

District 21

Minutes of the Meeting October 1, 2015

Present: Brian, Donna, Terry, Rick, Duncan, Jill, Line, Simon, Diana, Jeff and John E.

Our DCM, Brian, called the meeting to order and began with the Serenity Prayer.
Jill read the GSR preamble.

There were no introductions this month.

Birthdays: Rick, 3 years; Jeff, 18 years; John E., 25 years. Congratulations everyone!!

Minutes to the September district meeting were approved as submitted.

Simon gave the treasurer's reports for August and September:

Beginning balance August \$869.46. Contributions \$71.00, expenses \$125.00. Ending balance \$815.46.

Beginning balance September \$815.46. Contributions \$40.00, no expenses. Ending balance \$855.46.

Both reports were accepted as submitted.

Registrar's report: A new roster was available from Donna. We made a couple of corrections (of course), and had some discussion about including the GSO group number on the roster. Thank you, Donna, for the work on the roster. We know it's a moving target!!

DCM Report

- Brian noted that the 2016 Area Budget had been approved at the September Area Assembly. He included some topics from that assembly for discussion. We talked about the finance process as it exists and the difficulty of providing any real input from the groups to the budget as it is being developed. The Area Assembly, while it is supposed to be the venue for this type of input, generally doesn't lend itself to amendment and change of the proposed budget. We are hoping to be able to institute some kind of workshop process between the time the initial budget is developed and when the budget is presented to the membership at the budget assembly. There was also a note that the time spent on budget approval was shortened by having a speaker at the Assembly. Perhaps the time could be better spent on the budget process.
- We re-stated the requests from the GSO Trustees' Literature Committee for sharing from the membership for pamphlet revisions to "AA for the Woman", "AA for the Gay and Lesbian Alcoholic" and for development of a new pamphlet on "AA and Mental Health Issues".
- Flyers were available for upcoming events: Mental Health Issues in AA; Grapevine/LaViña Workshop; Concept Boot Camp; This is AA Workshop; Accessibilities Workshop; Roots. Flyers for all these events are on the Area 08 website www.area8aa.org.

Old Business

- Review of District Budget – Brian had prepared a history of income and expense for District 21 for the past 6 years (WOW!!) and a draft budget for 2016. We had some loving discussion about the expected income number and the expenses listed, and determined that we would table the matter for the time being. Because we have been doing well with our District income and expenses without having a budget to this point, it

may be best for us to continue to do so. Diana and John E. will see if more complete past history numbers can be found. The numbers on the draft budget show a large expected expense over income for the next year....partially due to expected expense to send the DCM to the Forum in Hawaii.

- Reports from unrepresented meetings – Rick reported on the Tuesday and Friday meeting(s) (group?) at 7 am at San Rafael. These are not yet registered meetings. Should we pursue this?

New Business

- Area Assembly reflections – Line gave a couple of bullet statements she gleaned from the Assembly:
 - Money in and of itself is of no importance until we want to use it to help carry the message.
 - Gratitude is essential to long term sobriety.
 - Share with understanding and humility, which is impossible when we know we are right.
- January Area Assembly Hosting – the Assembly will be January 23, 2016. We discussed that we were doing this in conjunction with Districts 22 and 3. Expected total outlay \$250.00 after reimbursement from the Area and from the food kitty at the assembly. There will be an initial outlay of \$750-\$1000. Volunteers will be needed. We should anticipate asking for them for 2-3 hour stints for set-up (6:30-9:30 am) lunch (10:30-1:30) and clean-up (3:30-5:00 pm). We expect each of the Districts to contribute some funds and to provide volunteers. We can provide volunteer names and phone numbers/emails to whomever will coordinate the specific activity, and the coordinator can contact and oversee the process at the Assembly. We will be at the Methodist Church on Camino del Rio South. We will plan on having lasagna and salad for lunch. Diana will send Brian the information she has from past assembly hosting, so it is available at the November district meeting.
- Please bring suggestions for a venue for our December district meeting next month. We will not be able to meet at the church because of a conflicting church event.
- Peggy Rose, alternate registrar, will speak at our next District meeting. We talked about asking the alternate treasurer or a member of the finance committee to speak, but determined it might be a good idea to do this after January.

GSR Roundtable

- Donna – Earlybirds – provided a written report! She said she's been asking for stories for the pamphlets, and noted that very few stories have been received by GSO at this point.
- Duncan – RB Beginners – reported that he also has been asking for stories for the pamphlets. He also has been trying to talk about 7th tradition contributions and sending more money to the Area, and has found it a difficult topic for discussion at his group.
- Jeff – Thursday Lifebridge – reported that he's looking for the GSO# for his group. He found that his group was not interested in the budget information.
- Line – RB Women's – reported that she will attend the Mental Issues and AA workshop. She talked about the pamphlet and the workshop at the meeting, and afterward had one person come to her saying she would share her story. They also talked about acceptance of any transgender person wanting to come to their meeting.
- Rick – Scripps Ranch Men's – reported that they have 35-40 men regularly at the meeting. He has been announcing the workshops coming up, and the Grapevine rep has been talking specifically about the upcoming Grapevine workshop and writing or talking stories for the Grapevine.

- Jill – TGIF – reported that she couldn't be at the Budget Assembly because she had a CPC Committee conflict that she couldn't find a substitute for. She provided the budget materials to her group but had no feedback to take to the Assembly. After the fact, her group let her know that they thought she was a "trusted servant" and she could speak for the group without specific input. She has mentioned many times, both at this group and at other meetings she attends that "\$2 is the new normal" for 7th tradition contributions. The TGIF Group has had several deaths recently, with the group attending several memorial services.
- John E. – Tues and Thurs PQ – John is the treasurer for these two groups, and has also stressed the \$2 contribution. He brought a two dollar bill for demonstration!
- Terry – Poway Sunday Men's – advised that he also has talked about the money and contribution to the Area. He will ask for support for the January assembly.

The Election Assembly will be on November 7th.
Our next meeting will be on November 5, 2015.

Terry read Tradition 10.
Duncan read Concept 10.

We closed the meeting with the Declaration of Responsibility.

Respectfully submitted,
Diana Adam