

San Diego-Imperial Area Committee
2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego CA
Minutes of the April 18, 2013 Meeting

Meeting Called to Order

The Committee was called to order at 7:03 pm by Jane G., Area Chairperson, with the Serenity Prayer. The Twelve Concepts were read in Spanish by Veronica and in English by Dixie.

Introductions

The treasurer from District 9 was introduced by Fred. Welcome! One Birthday since March was celebrated.

Roll Call: Monty

Monty, Area Registrar, conducted a roll call of the Area Committee, and declared that the requirements for a quorum had been met. Eight Officers were in attendance. Those not in attendance at time of roll call were: Delegate, Tom, (At General Service Conference,) Alt. Treasurer, Butch, DCMs District, 2, 3, 17; Grapevine/LaViña, Newsletter, Native American Liaison (Needs Chair), Area Archivist, North County H & I, GSDYPAA (Needs Liaison), NSDYPAA, Oficina Central Hispana, , North County Intergroup (Needs Liaison), and Coordinating Council.

Rosters are updated regularly and any corrections need to be submitted to Monty as they occur.

Approval of March 2013 Area Committee Minutes: Roxane R. Secretary

- Minutes are available in digital format. If you did not receive the March, 2013 minutes please contact our Area 8 Secretary and she will send you a copy via email. Let your new DCMs and Committee Chairs know to please submit email information with the Registrar as soon as possible. If your alternate would like a digital copy, add their email address to the Registrar's roster and/or let the secretary know.
- March ACM minutes appear to have some discrepancies in District and Committee Reporting. (See Revised)
- Suggested approval of March, 2013 minutes wait to be approved at the May ACM.
- *You may submit your monthly report to the Area 8 Secretary via email at roxroll@aol.com. Reports should contain your first name, district, committee or liaison, date and report. Keep it simple.*

Treasurer's Report: Arturo, Treasurer

- Written report submitted.
- March financial report the same as the April Assembly report.
- Remind groups who contribute to the Area to include an e-mail address so we can process contribution acknowledgements electronically, and at a lower cost.
- Will present 2014 Budget later in the meeting.

March	March 2013	YTD	2013 Budget	Variance with Annual Budget
Group contributions:	2,417.35	7,764.76	45,932.00	-38,167.24
Individual contributions:	217.43	272.43	.00	.00
District contributions:	25.00	150.00	.00	.00

Total contributions:	2,659.78	8,187.19	45,932.00	-37,744.81
Total budgeted expenses:	2,516.95	10,230.06	45,932.00	-34,951.94
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	142.83	-2,042.70		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	.00	400.00	.00	400.00
Trustee at Large Nom. To PRAASA	750.00	750.00	.00	.00
Total expenses:	3,266.95	11,380.06	45,932.00	-34,551.04
Contributions less total expenses:	-607.17	-3,192.87		
Total Cash Balance: March 2013	2,925.20			

Master Calendar

Event	Host	Date		Time	Location
<i>Anonymity in the Digital Age</i>	YPAAAs	April 20	2013	10:00a	Torrey Pines Christian Church, La Jolla
General Service Panel	Area 8	May 4	2013	4:00p	Lake Henshaw Campground
Post-Conference Assembly	Dist 2, 16 &23	May 18	2013	9:00a	Torrey Pines Christian Church, La Jolla
4 Area DCM Sharing Session	Area 8	June 1	2013	9:30a	Family Fellowship Church-Oceanside
Unity Day Picnic	Area 8	June 8	2013	10:00a	Admiral Baker
La Viña Workshop	Dist 18	July 28	2013		TBA
<i>Seniors in Sobriety (SIS)Convention</i>	SIS	Sept 5-8	2013		Town and Country Resort, Fashion Valley
Budget Assembly (w/GSR Orientation)	Dist 10 & 12	Sept 14	2013	9:00a	Torrey Pines Christian Church-La Jolla
Emotional Sobriety Workshop	Dist 12	Oct 12	2013	1:00a	Church-San Carlos
Election Assembly (w/GSR Orientation)	Dist 8 & 13	Nov. 16	2013	9:00a	United Methodist Church–Mission Valley
ROOTS (Remember Our Old Timers)	Archives Comm.	Nov. 24	2013	2:00p	Torrey Pines Christian Church-La Jolla

Note: Non-Bolded Events Are Not Sponsored or Hosted By Area 8 Service Entities and are listed for planning purposes only. Updated Apr. 18, 2013. Information is subject to change. See calendar on the area website (www.area8aa.org) for the most up to date information.

Delegate's Report: Tom M.

Tom is in New York City at the General Service Conference. You can email well-wishes to delegate@area8aa.org

Alternate Delegate's Report: Dean B.

FOUNDERS DAY PROGRAM / UNITY DAY PICNIC PLANNING UPDATE:

- A few large groups are taking part in the Unity Day program who are new to this event. We have a great Spanish Speaking outreach going on.
- There are Unity Day flyers circulating in Brawley and El Centro. Everyone is welcome to participate.
- Parker will head up a "ride share" program for volunteers and for attending Unity Day. Remaining planning meeting dates are set for Saturdays 9:00a, at San Diego Central Office: April 20, May 11 and June 1st (on site at Admiral Baker Park)
- Coordinating Council Visit (Nicki- 619-582-3372): Announcement for volunteers was made. The BBQ and Lunch portion of the program is done by this group and they could use volunteers for this big job.
- Update on Conference and Pre-Conference Assemblies: There was so much participation on content throughout the day. We are thankful for this. There were 220 people who attended the pre-conference workshops and more than half asked for access to the materials and documents via the website. Similarly almost that many were at the April Pre-Conference Assembly.
- Concerns were expressed about the amount of materials presented at the assembly vs. the workshops. We had some issues looming in the agenda, in particular the "Grapevine Directorate", that Tom was not fully informed about at the time of the workshops.
- May 18 is the Post Conference Assembly and all are welcome. It is interesting to see the results of the Conference. Our Delegate will be making a report.
- The H & I Conference was a great conference. Make a note and try to attend because it is like a mini-PRAASA for H&I. Speakers featured included the judge who created or developed the "court card". There are many good stories about finding AA in prisons and other institutions. The audience participation was very stimulating.
- My phone is 760-274-5309. If you have any questions or interest in helping, please call.

The Post Conference Area Assembly is May 18 and New GSR Orientation is highly recommended. The facilitator will be leading a mini-workshop on topics that will be presented at the assembly.

Chairperson's Report: Jane G.

- No written report.
- Remind groups that Area is in need of a liaison for the Native American groups.
- Anonymity in the Digital Age Workshop: Discussion about having ASL interpretation but after discussing this with the chair of accessibilities it was decided that it was not needed.

Art (Chair of Accessibilities): It depends on the areas. If someone wishes to go, the best way is to request an interpreter before the workshop and then it will be discussed to see who is available and motivated to go to that workshop. We will see who would like to go and we noticed on Facebook that it is open to the public. I was explaining to them about the 11th tradition. I did not feel they were interested. Sometime this fall I would like to set up an accessibility workshop to help others understand the different disabilities and what challenges they have. Maybe we can talk about this further. This could be set up in North Park where Dist. 19 has their meetings.

Discussion:

For districts that are planning a workshop, if a deaf person wants to attend that workshop, would they contact you? I know of a workshop that hired interpreters and no deaf persons showed because there were 2 conflicting events. We need this liaison between the hearing community and the deaf community.

The flyers have a contact number for accessibilities. Calling accessibilities is the best way to insure ASL is available. Should the DCMs need to put this number on their flyers for any upcoming events? Yes, if there is someone going, then we will provide an interpreter. Will Art be the liaison? Yes.

If we are trying to put on an event do we need to determine need first before we make the flyer? I think just putting the accessibilities number and/or email on the flyer would be sufficient. How much time is needed.

A three week window is the best way to make sure an interpreter will be at your event.

Big Book Study still has a large population of deaf members attending regularly.

Perhaps another conversation about this regarding how districts plan events and what budget concerns exist. It seems there might be more parts to this. Contacting accessibilities sounds like the best way to assure good coordination. Suggestion: Anyone deciding to have a workshop should set aside money for this purpose during planning. The key is communication.

**Wes: (Chair of Ad Hoc committee, reporting on his review of section 11, of the Area 8 S & G.)
*Are guidelines just guidelines or bylaws? (A little history...)***

We looked through records relating to incorporation. The Assembly was formed and incorporated April 5, 1951 by an action of the Coordinating Council of Alcoholics Anonymous in San Diego. The original federal tax exempt filing document is on hand, submitted by George Johansen -- Alternate Delegate, on 6.13.1980. Both the IRS and State acknowledgment/determination letters are also on hand. The bylaws as stated on the application are the "Statement of Policy". This is referenced on the first page of the application forms (Form 1024), and also mentioned on the second page, and that the Statement of Policy is included in attachment. Although this attachment is not in the current records archive, it is the same as the Statement of Policy for the Coordinating Council (1976 revision), as indicated by the forms. The filing also mentions that the SDIAC (now H&I) is a connected organization to the Area Assembly as an autonomous standing committee, voted into the Area Assembly on 9.22.1974. The form gathers information relating to the membership (e.g., qualifications, voting rights, requirements, voluntary status, solicitation material), which are explained by AA Pledge (Preamble) and 12 Traditions that were included in certified copy.

We don't know what our actual bylaw is. Tracing back, the application said the statement of policy was the same as the coordination council. The form also gathers info on the nature of our membership. There were bylaws on the coordination council website. I can form some conclusions. One, if the area would ever dissolve the assets would be distributed to another the same as ours, another 501c4 which are lobbying organizations and other things not really what we are. The area cannot take any deductions and do what other 501c can do. This is a different deduction. We could go back to the state dept to get those original bylaws. What to do about this potential confusion? It depends on what we want to do or pursue the idea of changing our status. The reason it is there is for the bylaws to remain. Adherence limits power.

- Clarification: Questions developed to submit to a CPA are yet unanswered but they are busy. We are in touch with one now but our answers will not be available until next ACM. These questions will be forwarded to the CPA.
- Questions exist regarding disbursement of funds in the event of a dissolution of the Area 8. Whoever formed us did not want us to be a 501C3.
- Why this is important is because these tax returns are public information. Do our S & Gs have the proper wording for a 501 C4? The question remains: Is what is stated in our guidelines correct and are they bylaws or guidelines?

Back to former discussion regarding accessibilities.

- What do districts do if they want to know if a workshop needs Spanish translation or interpretation?
- Are we limiting our districts' budgets and their ability to set up workshops?
- If you have a linguistic district it will take the community to determine need in your group.
- In our group we have a person who is deaf and attends our group regularly and he reads lips so he understands but it is very important that we support accessibilities for that re
- We have trilingual interpreters available with enough lead time. (Spanish ASL)
- We have not encountered this need in the past but if we did have a deaf person we would have to hire someone to interpret who was also bilingual. (Trilingual)

Area Committee Meeting

The Area Committee meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7 PM to 10 PM. The location is 2650 Melbourne, San Diego, CA. **All AA members are welcome to attend.** To get an item on the agenda, please contact

chair@area8aa.org to begin the process. If required, your specific request or proposal will be directed to the assistance of one or more of our Area's standing committees.

The Area Committee meeting and all other General Service meetings are open to all AA members.

Break: 8:43p Resumed Meeting at 8:58p

Liaison Committee Reports

Coordinating Council: Jerry: Not present.

North County Intergroup: Not present. (Currently need new liaison.)

East County Intergroup: Gary: The East County Intergroup Business Meeting is held every 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Lakeside Community Center. Shipping costs to increase by the end of the month. Take advantage and order now at www.eastcountyyaa.org. The book of the month is *As Bill Sees It*, \$7. There are openings for several service positions. Dist. 8 invited ECI to their May meeting. March contributions were \$155.25. Expenses were \$216.37 for phone, rent and Literature purchase. Total in account is \$1,641.09. Literature chair currently in the hospital. Minutes and treasurer's report available upon request.

Oficina Central Hispánica: Fernando, chair. Not present.

Oficina Intergupal Condado Norte: Juan, chair. We have our new directories available for all the Intergroups in So Cal. We have 12 reps for meetings We meet every Wed. 7:30-9p.

Oficina Intergupal Sur, Chula Vista: Magdalena: Our meetings are every Tues at 7 pm. On Mar 30 we had our anniversary of our office. About 19 different groups were present. It went off well. The office turned 11 years. We are new in our service, since Jan. We want to continue to attend area meetings. Our business meetings are every Tuesday. This past Tues we formed a P I Committee. We are working on that.

4-Area DCM Sharing Session: Vince: Flyers are available. We are working on putting together our program. We want to know if accessibilities if we have need for ASL interpretation. Each area will supply 2 Spanish translators. That need brings up a question. Do we want Round Tables or do we like the open sharing that we experienced at the last assembly? There will be set topics and perhaps whole group sharing would be better. There has been no feedback on topic ideas and a keynote speaker for this event. We will be having the planning meeting on May 4 near the fellowship Church where the event will be held on June 1.

Presentation of the 2014 Budget: Arturo

Copies are available. The budget proposal is the work of the budget committee, the finance committee and the treasurer/alt. treasurer. Note the increase in many of the submitted budgets. This budget has been decreased from last year by \$482. **Discussion:**

- Is there going to be a training on this? I don't understand any of this.
- A budget is based on projected income and expenses. I don't want to answer a lot of questions because we are going to be forming round tables later. As DCMs it is important how this budget is generated, what it means and how it works.
- You are looking at the \$51,000 but this is money we have not yet received. In 2008 the budget was \$45000 and the contributions were only \$36,000 which represented a shortfall. The budget is to get an idea of what we will have to spend. (These shortages represent 7th tradition contributions.) We need to go back to our AA members and explain what our 7th tradition means.
- I can't go back to my district and explain this. How do we operate like this?
- We use our experience to create the budget.
- A question was raised about letter H.01-Accessibilities. Why is that money so much higher?
- The requests come in include rent, transportation, copies, etc.
- Basically we overspent \$163 last year.
- We could meet independently.
- The variance that shows up between the budget and the actual numbers change so much.
- We changed this year because of PRASSA and ASL Interpretation budgets.

- In 2012 we did not spend more than \$32K. If we don't meet our needs it is made up by the officers and committee chair budgets.
- I really appreciate the work that went into this between finance and the treasurer. First, my individual budget we are projecting for someone who will have this budget next year. Our financial system is broken. We are leaving things off when we communicate the budget. Not intentionally. You have to look at it over time. Never look at requested vs. actual income. There is a 3rd figure there. Spent. These are targets. Looking at the Alt. Delegate line items. Counting PRAASA the budget accepted target was \$2200. I requested more than that that year. Look at 2014. Requested is \$2213. You are looking at \$3317. I can't project actual miles etc. If the next person is from east county they may not be able to take advantage of the ride share opportunities. If we accept \$1704 and the next person may have hundreds of dollars of unbudgeted expenses. If you compare these numbers, you will find that in AA we submit "ideal" and hope for actual. We are looking for the middle of the road. This is very different from our personal budgets. We can respond to spiritual needs when we see them. We are keeping the groups out of the equation. They can help correct the problems unforeseen in our budget.
- Thank you for those comments. The first time I saw one of these budgets, and with time, I understand much better. I learned a lot from a 7th tradition workshop. We could all use more training.
- A lot has been resolved. I put together a budget. I took miles and computed what I would spend. I gave that number. That is all I could do. It looks like you went back to the final budget for 2013. I am going to submit the actual expenditures for 2013. If the Area can't support the officers, then don't spend the money.
- If we don't have the money, we cannot spend the money. Remind the members of what we do here-what each committee and officer does. Go back to your groups because if the money does not come in, we cannot spend.
- Something special just happened. When you were talking about the old ones, it almost makes it sound like we lost the money but by becoming a chair last year my budget went down. I had a hard time taking money from AA and now I can see we need to put these 2 things together to explain how this thing works as a whole. This is 12 step work and we are trying to get to that goal.
- I think it goes back to putting too much pressure on the DCM. Educating the masses should be grassroots. We can hold a workshop and help build understanding. We depend too much on the DCMs to educate our GSRs.
- Four years ago as policy chair I received a budget. All of the meetings were held in San Diego so when I took over, the mileage was way off. We made adjustments. We did more digital meetings and we split the meetings between north county and south county. There are ways to save your budget.
- Did I hear you say that we are to tell our GSRs that our area needs more money or are we to consider a different part of the pie chart?
- I did not say either of those things. Just remind them of the 7th tradition and what it does for us.
- We also need to educate our sponsees about the 7th tradition.
- This happens on every level, even the General Service Office. Only 40% contribute to GSO. Very few percentages of the 7th tradition make it to the area.
- Can you make a clarification on K4?
- This is a spiritual program. The worst thing we can do is get into fear. This is not the same thing. In service, we take all the spiritual principals available and this is only a statement of the 12th step work we intend to do. We can only spend this money on 12th step activity. Mileage, 12 Step Work...a couple of things bother me. Are we giving lip service to our groups? This budget is only a request for the means to do 12 step work. This also helps individual members stay sober. Whatever this number is, it is in God's hands. This is an intention to do 12 step work. We aren't in danger of spending money we do not have. There is no fear here about this. These questions are excellent. If we don't put the bottom line here what we want our groups to contribute, we won't get it.

No other reports.

GSDYPAA: Emily: Not present.

NSDYPAA: Connor: Not present.

Native American Liaison: Needs new liaison.

DISTRICT REPORTS (Districts submitted reports digitally or on report form. No oral reports given.)

District 1: Mike: 5 GSRs present. For the AA in the Digital Age NSDYPA Workshop, District 1 will be responsible for food/drinks at the workshop. Will pick up and deliver food Friday.

District 2: Wilma: Not present.

District 3: Daniel: Not present.

District 4: Michelle: No report

District 5: Vince: No report

District 6: Renee: No report

District 7: George: 6 GSRs were present. Our main meeting topics were the General Service Board Initiatives and the motion to create and Interlocking Directorate. Revisions were made to our District Guidelines which are currently being reviewed.

District 8: Tanya: No report

District 9: Fred: Filled district positions of Alt. Secretary, Registrar, and Public Info. Taking information only discussions in to IBEW training center, Imperial, CA. Have 4 people participating in the “Fun-Shop for Secretaries/GSRs” so far. Dennis L. doing great job and think will have good turnout.

District 10: Paul: No report.

District 11: Karen: No report.

District 12: Connie: No report.

District 13: Phil: No report.

District 14: Gary: No report.

District 15: Cruz: No report.

District 16: Linda: 15 GSRs present. Last month Mike, Area Alt. Chair, gave presentation on standing committees. This month, April 24, Rich, H & I Chair, will give presentation on H & I at GSRs request. 1 minute sharing session brought in many comments about Conference Agenda items. We are ready to co-host Post Conference Assembly.

District 17: Not present.

District 18: No report

District 19: Peggy Rose: 14 GSRs present. GSRs put on lunch with assistance from AA group members. One new GSR from Dark Meeting visits this month. 5 GSRs volunteered to visit dark meetings in June. Mike, Alt. Chair, pitched standing committees at the district meeting. H & I Director, Debby A., will visit district meeting in May.

District 20: Not present.

District 21: Bill: Gave the group a report on PRASSA. Discussed “Anonymity in the Digital Age” workshop and District 21’s support for it. Reviewed Interlocking Directorate and had group discussion. Discussed AA Digital Publishing going to a 3rd party.

District 22: Tom: 12 GSRs present. We handled local district business; budget, literature and commitments.

District 23: Heather (Alt DCM): No report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibilities: Art: Checking account for Gold Can, due to controversy, was never opened. It was always handled using a personal checking account. Discussion regarding a possible new location for meeting. Two places were suggested: South Bay Pioneers Club, \$12 and North Park/Plymouth Congregation, \$20.

Agenda: George: 5 people in attendance. We went over the ACM and Post Conference Agenda. We talked about methods of making committee meetings more accessible to the whole county and about the need for a method of presenting motions and any amendments to them to make the process clear to the whole assembly.

Archives: Linda: Meet the 1st Thursday of each month. No report.

CPC: Bob: NAMI Walk was April 13th. While planned with P.I. and Accessibilities, they did not participate, but 5 C.P.C. Committee volunteers and 1 extra volunteer covered from 6:30 AM to 11:00 AM. There were an estimated 3000 walkers and 70 exhibitor's. Our Committee will be participating in the Lake Henshaw General Service workshop in May. Our next meeting is Monday, April 29th at the San Diego Central Office at 6:30 PM.

Finance: Parker: No report.

Grapevine/LaViña: Suzanne: Could use 2 new members. We met at the last Area Assembly and solidified our plans for Unity Day including the forming of a coffee subcommittee, a set up crew and food shoppers for the continental

breakfast. Brent will be making a sound booth for Unity Day. We will be inviting the fellowship to record stories for the Grapevine. Spread the word and an email will be going out about this to the Area soon. We hope to do a La Viña Writers' workshop in the Fall, 2013. If you want us to visit your event or District, call 760-271-2229.

H & I Liaison: Debbie: Shared purpose of H & I (to establish and maintain AA meetings in facilities where people are confined and to bring AA General Service Conference approved literature into those institutions). We have more requests to bring a meeting in than we have volunteers, so we are always looking for new members. Individuals or groups may adopt a meeting. We have two Orientation Meetings each month: 3rd Sunday @ 12:00 pm Hall 5150 Kearney Mesa Rd 92111 and 3rd Thursday @ 7 pm Central Office 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd 92120. Contact on Release's purpose is to introduce alcoholics being released from confined facilities to AA in San Diego. When notified of a release in San Diego County, volunteers contact the individual and take them to their first few meetings.

Information Technologies: Steve: Teleconference had 5 in attendance. Business covered computers and website.

Literature: Ray: 2 members present. Next meeting: 5/20/2013, 7pm at Central Office. We could use volunteers.

NCAIC (H & I): Rich:

Newsletter: Rafael: Working very hard, we put together the Pre-Conference Assembly Newsletter in English and Spanish and are now working on the Post-Conference issue. The major issue is submitting articles and minutes on time so they can be published timely. Google translation is limited and frequently misleading. Therefore, no Goggle translated Spanish articles will be accepted. If it is not in Spanish the Newsletter will not publish the English version. For several years, in the name of Unity, Area 08 followed the motto "If it doesn't exist in Spanish, it doesn't exist." We have filled the positions of Alt. Chair, English editor, Spanish editor, and have three new members.

Policy: Paul: The committee changed the *Structure and Guidelines Motion form* to include at the top, the "Name of the Motion" and also clarified the top portion that tracks the motions progress. The new form is available on the web site under the committee documents or Policy Committee links. The committee is still working on the update and change to the DCM Manual.

Translation: Alicia: Nothing to report.

Archivist: Joe: Not present.

AREA COMMITTEE BUSINESS (Round tables were planned but time ran out.)

We need help cleaning up. It only takes 10 minutes.

Closing: Responsibility Pledge.

Meeting adjourned at 9:57.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxane R., Panel 62 Area 8 Secretary and Gonzalo C., Alt. Secretary.