore –** We met and reviewed the description of our function and looked at the budget and expenses and were getting oriented. I was elected the spokesperson. We set our next meeting.

- **AD Hoc – Hybrid Committee- Thom H –** We met and are going to meet again. Consistently with the Area we would budget less than \$1,500. There is Wi-Fi at the Veteran’s Home. I have a recommendation that I will bring later in new business.

- **Visiting Area Officer-** CNCA06 Alternate Delegate, Eric Lee who will speak about his experience with Leadership in AA.

Also involved with PICPC. More of a secretary rule. I do know where to go when I have a question. Here is my experience. Leadership is Concept 9; it is not about telling what people what to do, but to facilitate others being able to do their job. I try to facilitate people doing actual 12<sup>th</sup> step work. I came to AA in 2009. I was fearful because there was not as much openness towards gay people at the time. The first meeting I went to was at a church that had donated against gay marriage. I didn’t know if I was going to be allowed to be in AA. There was a pamphlet for the gay/lesbian alcoholic. I stole it not knowing it was free. In the 50’s they were discussing opening Gay Meetings. In the 60’s they introduced meetings with the word gay in them. There was another pamphlet where an alcoholic openly stated they were gay. Another pamphlet went back and forth during the 80’s in 1989 it was published. This was the pamphlet I stole at my first meeting and it saved my life. There are boring parts like “how does a pamphlet get made”, it takes a process but saves people.

There is a leader, like a chef, running the show. They have people that do all the tasks and they put the finishing touches. We get the best staff and run the best show. That is concept 10 and 11. Bill and Bob started AA, then Bob got sick. As he is dying Bill thinks, its just me now and this isn’t good. There were

the trustees but there was no link to the Groups. He made a structure that put the power in the groups through the service structure. There was a five year trial run then in 1955 it was solidified. General Service has done all the literature since the 12x12. You are saving the life of people that you will never meet. The discussions now bear fruit in 30 years. We won't get to see it. There were a few people that voted against the pamphlet.

Encourage all to attend the Summer Assembly. Will be voting on the living sober fat shaming passage and may possibly discuss the 12x12 rape passage. There will be workshops, they are listed on the flyer. There weren't many suggestions from the districts. There are hotels at a better price in San Jose.

Thank You!

Charlotte- Thank you so much. I look forward to your service manual study.

Jeff- I appreciate your presentation. This is a great example of 5 concepts that he just hit. It is 3/4/5/9/10. His personal story comes out. He has a responsibility to pave a path for those to follow that for him could have been lost. Shows that it is our responsibility to lead the way. It is important to learn about these going forward. There are open positions there are also committee positions that will accept people coming in that could use it.

Eric- Talking about concepts is hard for people. There is a website that gives examples.

Annalise- I was reflecting on your experience with the pamphlets. I have a love hate relationship with the pamphlets. I am thinking about the generations and how they access the information. I would like to get more involved. What would be the next step in getting involved?

Eric- There was an ego part to my service. I had a sponsee kill himself. I was a district chair at the time. I don't know what AA could have done. I also know that I don't have to solve this myself. I don't have the solution for my old sponsee but I believe that if I stay involved, I may help someone who will. Somewhere around AA an idea will come up and the General Service process will become visible.

## **Break**

### **Reopen with Serenity Prayer**

- **Officer Responsibility Description** - At our November District Business Meeting, we will elect new officers for the next panel. Each month until November, we will hear from 2 officers, share their experience. Today we will hear from Jo Moore and Joe Torres.

Joe T.- I have had the pleasure to serve since the beginning of the panel. It has been a very fulfilling commitment. It was mentioned earlier about the hotline. I do the hotline on Fridays. I have had several times taken a call and had someone come into the newcomers meeting. One person became a sponsee. The rewards are overwhelming. It is very fulfilling.

I am still relatively young in sobriety. I tried to control the meeting and should have given more responsibility to the secretaries. It is not intended to be that way. I should have solicited more secretaries. I need to get the 6-week secretaries. Then it is up to them to get people to share at the meeting. Also responsible for meeting literature. We give away the Living Sober free of charge. I will coordinate with the treasurer, also getting coffee, collecting 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions and give to

district treasurer. Also have the church key- generally it is passed between the secretaries. I will write a pass it on for the new chair. Room setup is usually done by the secretary and the coffee maker. Make sure that the secretaries are qualified i.e., sobriety requirement, step work, work with sponsor.

Sandy- about how much time a month do you put in?

Joe- 5 hours a month approximately

Joe M- Liaison- Intergroup and H&I and essentially it is someone who takes information between the groups, you are a communication link. Need to be present for the meetings and prepare reports. I have 2 positions. It has been an incredible enrichment. I meet a lot of new people throughout the county. The meetings are in person for Intergroup and virtual for H&I. Being attentive and involved. Not too time consuming as the meetings are once a month. About 4 hours a month total not including commute. The web committee has made the job easier because the info is on the website if I cannot attend the meeting. Not a tough job but it is really important. Meet good people. Makes me feel that I am a part of helping the newcomers.

**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** –

- **New Business-** Hybrid DBM

Jo M- is there Wi-Fi at the Vet's home?

Walter- there seems to be but I need to check with some other people before I say it's good enough.

Charlotte- Could we do a test meeting one month?

Elisabeth- we don't have a place in mind yet.

Sandy- When we were at the Vet's home before, they would not give us the WI-FI login. The structuring of whoever was running the room didn't have authority to grant us WI-FI access. Does Walter know if they would give us access? Would it be the committee that would locate other places that we may meet for hybrid?

Walter: the use of the WI-FI would be automatic. Everyone has the password. We are in a high-risk area because of COVID because there is a hospital here. It filters down to where we are in a building that are in a domicile building. But there are still rigid rules for masking etc. Other problems would be more difficult, i.e., getting the room and parking.

Joe T- for the WI-FI, when you host the meeting the WI-FI is important because you can lose the meeting altogether. We could purchase a hotspot for the district. The Crosswalk has choppy internet and I use my own hotspot.

Elisabeth- were not ready to move to new business will move to discussion. Or would someone like to send me a motion for next month?

Thom- I am not clear about going hybrid and where we meet? Or is it going back to the same location? There seem to be a lot of moving parts.

Elisabeth- We were discussing moving forward with the hybrid meeting. We need to look at where and need to approve the possibility of purchasing the equipment.

Jeff- Its good that we have an idea about the equipment but we also need a place to meet. Location and accommodations (Lost connection)

Sandy- I believe that the feeling of the Group was to have a hybrid meeting. The committee was to investigate equipment, it was not clear that we were to find a spot as well. If so, we can continue to discuss. We were in agreement to make a motion to purchase equipment not to exceed \$1,500. Now there is the question of a hotspot. I am willing to make a motion to purchase equipment.

Show of hands regarding hybrid – everyone is in agreement; we would accept a motion to purchase hybrid equipment. Then we move forward to finding a suitable venue headed by they committee. Also look into purchasing a hotspot.

Kelly G- I thought we had an ad hoc committee finding information about this. What information have they gathered.

Elisabeth- the recommendation was purchase equipment not to exceed \$1,500.

Jeff- it appears that if it is kept to thy DBM we may be early but if it is used for the Beginner's Meeting as well then, we already have a use for it. It is for both.

Walter- the cost factor of the hotspot? The rental of a facility.

Elisabeth- we would continue to rent Crosswalk for Beginners Meeting. Our rental at the Vet's home was coffee contributions to the Vets.

Elisabeth- Motion to purchase the equipment for use at the Beginner's Meeting, do a trial run on the DBM.

Sandy- When we inquired about the WI-FI they denied it. I want to make sure we are being honest about our use of the Wi-Fi. The Coffee was about \$100 a quarter.

Walter- I would like to motion but I am a member of the committee, can I do that.

Thom- I think this price could include a hotspot with monthly service - \$60-200.

**Motion: Purchasing equipment to support District 11 Virtual and hybrid meetings. The equipment can include 1 microphone, one computer a camera, support cables HDMI and additional equipment as needed. Not to exceed \$1,500.00**

**13 out of 15 votes for the Motion**

Doug- Minority opinion, I am opposed to spending money on an in-person meeting. I think we should push this down the road longer. I think it is too early.

Laura- It is my sense that people want to meet in person because of the commroadarea and I understand. We could think about having the meeting online and do a pot luck in the park.

Sandy- The group already voted to move in the direction of the Hybrid meeting.

**Elisabeth- the motion passed.**

**Joe T- the motion was to buy the equipment?**

**Elisabeth- Yes.**

**Discussion:**

- **Summer Assembly changed dates, location, and venue**

**What's On Your Mind-**

Michael M- I put the email in the chat.

Charlotte- the positions coming up. How do we check our availability.

Joe T- wanted to ask Sandy what she meant about the Unity Day money was donation and not 7<sup>th</sup> tradition.

Sandy- we don't do the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition because we pay for the entire event. It doesn't go into the fund that passes it on.

Joe T- are the people donating aware of that?

Sandy- unsure of that

Joe- is there a way that we can include a Q&A in the officer's reports?

Elisabeth- during the officer's reports, that would be a good idea. I think its always available. Sometimes people make comments.

**Reminders:**

- **Concept Study every 3rd Sunday at 6**
- **Volunteer for Report back:**
- **Next Business Meeting – August 6 at 10:00am**

**Close with the Responsibility Statement**