

**San Diego-Imperial Area Committee Meeting
April 16, 2020 Minutes**

Meeting held by ZOOM due to a State & Federal mandate of not holding gatherings of more than 50 persons and the personal safety of each Committee Member

Zoom Meeting ID: 231 178 354 password: iluvacms

Area Committee Meeting

The Area Committee meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7 PM to 10 PM. 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.

Meeting Called to Order

The Committee was called to order at 7:02 pm by Blaine, Area 8 Chair-, with the Serenity Prayer. Followed by the Declaration of Unity. Introductions were offered for any new DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, and their Alternates. Guests and visitors also stood up. All were welcomed to the Area Committee.

Declaration of Unity: This we owe to AA's Future; To place our common welfare first; To keep our Fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come

Roll Call: Bill (Registrar) Quorum was met

Approval of March's Area Committee Minutes:

Minutes are emailed out in both English and Spanish to all DCMs, Chairs, and Officers and their alternates. DCMs and Chairs please send the minutes out to your committees and GSRs. If you are not receiving the minutes and would like a copy emailed to you, please email the area secretary, Renee R. at secretary.area8sd@gmail.com Please keep your information updated with the Area Registrar.

- *It is time effective to submit your monthly report to the Area 8 Secretary via email at secretary.area8sd@gmail.com*
- March's ACM minutes: approved unanimously as written.

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl (Treasurer)

- Written report submitted.
- Remind groups who contribute to the Area to include an email address so we can process contribution acknowledgements electronically, and at a lower cost.
- Have your group get or find out what their GSO six digit code is. It will help the incoming Treasurer.
- Please make sure to submit any reimbursements before the end of the year.

Questions/ discussion: Cheryl will appreciate from her on out-that inputs for check requests require an invoice and/or receipts with your check request//If I haven't received your check request please get them in and the ones for over \$150 require Blaine's (2) signatures as well!//Venmo amount of \$40 went into the bank, reconciliation in Quickbooks-because wasn't entered at first into Quickbooks//Venmo info detailed on Chat//Districts that need their checks, send Cheryl a physical address to which she can mail out checks.

March 2020		YTD	2020 Budget 61,860.00	Variance with Annual Budget
Group contributions:	2,212.50	11,965.03	61,860.00	3,450.48
Individual contributions:	265.11	1,568.20		1,568.20
District contributions:	0.00	3,000.00		0.00
Total contributions:	2,477.61	16,743.23	61,860.00	5,228.68
Total budgeted expenses:	3,063.96	15,476.01	61,860.00	-46,384.81
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	-586.35	1,267.22		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	100.00	336.00		
Total expenses:	3,163.96	17,601.01		
Contributions less total expenses:	-686.35	-857.78		
Total Cash Balance: February 2020	18,066.05		25% of budget	
Prudent Reserve Balance	5,000.00			

Chair Report; Blaine H No Report-prefers to hear from all ACM members about self quarantine.

Delegate's Report: Jerry S: I would prefer to keep my report brief for the sake of spending as much time together sharing on the concerns and developing solutions that we are seeing throughout our Districts & Committee's.

I forwarded the Highlights from AAWS and although much was approved for printing prior to the health crisis, there was one very telling and concerning piece of information: Revenue and contributions were down in the 1st Quarter. I look forward to the Financial Presentation that is very much still on the abbreviated schedule for the Conference to confirm if the trend continues. However, my suspicions are that there will be a continued dip due to how groups, districts, areas etc. are or are not capable of fulfilling their traditional offering to GSO. We'll see. In the meantime, please be sure to connect with your GSR's to ensure that they are aware of the options available to them to pass the virtual basket. Area 08 is now setup with VENMO. Please direct your groups to the Area08 website for more information.

So I have been informed that the 2020 General Service Conference will be held from Saturday May 16th to Tuesday the 19th. We will coordinate through 6 hour days over those 4 days to conduct all critical business of the Conference. A variety of Pre-Conference Committee work be coordinated from now until then to determine what business of the committee's will be managed. So yes, much more will be revealed. So what exactly will be done during the Conference? I'm not too sure. Although, the fact that we are a day at a time program, a 24hours at a time program and that our conference has been reduced to just 24 hours in total seems oddly poetic don't you think?

So through one of the most tumultuous and challenging months of my time in service to AA, our Pre-Conference Assembly was a roaring success! We clocked in over 200 participants from across the country and Canada. Our guest speakers were true gems to the experience! We collected a ton of data that will support my efforts as the delegated voice at the Conference. I cannot put into words how truly grateful I am for all the sacrifices and efforts that our GSR's, Districts, Committee's and Area Officers put into coordinating such a successful day! Can you believe we broke into 16 round tables and produced over 20+ pages of notes on Literature Agenda Item: K alone? I feel overwhelmed with love and support through a demonstration that as far as the movement of AA here in San Diego Imperial is concerned... we are a resilient movement that has confirmed with grace and integrity the lengths we are willing to go to to ensure that the hand of AA, albeit digital for a brief time, is still held out searching and hoping to be met by the sick and the suffering alcoholic.

Please use this time to continue your practice of inventory, prayer and meditation. Stay close to your Higher Power. Stay safe. Stay healthy and please stay in touch on how I can better support you.

Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Alt Delegate's Report: Monty C. :

JoAnn

Two minute Liaison Committee Reports:

- Coordinating Council-SD: Pete-NP
- North County Intergroup: Mike: North County Central Office has moved its physical location to: 1020 S. Santa Fe, Suite B Vista CA 92084 The office is currently operating in a "virtual mode" with our Manager, Office Staff and volunteers all operating remotely Many, but not all, north county AA meetings have transitioned to ZOOM and some new meetings have been created in the ZOOM environment.
- Oficina Central Hispana-SD:
- Oficina Intergruppal Condado Norte: NP
- Oficina Central Sur, Chula Vista NO longer active
- GSDYPAA: & NSDYPAA Katherine-Late night meeting every night on Zoom//At home scavenger hunt//part 2 elections are coming up on Sunday on Zoom
- Native American Liaison: Wolf: NP
- East County Intergroup: NP

Old Business:

- **Military Outreach Tiffany** we had an additional meeting because of the need//chaplain at March Air Force Base-Area 9-sent an email chain-163 air wing//the decision is up to the commander//and AA meetings are already at bases, but there might be a meeting implemented at this air wing//aware of the value of AA to military and families//up to the Wing Commander whether to have AA meeting on that base//encouraged by commanders//open to doing Skype or zoom for the time being//went to the Pentagon-values the AA program and 12 steps and put their approval on it//I have been asked to join with them and be the voice of AA as representative//meeting will start with Zoom//greenlighted from the Pentagon//Camp Pendleton-a marine requested for PSA on base on electronic billboards-can't be done until details taken care of//Billboards will go up around the installation//this continues to grow.

Master Calendar: Jo Anne; The master Calendar was emailed out by the Chair. It's posted on the area website. Information is subject to change. See calendar on the area website (www.area8aa.org) for the most up to date information. Corrections will be made by tomorrow. Send any changes or corrections to Joann. Having trouble keeping the master calendar updated because almost everything has been cancelled//I get info late like the San Diego Virtual Roundup//there are workshops coming up but I don't know if they are going forward// everything is cancelled for the rest of the year, or thereabouts//we need a list of zoom meetings going on//Calendar is irrelevant right now//What committees and Districts are having meetings and what's the login for them//this is difficult to do because the numbers might change//Karen-committees and districts can put the zoom numbers on the website, which is easy to update

Birthdays: 2 persons celebrated a birthday since the last meeting.

Break - 8:25 to 8:35pm

New Business:

- IT Report on Zoom already shared in Chuck's IT Committee Report//Blaine will forward info on an all area Chair sharing session
- Creation of a Master Roster-HELP NEEDED Bill S-GSO system upgrade//Greg Tobin-communicated to Registrars-the company was let go that was working on the new system and a new company hired//GSR registration and online contributions//this had made it difficult for Bill to make a roster of groups and GSRs//this will enable communication with all groups and members//this would also be of help to get group Registrars, Treasurers and other officers//Bill also requested District Rosters, he has received 12 out of 23, so this is a partial list//Bill is again requesting this info from the DCMs//group names vary from different lists-i.e. Central Office, GSO, and other locations//please all members review their meetings with the names and select the correct one//also what kind of meeting is it? Open, closed...//this contact information would be helpful with the survey that the Young People's committee wants to send out.
- Notice of election of a new alternate Registrar: those who are eligible to stand for this position are the same ones that were eligible for panel 70//post conference assembly
- Archives Committee Presentation (Mike S not present) John B//Archives needs it's own storage space//the archives budget contains a request for a 7 x 10 storage space//archives space in the Central Office has cabinets that stores some things-somewhat climate controlled//we also have and gather a lot of stuff such as old speaker tapes//scrolls//these items are not centrally stored//and stored at various locations and these items would be more secure if located at one central place and better if not dependant on one person//So Archives is hoping the Area afford the space//the Area storage space wouldn't work because it's not secured with the traffic of many persons//John would like to look to 2021 to do this//and for 2020 this would be spent collecting everything together and storing at John's house//should be in storage for 2020 so it can be insured//maybe this could be put under Area Administration costs and budget-therefore the Area chair would have access and this way it isn't hidden in the archives budget.
- Assemblies-9/12/2020 and 11/7/2020 Sept- District 8 & 6 November-

DISTRICT REPORTS (Districts submitted reports digitally or on report form) 2 min. - All districts report this month.

District 1: Brian-Had our normally scheduled meeting via zoom//Districts should get Venmo accounts

District 2 :John-also had meeting via zoom//looking to do a workshop on the thinking that precedes a relapse

District 3:John: np

District 4: Chuck: we are also like other districts//sober alcoholics//reports of meetings being zoom bombed//but taken care of with new security measures//have had 2 meetings via zoom so far.

District 5: Dave Many meetings in our district have moved to the Zoom platform – here are some of the resulting successes and challenges:

In all cases, those participating express gratitude in having this platform available! We have visitors from many areas and the ability to visit meetings all over the U.S.

One group reported that they park near each other in the church parking lot so they can **actually see each other** during a Zoom meeting

Larger groups (60+ people) have seen up to a 50% fall-off in attendance

Smaller groups (15-25 people) maintain 80-90% from live meetings

Only a few groups have listed meetings on the aa.sandiego.org website since that seems to be the way “Zoom Bombers” gain access for disruption
All groups now see the value of maintaining an updated phone/email contact list

Most groups have not set up 7th tradition platforms. Drawback seems to be protecting personal information when establishing a Venmo account

We are suggesting that members hold their contributions until we return to more normal times

At the same time, we feel it will be important to attempt to make any missed rent payments – we want to be good tenants for the organizations that support us with reasonable meeting spaces

District 6: Natalie: District 6 April 2020

District 6 met through Zoom Monday April 13 at 5:00.

It was well attended

We talk about the assembly

All our meetings are through Zoom

It is well organized and well attended

Most people go to more meetings now

We worry about newcomers

One of our members survived Coronavirus we are all grateful

We do a lot of reaching out

Text every day to the group we formed while attended PRASSA

Make calls

Walking dates with staying at a healthy distance

More motivated than ever to be of service

District 7: Allison;np

District 8: Angelina:had our first zoom meeting on April 1//we discussed PRAASA and the Assembly//my group wasn't happy about the proposed changes to the Big Book//I appreciate getting information from other people and sending stuff to them//trying to stay in contact

District 9: Lorie np

District 10: Paul K.: we met for the first time on zoom this month-only 3 GSRs//question from people if we aren't doing any business why do we need a zoom account//but I think we will be doing a lot with zoom//

District 11: Linda we have online meetings but a couple of GSRs had trouble logging in//we are setting up a Venmo account and thinking of putting on a workshop

District 12:Cindy:np

District 13: Ronnie; NP

District 14: Patrick; Christine-alternate DCM//connectivity problems//people are getting better at using zoom//a few zoom bombing episodes in our district//all's good now

District 15: Marcela: we have had several district meetings via zoom at our regular time//and we have a group who has re-opened their doors//but they are being cautious//we are experimenting with zoom//many members are not happy with zoom//more and more GSRs are joining us at the district meetings

District 16: Ted: we met on April 6//feedback about the pre-conference assy//the GSRs were very grateful with how well it was put on and the job Jerry S. did//treasurer is concerned about funding during this disaster//questions about anonymity and Venmo//one GSR got involved with the military outreach committee//we have a spreadsheet for our GSRs that I will send to Bill S.

District 17: Santiago;NP

District 18: Carlos: I am happy to be here today//some of the reactions that the groups are having in our district-many groups were very surprised because they weren't ready for this situation//and many are worried about the stability of the groups //I shared with many about zoom meetings but many said they weren't interested// we had our first meeting last monday and there were 13 present//we have one group that created a zoom meeting in Spanish and many others have joined this meeting//Some groups have been asking how they can make contributions to the area//that info went out in an email about Venmo//the district members are slowly are taking to the idea of zoom

District 19: Adrian O. Our District Meeting on Tuesday, April 7th, 2020 was attended by 10 GSRs and District Officers. Attendance was slightly lower than usual Four of the 5 members of the District that attended PRAASA 2020 shared their experiences. We discussed how the shelter-in-place order is affecting the groups. Of those reporting, all had created Zoom meetings except one. BYOB which meets Mon – Sat at noon in North Park is accepting 10 members to be in attendance per meeting, so that they can practice social distancing. GSRs overall had difficulty gathering member feedback on agenda items. Methods utilized were simple phone calls, separate Zoom sharing sessions for members, the word document supplied by the delegate to be filled out and returned. The DCM for District 12 and myself attended each other's District Meetings and discussed co-sponsoring future Workshops, either when the restrictions lift or before, on line. I also threw out the idea of holding a DCM/District Sharing Session. Something that could be particularly helpful in supporting our districts' online activities.

District 20: Flint N: happy to report we are all safe//6 GSRs//several of our meetings remain face to face with social distancing//we want to be there for the alcoholic who seeks//many meetings are also meeting via zoom//not happy in Fallbrook about the changes to the Big Book and writings/pamphlets

District 21: Rick;(Wigs) District Summary:

Wigs, our DCM opened the meeting via Zoom with the Serenity Prayer.

- Zoom worked quite well.

8 GSRs were present plus a regular attendee who has awesome experience that adds to the group.

March's Minutes and Treasurer's Report were approved. Balance on hand as of 2 April is \$5,607.98.

Registrar:

- Tom Q will remain as Registrar. He is insuring that our District's online meetings are adequately published.

DCM Report:

- The events that were cancelled as a result of the virus were reviewed.
- Reviewed events that will now be online.
- Continued to push the GSO \$3.60 challenge.
- The Delegate's Report is available on the website: area8aa.org under "Delegate's Corner"

Old Business:

- Continued discussion of D-21's prudent reserve which needs to be locked in and then the excess funds be intelligently distributed within the Area
- Further discussion will take place during our May meeting after we assess the funding shortfalls within the Area.

New Business:

- Discussed how to collect 7th Tradition funds during the online meetings. Several collection vehicles were mentioned including Venmo and PayPal. GSR's to discuss with their groups.
- No guest speaker planned for next month.

Roundtable:

- Excellent GSR Roundtable.
 - Good conversation regards how people are adjusting to the new world order as a result of the virus. Excellent sharing.

Next District 21 meeting will be at 6:30pm on 7 May, 2020 at the *Peñasquitos Lutheran Church in Carmel Mountain Ranch*. If it remains closed, we will meet via Zoom. Instructions will be sent out to all in advance.

Joke of the Month:

How do you get an alcoholic up on the roof?

Tell him that drinks are ON the house!!!

District 22: Lynda np

District 23: Darryl; News from Area 8

All meetings of any kind will be on ZOOM.

News from other Districts

District 16 did give 200.00 dollars to help with pre-conference workshop in March. The money was returned but we are grateful for the support. It was cancelled due to covid 19.

News from our Dist.23

We had our first ZOOM meeting on March 26th last month; there were 11 of us in total. Also we had 6 from our district attend the pre-conference assembly.

We are still waiting for the refund from the city of Carlsbad 532.00 dollars; I have been told we will have it by next week.

Standing Committee Reports:

Accessibilities: Robert Jeffrey in place of Robert because No interpreter scheduled for tonight//Interpreters have been set up for 7 meetings a week//contributions have been good and continue to support the meetings.

Agenda: John; NP:

Archives: John B.; we have been meeting on Zoom//a small mix up on zoom numbers//a shout out to all DCMs that we are trying to preserve Covid19 effect on AA//we need stories and anecdotes//we are keeping a timeline of major events//but email me info that might be interesting for preserving//John's email can be found on the website archives.area8@gmail.com

CPC: Vito- NP

Grapevine: Joel

IT: Chuck M. Had our regular meeting on 4/8/2020 via ZOOM. Majority of the meeting was devoted to ZOOM. Discussed impressions on the Area Assembly via ZOOM. The overall impression was very favorable. Also discussed the personal experience that our members had with their online meetings, particularly experience with invasion by "trolls". The remainder of the meeting consisted of our regular reports from committee members//despite the trolls, be easy to find for the newcomers and those who really need meetings//waiting room can be enacted-message can be sent to persons in waiting rooms but they can't respond//requiring video blocks some who can't always do video but needs a meeting//How do people get the passwords? Either don't set them or if the password is posted utilize the waiting room//Area 8 website needs to be updated that there are continued no live meetings past March 30-could be written thru the remainder of this public crisis or until further notice

Translation: Richard: Spanish Interpretation isn't working//got it working!

Finance: Joshua; We usually do alot face to face//this has been difficult to meet without the ability to share documents//we met Monday via Zoom//We currently need budgets sent to myself or Cheryl//its difficult to share documents on Zoom//still missing many budgets//documents are online//they can be filled out electronically.

Literature: Sasha.:working on upcoming agenda for Monday//last meeting was on zoom//

NCAIC (H&I): Michael H.: NP

Policy: Ernest D.; the committee continues to meet-every 2 weeks/ **Next meeting April 21. Next monthly meeting May 5th** (The First Tuesday of next month.).

Items discussed

- a. Area 08 Pamphlet- The committee is updating the pamphlet. The Committee is considering an online version to reduce printing costs.
- b. The Committee will be meeting using Zoom for the foreseeable future.
- c. Structure and Guidelines still in process.
- d. Guidelines on Planning an Assembly – Guidelines on Planning an Event is still under development.

Newsletter: Jean S. The newsletter is posted and on the website for March and May will be coming up//our meetings have thinned out//requested from Policy direction for the Newsletter Committee//we are always looking for articles//something timely about what is going on now//we haven't gotten many contributions//Invitation for new members//past newsletters are posted on the website//

SD H&I: Gerry G. Not alot going on with H and I//facilities are closed and not allowing entrance into correctional facilities//we would like to bring Zoom in to other facilities//alot of us are unable to do this service work//upcoming meeting this Sunday via Zoom//Orientations done by Pat D. has put together a powerpoint presentation for Orientation//we may be using this as a future tool for people unable to be at an Orientation Meeting//to be discussed this Sunday//question-could we maybe write letters to the persons in the institutions?

Young People's (YPAACC): Katharine: we met last Friday on zoom//membership survey was not launched at pre conference Assembly//we may actually have it easier to outreach online with our survey//question to the DCMs as to how to reach meetings//we have flyers that could be mailed out//we are looking for feedback about what to do with the survey and how to move forward with it//Jerry S. suggests there might be additional items added to the survey because of everything being digital//Bill S. encourages that the survey move forward//we should be reaching out to meetings and GSRs and dark meetings via zoom meeting list//survey software needs to be paid for//those funds were allocated last Fall//a credit card is needed to pay for it

The Next Area Assembly? Post Conference Assembly June 20

Closing: Responsibility Pledge and Serenity Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Panel 70 Area Secretary : Renee R. and Alternate Secretary: Cecil L.

**Next Assembly: Assembly- Post Conference Assembly
Stay tuned for announcements**