

DISTRICT 12 GENERAL SERVICE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 6, 2020

- Call to order by Romy at 7:30
- Serenity prayer
- GSR Preamble read by Melanie

- **New GSR Introductions** (with service sponsors)
 - Mary – new GSR Orientation Chair
 - Ursula (Melanie P)
 - Lisa (Lynne W)
 - Carol (Melanie P)
 - Lee (Susan)
 - Sandy (Jenny C)
 - Ryan (Pat G)
 - Steve (Ed)
 - Cat (Susan)

- **Tradition 2 Workshop Recap: Lauren**
 - Tradition 2: “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.”
 - Long Form: A.A. is both a democracy and, in Bill W.’s words, “a benign anarchy.” A group elects its own officers who have no power to order anybody to do anything. In most groups, most of the slate rotates out of office at the end of six months, and new officers are elected.

- **Concept 2 Workshop Recap: Chris**
 - Concept 2: “When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference – excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter – the voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.”
 - Synopsis: Concept I establishes the “final responsibility and ultimate authority” of the A.A. groups; but, in actual practice, how are they to manage A.A.’s service affairs? By delegation, Concept II declares. Bill and Dr. Bob, entrusted by the early groups to get the program going and to spread the message, found nonalcoholic friends to help them. They formed a trusteeship and delegated to it the responsibility for finances, the Big Book and other literature, public information, the service office and the AA Grapevine. However, as the trustees constantly looked to the co-founders for advice and guidance and the groups also continued to hold them accountable, it was evident that the leadership should be transferred to the A.A. groups as a whole. But if the groups were to carry on their primary purpose, they would have to delegate their leadership role to a General Service Conference. They do this by electing a General Service Representative for each group. These G.S.R.s meet regularly in area

assemblies and every two years elect a delegate from among their number. Every April, the delegates from the 93 areas in the U.S. and Canada meet for six days with the trustees of the General Service Board, the staffs of the General Service Office and AA Grapevine and certain other service workers. Thus, this General Service Conference of A.A. is “the actual voice and effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.”

- **Panel Reports:**

- DCMC – Romy

- Upon motion duly made, and seconded, January 2020 minutes approved
- Attended January Area 09 meeting in Torrance
- Attended Pre-Conference Bootcamp committee planning meeting
- Attended meeting in Riverside
- Preparing 2020 event calendar

- Alternate DCMC – David

- Attended January Area 09 meeting in Torrance
- Encouraged everyone to attend next Area 09 meeting in February
- Attended Servicepalooza hosted by AAOCYPA
- Attended Pre-Conference Bootcamp committee planning meeting
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- Treasurer – Bob

- Presented monthly transactions report
- Presented 2020 budget that was presented last year by prior panel, to be reviewed in new business
- Encourage your meeting treasurers to make smaller contributions often rather than fewer large contributions
- Last year we only spent 60% of our budget. Our committees are encouraged to use their budgeted funds to carry the message.
- We temporarily don't have access to our checking account
- Bob will be emailing receipts
- Rent paid for two months

- Secretary – Lynne

- Please see Lynne if you are not receiving District 12 emails, such as meeting minutes.

- Registrar – Alex

- See Alex if you don't know your group number to ensure your attendance is properly documented.
- If you miss more than three consecutive meetings, your meeting will go dark. We will start enforcing this year.
- If you're a new GSR, be sure to turn in your form.

- **Guest Speaker – Hiro S., Area 09 Alternate Delegate, Panel 70**

- Topic: Introduction to the General Service Conference and why GSR role is so vital
 - GSRs that come, come all the time. GSRs that come once, only attend once
 - Importance of participation
 - Why GSR?

- AA is diverse, changes constantly
 - “WE” represent AA and the constantly changing diversity
 - We represent AA’s governance and our ever-changing diverse group of alcoholics
 - Our diverse governance group is vital to ensure AA evolves to meet the ever-changing diversity
 - Pretend you don’t know anything, be open to learning
 - We are the very essence of the democracy of AA
 - “We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life.” – Bernard B. Smith, *The A A. Service Manual*, pg. S20
 - AA is a corporate structure rather than a political structure
 - Agenda items for General Service Conference will be sent to districts in February
 - Districts will summarize hundreds of pages of agenda items
 - Pre-Conference Bootcamp will be held for our district to review the summarized agenda items
 - GSRs then attend the Pre-Conference to render their votes for the individual meetings they each represent
 - 67% vote required to pass a decision
- **Call for volunteers for the Pre-Conference Bootcamp committee**
 - Please sign up to volunteer
 - Contact any panel member to volunteer
 - **Old business**
 - AOCYPAA letter of support – Lynne will sign and send to Paola
 - **New business**
 - Bob proposed some adjustments to our 2020 budget
 - Increase PRAASA budget to \$2400 --
 - \$800 each for three board members – did not pass
 - \$800 for Romy and \$1600 to be split amongst all other attendees – PASS
 - GSR School was omitted from 2020 budget
 - \$780 per year requested – PASSED
 - **Elections for remaining Committee Chairs – TABLED until March meeting**
 - Congratulations to all of our new committee chairs. We still have more spots to fill which will be addressed at next GSR meeting

- **Accessibilities – STILL OPEN**
- AOCYPAA Liaison – Becket C.
- Archives – Candace T. (tentative, Jim Stevens)
- Coffee – Kim L.
- Concepts Workshop – Chris L.
- **Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC) – STILL OPEN**
- **Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) – STILL OPEN**
- Grapevine – Ryan M.
- GSR Orientation Co-Chair – Mary F.
- **GSR Orientation Co-Chair – STILL OPEN**
- **Intergroup Liaison – STILL OPEN**
- Literature – Tommy D.
- Memorial Day Picnic Coordinator – Jenny C.
- Public Information – Dave B.
- **Regional Events – STILL OPEN**
- South County H & I Liaison – Tim A.
- **Speaker Guidelines – STILL OPEN**
- Sponsorship Workshop (2021) – Caroline O.
- **Speaker Guidelines – STILL OPEN**
- Treatment Committee Co-Chair – Lynn M.
- Treatment Committee Co-Chair – Dolly C.
- Traditions Day Coordinator – Lauren O.
- Traditions Workshop – Lauren O.
- Webmaster – Matthew C.

- **Standing committee reports**

- Tabled

- **Announcements**

- Memorial Day picnic committee needs volunteers!!!

- **Sub-District Recaps**

- No sub-district breakouts this month

- **Birthdays for December**

- Robin – 16 years
- Carol – 31 years
- Chris – 23 years
- Zach – 4 years

- **Upcoming Events:**

- Next Area Meeting
 - Feb 9, 2020, 9:00am – 3:00pm
 - UFCW Local 324, 8530 Stanton Ave, Buena Park
- Save the Date: Pre-Conference Bootcamp

- March 14, 11:00am – 4:00pm
- Lunch will be provided

- **Close with Responsibility Pledge:**

- I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. to always be there. And for that, I am responsible.

**** For corrections or changes to the minutes, please email mscadistrict12@gmail.com ****