**APPROVED MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09 MINUTES**

Location: Casa de Jeryl y Rozanne

 Costa Mesa, CA

March 16, 2014

**BOARD MEETING**

**Call to Order:** Made by Chairwoman Sharon at 10:27am, using the gavel.

**In Attendance:** Delegate Cesar, Alt Delegate Joe, Chairwoman Sharon, Secretary Barbara, Registrar Jesus, and Treasurer Rozanne.

Motion to approve the February minutes as amended made by Rozanne and seconded by Jesus.

**Officer’s Reports:**

**Delegate Cesar:** My name is Cesar and I am an alcoholic, it is my honor and privilege to serve as your Panel 64 Area 09 Delegate.

Since the last board meeting I have been attending many events -

***Feb 25-District 22,*** we talked about ways to increase participation at the District level and at the Area level, as well contributions.

***March 1- Summaries ad hoc committee.*** Went pretty well - Joe did a good job; I see that the summaries were on time in both English and Spanish. I am very proud of the committee - I’ve seen how Districts and members are using them as a good tool to disseminate the information.

***March 2- Area Special Meeting.*** I personally think and believe that it was a good meeting. We all did a good job, especially Sharon as Chair, even though topic was very sensitive some comments were rough, but let me tell you that at PRAASA some members made an amends to the presenter and myself.

***PRAASA 2014 March 7th, 8th and 9th -*** What a honor to represent Area 09 as Delegate, see all the support from you guys, and the rest of the area members! We sat down in our Delegates luncheon, and had 2 round tables; discussion went great with the Delegates from Panel 63 sharing their experiences to the Panel 64 delegates. The whole event was tremendous, with 1830 people registered, making this PRAASA the most attended one ever!

***March 16- our ASC in Torrance.*** Was a good meeting, I got say that the end was a little sad, most of the members left the place before the meeting ended. Maybe this is an opportunity for us to encourage all members to stay until the end.

***March 21-22 First General Service Foro up in Oregon.*** Was a good event, we drove one van and one car, 13 of us total. When we left Orange County it was a nice and sunny 75 degrees - as soon as we got up to Northern California, the temperature began to go down until by the time we got to Portland, Oregon on Friday it was only 39 degrees! The event had over 80 people in attendance; there were some members from area 72 in Washington. My participation was about Importance of the Delegate, Sponsorship in Service, and Leadership in Action.

***March 29 District 1 & 3 Pre-Conference round tables.*** I have participated in two meetings discussing the Agenda items. The conference is less than a month away and I am getting myself ready for it. I am all excited and looking forward to it!

Service is a Legacy of Love, Cesar F. Panel 64 Area 09 Delegate

**Alternate Delegate Joe:** I think, recently, as Alternate Delegate, I have been going through a bit of an identity crisis.  As you know, the first couple of months were a bit rocky.  We had our Special Meeting on March 2nd, and I have been processing ever since.  Meanwhile, I have been trying to juggle all of my regular duties.  I have made the mistake of comparing myself with the other Alternate Delegates from the Pacific Region, as well as other service members.  Point being, I don’t feel comfortable with the job that I’ve been doing.  I have not given the Committee Chairs the attention I think they need or deserve.  I did not put the time and effort into the Agenda Summaries that I would normally have liked to.  I have been a bit slow at preparing for the Pre-Conference workshop coming up in a couple of weeks. I liken my commitment, up till now, as the following:  I have set off to ski from the top of a mountain, but started off balance.  I have been trying to regain my composure ever since.  That said, I feel like a group conscious was developed at that Special Meeting.  I truly feel like we can begin to put this behind us.  I suspect we have some follow up work to do, but it is not an emergency and I think we can begin to address this after Cesar goes to the Conference and completes his report backs.  Hopefully, you are all thinking the same as respects the Special Meeting.  If so, I am prepared to stop thinking about it and redirect my energies toward my actual commitment.

Here is what I plan to do.  First and foremost, I need to be intimately familiar with the Conference Agenda items.  My number one responsibility, as Alternate Delegate, is to be completely prepared to substitute for our Delegate should the need arise.  Part of being prepared, is understanding our Area’s conscious regarding these Agenda Items.  So, in addition to understanding the Agenda Items, I need to listen very carefully to our group conscious.  Secondly, I want to read all of the Committee Chair’s guidelines so I may be familiar with their duties.  I can then be in a better position to reach out to them in a meaningful way.  So, essentially, I have a lot of studying to do and a lot of phone calls to make.  In the meantime, I have selected the moderators for the Pre-Conference round tables.  I would like to make the moderators responsible for selecting their scribes, explaining to them the importance of selecting someone able to do the job – because it is an important one.  I also want to write up a guide for the moderators to give them a since of who should speak first, staying on topic, time limits, etc.  I am going to ask Jim C. to speak about the importance of communication and the Conference.  That’s my report I love you all.  The End.  Joe C. Alternate Delegate Panel 64

**Chair Sharon:** Well things are starting to get a little more calm I think in Chairman land and the Ad Hoc Committee requests seemed to have subsided. Since our last board meeting I spoke at a meeting in Laguna Beach last night, went to PRAASA, replied to a request from a company for us to do digital sales marketing, discussed request from our Public Information Chair to add information for archival purposes to our website for our committee with the EMSC chair, Communications Chair, and Alternate Delegate. I found PRAASA to be very interesting and especially enjoyed the roundtables. My favorite part every year is the Trustees report. I had the opportunity to have dinner with Phyllis H., my service sponsors, the Chair from Hawaii, and the Grapevine Trustee Nancy. It was really nice to meet such wonderful trusted servants.  I have been approached by three members for proposals for the June ASC and have received one of these in writing which we will review today. I also have been approached by a Past Delegate on ideas for another Ad Hoc Committee which he will be approaching the Board shortly at one of our meetings. Joe continues to be a strong support for me. Thank you Joe. I continue to question my ability to continue as Chair and find at times that I fall into the "I don't wanna do this anymore" mode. Fortunately this lasts for about a day. I've found our Area has very active members with active minds and a passion for AA. I've also been presented several ideas on how the Area should be run. Should the Board stand up when we give reports? Is there a need for us to walk through the line with the Food Kitty at lunch time? Should we implement a Policy Chair? Should we have an Area Inventory? Don't call yourself the HBIC, Sharon because you are not a B word. (I have stopped this practice, by the way). I receive new ideas at every Area meeting. My best advice to our Area members is if you find something needs changed at the Area, present a proposal and let the Area decide. There is power in the group conscience. One other thing I need to remember is that any time I get an email that I interpret incorrectly (and there are several) I've found the best thing for me to do is pick up the phone and call the person. Thank you for letting me be of service. Sharon, Panel 64 Area Chair

**Secretary** **Barbara:**  I agree with my fellow Board Buddies that things are slightly less crazy than they were earlier in my term, although I have to say I am still sometimes very sorry that God saw fit to have me serve in this capacity – I am humbled and awed by the amount of love and effort put forth by all my fellow servants; I have a much larger appreciation for all the ‘behind the scenes’ effort put forth to help the still suffering alcoholic. Loved PRAASA, as always! I brought my alcoholic boyfriend who is not active in GSR – it was his first PRAASA and it was really wonderful to watch the service process come alive for him. I so enjoy the fellowship and Hiro from my home District #4 absolutely rocked the house! Loved seeing Cesar and the other Area members up there ‘representing’ and the turnout from our Area was awesome. Have been having a lot of email correspondence with various Area members. Also working with the EMSC regarding getting up to speed with minutes, etc on the Website. That is going slowly but I’m trying. Also fighting through all the paperwork that this position entails – why didn’t anyone tell me that staying sober would be so labor intensive? Need to get with Jesus with regards to some of the past minutes, etc for the Archives. Thanks to District 1 with regards to the March ASC – it went pretty smoothly and I am grateful. I remain your respectful servant, Barbara D – Secretary

**Treasurer Rozanne:**  My name is Rozanne and I am an alcoholic. In the month of March, I attended the Special Meeting in Irvine and PRAASA in San Diego. I attended the Treasurer’s roundtable and found that most of the areas are using QuickBooks and most of them are using Excel to do their monthly income/expense reports. I was happy to see that they had the same concerns that I had and it was interesting that most of the people in attendance were brand new like me. It was a great PRAASA and remains my favorite General Service function.

The transcriptions for the 4 Area DCM Sharing Session are done, I have a little bit of editing to do on one more and then will send them to Area 05 (the Host Area) and have them translate them into Spanish. We can then send them out to everyone.

I have created a monthly income/expense statement in Excel and will be providing it at each Board meeting, but because I fell behind with entering the checks, I don’t have one today. I will email the updated one as soon as I am caught up. I will have a budget for the May Assembly.

Finally, I have to start putting limits on what I can do regarding receipts and writing checks. I need to put some boundaries on people talking to me during the business portion of the meeting as it is very disrupting to the board. I will probably write up a process and make sure everyone gets a copy of it.

Current BOFA Statement for February 2014:

Business Economy Checking for February 1, 2014 to February 28, 2014

Account summary

Beginning balance on February 1, 2014: $ 4,141.06

Deposits and other credits: $ 8,310.07

Withdrawals and other debits: $ 1,174.98

Checks: $ 3,353.15

Ending balance on February 28, 2014: $ 7,923.00

# of deposits/credits: 10

# of withdrawals/debits: 25

# of deposited items: 271

# of days in cycle: 28

Thank you, Rozanne.

**Registrar Jesus:** Attended District #23, the Special Meeting, and PRAASA where I acted as one of the paid interpreters. My room was covered by the PRAASA committee, and so was my registration. Attended the Registrars’ round table and found out we are all in different stages of knowledge, but that’s ok. Attended the March ASC. Had Casee from Dist #9 volunteer to be the Registration Committee Chair, and the District #12 Registrar is helping us to send out group lists to the Districts on site when they request it. Everything is going well with the group registrations and new GSR updates. However, I’m having trouble adding Area Standing Committee chairs and District officers. I received an email from Karen at the Registration Desk and that is a work in progress. Thank you for allowing me to serve.-- Jesus O.

**Old Business:**

* Board attending the District #23 meeting as requested
* Chairwoman Sharon again announced the need for a Special Needs Spanish Co-chair at the ASC, but no one has expressed interest.
* The Special Meeting was held as planned and all Board members attended.
* Chairwoman Sharon has appointed John W and Paco G to head up the 4 Area DCM Sharing Session 2015 for which we will be host Area.
* The Conference Agenda summaries have been done and distributed and are in the hands of our Area members.
* PRAASA – awesome! Enough said.

**New Business:**

* Treasurer Rozanne made a motion to the Board for a new printer, which was unanimously approved.
* Set May Assembly Agenda.
* Discussion regarding Registration Chair candidate.
* Review and discussion of existing Interpreter Agreement.
* Introduced proposed motion by Area Member – to be further discussed at next Board meeting.
* Ad Hoc committee requests submitted to Chair Sharon distributed to Board members for review. Scope and timeframe discussed – Alt Delegate Joe C to facilitate this.
* Rozanne continuing to work to get tax advice and to get a professional to assist in filing the same.

**Action Items:**

**Full Board Action:**

* Continuing review of the Area Document Retention and Destruction Policy.

**Delegate Cesar:**

* With Alt Delegate Joe still working to find the gentleman who broke his anonymity through the Orange County Register.

**Alt Delegate Joe:**

* To contact Interpreter regarding attendance policy.

**Chair Sharon:**

* Draft a proposal for June ASC with regards to the Area Document Retention and Destruction Policy as discussed.
* To follow up with Ad Hoc committee requestors regarding formation of the same.

**Secretary Barbara:**

* With Registrar Jesus to get together to review prior years minutes hiding in the Secretary computer.

**Registrar Jesus:**

* To contact GSO regarding ongoing Registration issues.

**Treasurer Rozanne:**

* Continuing to work with the Finance Committee with regard to the Area taxes; extension to be filed.
* Compiling cost totals for Special Meeting.

Agenda: Done

Next Meeting: Sat 5/10 at 9am

Santa Ana Spanish Speaking Intergroup

1754 South Main St., Santa Ana, CA

Meeting adjourned at 2p, motion made Joe, 2nd by Rozanne and meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement.

Minutes respectfully submitted by MSCA Area 09 Panel 64 Secretary, Barbara D