

Minutes of GSR Meeting, District 15, May 3, 2012

Members present: Nikki, Ann, Melissa, Beth, Kathleen, Will, Michael, Pam, Rita, Leslie, Scott

Call to order by Nikki: 7:09 p.m.

Serenity prayer: Nikki

GSR preamble: Beth

New GSRs: none

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Officer's reports:

Archivist: Beth reported that a 'field trip' to the repository hasn't yet been arranged, but is to happen in the near future. At the round table, archivists want an audience with the trustees regarding sub-committee status because they don't think they are getting adequate attention from the trustees. Beth found that there is a workbook for archivists. Michael added that we can call the GSO director to get an updated workbook. Beth also asked GSRs to make a list of what we want to collect and keep in the archives.

Treasurer: Nancy, acting treasurer, was not here but submitted written treasurer's report.

DCMC: Absent - out of town.

Alt. DCMC: Nikki continued with highlights from PRAASA, noting that there are 107,976 regular AA groups. Home groups were discussed at the convention, with the suggestion that the birthday plan be instituted as a way of making donations on a yearly basis. Some meetings hand out the plan when they give chips. She also noted that the highest rank in AA is "sober" and that Daily Reflections are now available online.

The International Convention will be held in Atlanta in 2015. A motion was made to discontinue the bidding process for the convention and instead rotate the 15 areas as hosts. If an area can't host for some reason, they would go to the end of the line.

Demographically, 29% is considered a "minority." In AA it is 15% to designate an underrepresented minority.

At the convention it was mentioned that while it is ok to change the concepts, they shouldn't be changed just to be changing.

Also, Elaine has tape recordings of 8 panels from PRAASA.

Liaison: Michael attended a board meeting the previous night. A GSR there made a motion to change the donation percentage from 70% to NOCCO. Each group could also autonomously decide on the percentage.

Committee Reports: GSR School, Public Information, Hospitals & Institutions, CPC, CEC, Inter-Group Liaison (Michael), Literature (Kathleen volunteered), Grapevine (Leslie volunteered), Convention Liaison.

GSR Reports, Questions, Challenges:

A discussion was held about the choice of prayer to end a group meeting.

A member made a suggestion that we get together with District 10 to hear the delegate's full report of the General Service Convention.

It was asked if it would help to list the committee chairpersons and note whether the position is filled or vacant.

Old Business:

Safety in AA: The issue was raised about three months ago when a pamphlet was presented at an area meeting. Early on it was evident that a pamphlet was not what was needed. Other countries have

developed and addressed this issue, and the General Services Board finally addressed it in 2002. The focus was on safety, not predators, and it was decided to take it to the fellowship. In 2011 it was discussed at a round table in Oceanside. After that Michael formed a workgroup of AA members. This group put the pamphlet aside, put their own ideas aside, and created a survey to take to our meetings with a deadline of the end of June.

Question: Are there examples of what is driving this effort? Yes. They include rape by senior men of younger women, in no particular context. It is not just sexual, but also includes financial matters.

There was a misunderstanding at the January Assembly when a motion to distribute the pamphlet was retracted. The pamphlet was taken off the table, not the issue. Having a group discussion will raise awareness of potential problems. It was suggested to have a meeting about it and take a group conscience. GSR's were asked to report forward all information from a steering committee meeting or other response to the survey.

Question: What is the authority of the group making up the survey? The workgroup is made up of 8 AA volunteers from Area 9, with a variety of districts being represented.

The Safety in AA topic will be added to the June "Old Business" agenda.

Readings & Discussions:

Tradition 5 was read and reported on by Kathleen; Concept 5 was read and reported on by Rita and Nikki. Volunteers for next month: Tradition 6: Pam Concept 6: Michael

Upcoming Events:

May 5 - Saturday - Literature Workshop - 11:00 - 3:00 Area 09 Archives, 7111 Arlington Ave. Suite B, Riverside CA

May 20 - Sunday - Assembly - 9:00 - 3:30 West High School, 20401 Victor St. Torrance CA

June 10 - Sunday - ASC - Best Western Plus Palm Springs Resort, 74695 CA Highway #111, Palm Desert CA

Birthday Celebrations: Pam, 10 years Ann, 2 years

Closing - Responsibility Pledge:

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

www.aa.org

www.msca09aa.org

www.oc-aa.org

www.aanoc.com