

DISTRICT 12 GENERAL SERVICE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 4, 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

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

- **New GSR Introductions** (with service sponsors)
 - None

- **Tradition 6 Workshop Recap: Lauren**
 - **Short form:** “An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.”
 - **Long form:** “Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A. and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.”

- **Concept 6 Workshop Recap: Chris**
 - **Concept 6:** “On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.”
 - **Synopsis:** “We have seen that the “final responsibility and ultimate authority” for A.A.’s service activities rest with the A.A. groups (Concept I), but to carry out this responsibility they must delegate to the Conference (Concept II). The Conference, in turn, must delegate administrative authority to the General Service Board of Trustees. Again, it is helpful if you are familiar with both the Conference Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board to understand this relationship and the freedom of action that the trustees must have. The trustees have the legal and practical responsibility for the operation of A.A. World Services, Inc. (which embraces A.A. publishing as well as the General Service Office) and of AA Grapevine, Inc. These entities have a

combined cash flow of many millions of dollars annually. The trustees are also responsible for A.A.'s public information activities. They are the guardians of the Twelve Traditions. They are responsible for carrying the A.A. message to other countries around the world. They are A.A.'s "bankers," overseeing the financial operations and investing A.A.'s substantial Reserve Fund. (Read the text of Concept XI for a more detailed account of their functions.)"

- **Special Guests:**

- Ed L., Area 09 delegate
- Hiro S., Area 09 alternate delegate
- Rozanne, District 18 DCMC

- **Panel Reports:**

- DCMC – Romy
 - Upon motion duly made, and seconded, May 2020 minutes approved
 - Fielding emails and phone calls from GSRs within the district with questions
 - Many questions about meetings starting to open back up, will discuss further in the July meeting
 - Email Romy with any questions or feedback -- DCMC.District12@gmail.com
- Alternate DCMC – David
 - Absent
- Treasurer – Bob
 - Income in May of \$754
 - No expenses
 - New balances is \$17,665
- Secretary – Lynne
 - Please email Lynne if you are not receiving District 12 emails, such as meeting minutes -- mscadistrict12@gmail.com
 - Many of June's MailChimp emails went to spam, be sure to check your spam.
- Registrar – Alex
 - Absent

- **Old business**

- Budget discussion is being tabled until July. Due to events being cancelled, we have a surplus in our budget. Is this an opportunity to be of service to GSO and/or other AA service entities with contributions?

- **New business**

- Special even presentation. Ed L., Area 09 delegate, presented on his experience at the A.A. General Service Conference that was held virtually on May 16-19.
 - 175 people attendees, everyone attended, nobody absent
 - Over 56 hours of virtual Zoom meetings, first time in history that this conference has been held virtually
 - Ed chaired the literature committee
 - 27 agenda items on literature

- Agreed on five key agenda items to take to the conference and 11 items to defer to 2021
 - Finance: \$8.86 million in 7th tradition contributions received in 2019, a steady increase year-over-year. The Pacific region, our region, was one of the largest contributors.
 - 2020 contributions are already trending way down due to Covid, mostly attributable to literature. GSO has had to tap into the prudent reserve.
 - Overview of some key agenda items:
 - 5th addition of big book deferred to next year
 - Instagram account: deferred to next year so that additional information can be considered.
 - Virtual basket: language regarding virtual baskets will be added to existing pamphlet.
 - Plain language big book: 116 yes, 55 no
 - Will create a list of key words and phrases for search engine optimization (SEO)
 - Will consider ways to enhance the online meeting guide
 - Still continuing to explore issues of anonymity and social media
 - Develop history book: 76 yes, 6 no
 - Lord's prayer at International Convention: 7 yes, 8 no
 - Q&A
 - Area 09 secretary will be emailing the full updated agenda with all of the decisions and discussion points, expected to be sent on Saturday, June 6th.
 - Your District 12 secretary will share with all GSRs
- **Announcements**
 - Next Area 09 meeting is Sunday, June 14th
- **Birthdays for May**
 - Michelle – 6 years
 - Ed – 15 years
 - Lynn – 6 years
- **Close with Responsibility Pledge:**
 - I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that, I am responsible.

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