

**San Diego-Imperial Area Committee Meeting  
August 20, 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](mailto: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 7:00 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*

**Registrar's Report:** Bill S.

Requests that members attending ACM rename themselves with their first name followed by their service //there will be a poll to tally a quorum-was met

**Approval of July 2020 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](mailto: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](mailto:secretary.area8sd@gmail.com)*
- July'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 Treasurer.
- Please make sure to submit any reimbursements before the end of the year.

<b>July 2020</b>	<b>July Actual</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>2020 Budget 61,860.00</b>	<b>Variance with Annual Budget</b>
Group contributions:	3,305.73	22,854.05	61,860.00	39005.95
Individual contributions:	273.55	3,296.05		
District contributions:	0.00	3,000.00		
Total contributions:	3,579.28	29,700.10	61,860.00	
Total budgeted expenses:	569.39	22,951.68	61,860.00	-38,908.32
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	3,009.89	6,748.42		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	0.00	406.00		
Total expenses:	569.39	23,357		
Contributions less total expenses:	3,009.89	6,342.42		
Total Cash Balance: July 2020	22,199.98		<b>25% of budget</b>	
<b>Prudent Reserve Balance</b>	5,000.00			

### **Chair Report;** Blaine H

Tonight marks the sixth time that we have met in a virtual setting. One could ask, are we any closer to returning to the friendly confines of the IBEW? No one can answer that question. But I do believe it is safe to say that we will most likely be seeing each other in two dimensions for the rest of this year.

Within Area 8 Alcoholics Anonymous is still going strong. The response to the shutdown caused by the pandemic has been remarkable. Just on the San Diego Central Office website alone there are more than 200 Zoom meetings. And, in some cases, a listing is for a daily meeting which means seven opportunities to carry the message.

I don't know about you but the number of meetings I now attend each week has gone up several fold. – often as many as two or three per day! Meeting new friends like Brad from Southampton, Joanne from Ireland, and ex-San Diegan Hugh now in Pennsylvania who I ran into yesterday at a meeting in Dublin! Remarkable times.

Our groups, districts, and standing committees have not been idle. Check out some of the programs and workshops that are scheduled in the near future including one for Saturday on the “Modern Doctor’s Opinion” that I just found out about yesterday. That is being put on by the Young People’s Committee. It will compete timewise with the venerable 21<sup>st</sup> Women Sponsoring Women Workshop, also on Saturday. A week from tonight (8/27), The Three Legacies Group is sponsoring one on Pandemic Issues. We will hear a little more about that later. Also, relating to Area business, the Finance Committee and Treasurer have scheduled a series of workshops on the Area Spending Plan (Budget) for 2021 which will begin September 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are in an era of great change, and that includes our finances. Please encourage everyone, but particularly GSRs, to attend one of these events. Lastly our resurging Grapevine Committee will be conducting a Writers Workshop in October (10/10). These have always been enjoyable ways to get your creative juices flowing in expressing your love for Alcoholics Anonymous.

Finally, this is the last ACM before the Big Day Assembly which will take place on September 12<sup>th</sup>. A lot of business to do including four motions involving changes to our Structure and Guidelines which are coming up for a final vote. We also have an exciting guest speaker, Dr. Al Mooney, the newest Class A Trustee member of the Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. CU there!

**Delegate's Report:** Jerry

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Updated-Finance-Presentation-ACM.pdf>

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/AAWS-Highlights-July2020-English.pdf>

GSO finances- there was an emergency meeting called by GSO regarding the state of their finances. The link is included here. Slide presentation: Final audit completed for 2019//14 recommendations//2019 was a very financially successful year in what was contributed and what was spent on the Fellowship//2020-Budget Reforcast: adjustments due to COVID, decrease in monies collected and decrease in expenses//19 mil dollars originally budgeted for 2020, but reforecast budget is now \$16 million//some employees at GSO were furloughed//new operating system will be rolled out at December 14, 2020//ERP system//Questions since the Conference-contributions have been generous from individuals

and groups in support of GSO//total to date \$3210,118.00//The Virtual Conference deficit of \$ -14,386//the Reserve fund: \$16 million at the end of 2019(9.2 months of expenses)//2020 drawdown of \$3 million//revised budget ratio is almost back to what was begun with in 2020//International Convention-the cancellation \$5.8 million was insured//about \$2.3 to \$2.5 million will be reimbursed from insurance//AAWS-Literature sales, first a decrease and then an uptake in June and July-outside Hazelton made large purchases of literature in those 2 months//Grapevine:app was cancelled in exchange for an e application//La Vina had a large fall off//Overall there is a maintaining of the budget in the months of May and June//Self Support is alive and well! Paypal is now up and running for contributions to GSO//there will be a video to play on online meetings with info on how to contribute.

Jerry has received the printed hard copies of the Conference Report//he ordered only half the usual amount and he is willing to mail them out to those requesting one.

**Alt Delegate's Report:** Monty C.

I would like to thank everyone that participated, showed up or helped with Unity Day. It was the first time that I can remember having a Unity Day Celebration Virtually. The speakers were great. The timing of each of the panels made it perfect but long enough. The workshop ended on time, but friends were not ready to end the workshop. I cannot wait to do it again.

As we continue our look into general service, our committees need help. One of those committees is Newsletter. This committee is without a Chair. I am going to start working with our past Delegates. The have been asked to step in and help get the committee on its feet. I am asking the DCMs and Committee Chairs to help pass along this message. I am sure that at least one of you knows someone in one of your meetings that will be able to help. We need an editor, proofreader, someone to gather stories are among the leading things that will be helpful right now. If you know someone, please have them reach out to me.

For the other committees that are moving strong, how can you support the other committees that need help. Committee Chairs are you cross collaborating liaisons between committees for ideas and support? I think that we have gotten away from this technique. I learned a few things by hosting the event. The reach of speakers and information is extremely broad.

Second, it is my belief that having workshops is a great way to discuss topics and help the groups to make conscious decisions. Having knowledge about topics and discussing them thoroughly is the backbone of what we do. We talk and talk about topics before bringing them to life.

The area is lacking taking with our members and hearing their voices. I am sure that it was mentioned before, but I am going to mention it again. We have several general service conference agenda items that can be used as topics. Let us work together and have more workshops. The groups need our help and we are here to help.

**Two minute Liaison Committee Reports: Joann Z.**

- Coordinating Council-SD: NP
- North County Intergroup: Mike H.:The North County H&I committee is currently recruiting for virtual panel members for the VA Hospital. Virtual panels are slated to take place on Saturday's, the time

is still being worked out. We are also exploring an idea of recording a weekly H&I panel and making it available securely online to facilities. We are concerned and addressing anonymity and privacy issues in our exploration of this idea. Accordingly, it is still in idea phase. Please direct anyone interested in our VA Hospital panel or idea for weekly virtual panels to [northcountyhandi@gmail.com](mailto:northcountyhandi@gmail.com) or Michael H 619-481-1714

- Oficina Central Hispana-SD: NP
- Oficina Intergrup al Condado Norte: Marcela-
- Oficina Central Sur, Chula Vista NO longer active
- GSDYPAA:.NP
- NSDYPAA Andy: Sunday afternooner has increased attendance//the group has been pro-active during these times//workshop on Sept 12-culinary skills//October-quarantine Halloween with speakers, dancing, costumes
- Native American Liaison: Wolf: NP
- East County Intergroup: NP
- Hispanic Women's Workshop-

### **Old Business:**

- **Area Survey Update:** Katharine M. survey responses have been trickling up slowly//we will extend the survey through October 15-because of money saved on travel//please keep pushing the survey on your groups//ques-what is this being used for? For our Area only-to better allocate funding for 12 step work//how can we reach certain demographics or groups//could result in new pamphlets//there is a write up about more details that Katherine could send out//
- **Finance Committee and Treasurer's Motions at Big Day Assembly:** Blaine H.-3 motions  
1)redefine the duties of the Finance Committee 2 & 3) competing Treasurer duties Plan is to first do the Finance Committee Motion and then presentations of both Treasurer motions (one or the other can only be passed) next there will be a preference vote between the 2 and then once one is conferred, then that one will be singly voted upon//suggestion that a vote of dissent to all motions might be considered//suggestion to get one of the motion makers to withdraw their motion-I am getting feedback from GSRs and group members they would like to have one of the two removed//
- **Support for our Standing Committees:** Blaine H. These times have been hard on our standing committees//after the Assembly- we would like to see an increase in activity on the committees and new members joining.

**Master Calendar: Jo Anne:** The master calendar is non-existent but flyers for workshops were emailed out by the Chair. Zoom numbers may be posted on the area website. Information is subject to change. See calendar on the area website ([www.area8aa.org](http://www.area8aa.org)) for the most up to date information. Corrections will be made by tomorrow. Send any changes or corrections to Joann.

August Calendar has been updated with new events and workshops//let me know about any events you will like to add to the next Calendar

**Birthdays:** 1 person celebrated a birthday since the last meeting. 14 yrs Cheryl

Break Time 8:25pm-8:37pm

**New Business:**

- **Notes on Reallocation of budgeted but unused funds**-this is how I propose moving money that probably will not be spent//Chart showing line items of positions and what they were allocated originally and because of COVID not all the funding will be spent//mainly for mileage and copies, if the monies remain unspent there would be a GSO sendoff at year's end or we can reallocate \$13500.00//this could be for 12 Step work//many persons use Zoom-we could purchase a business Zoom account for different groups to use-this is just an example//Bill S proposes having a Forum in 2022 with excess monies//form a Forum committee to determine the theme, time and budget//Unity in Service is a proposed theme//Benefit? Gives us something to work on together for our Area, that gave these monies//Point of Order-this is about the notes from the Treasurer not a salespitch//Cheryl-I am trying to get people to think out of the box and I only proposed an idea and it isn't my job to decide how to spend this money//It should come from the Assembly//This should be opened up to the Assembly and the groups//Is this a topic for the Assembly?//Let's ask the groups what challenges they are having because of Covid//some need to continue to pay rent although they aren't meeting//the Area approved the budget in the amount it is//The deaf community could use money because they aren't getting many contributions//There are many good ideas that could come from the groups//
- **Dealing with Virtual Groups-A New Frontier** there are groups that were started on Zoom, namely the noon Midday Miracles and 6pm daily//Zoom isn't going away//where do these get registered? Will we have a virtual District? What do we want to do with these Zoom groups that probably aren't going away//Maybe a Floor Motion at the Assembly could be made//we need to take this to the groups and be patient//the idea of a district for these online meetings-we should bring this to the groups about forming another District for the Area//this should be discussed and make a decision as soon as possible//meetings that are starting to meet again in person are not drawing the members who are doing Zoom, my hopes are that people will meet in person again//should an ad hoc committee be created to discuss and explore the use of another District for Zoom meetings//several volunteered
- **Request for Funds-Pandemic Pandemonium (3 Legacies Group)** has a workshop coming up and is requesting funding for Spanish Interpretation and ASL Interpretation-\$255//Motion for Funds made by Bill S. for \$255.00// we could request the interpreters submit their expenses and not a specific amount//this is a group requesting funding for an Area event//this should be an unbudgeted expense request//Motion made for up to and including \$300.00//voting by hands in the chat room//Motion passes

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

**District 1:** Brian-

**District 2 :Jeremy-** 8-10 GSRs//help to fund YPAACC with ASL Interpretation at Workshop//we also have trouble with in person/Zoom and Hybrid meetings

**District 3:**John:

**District 4:** Chuck P.: Jerry S was a special guest and was well received//the District is active but a decline in attendance at District meetings//

**District 5:** Dave F.:

**District 6:** Natalie: we are a small district, but everyone is enthusiastic at our district meetings//we talked about the virtual district//we will probably send excess money to Accessibilities committee for ASL

**District 7:** Allison;NP

**District 8:** Angelina I am doing my best to get better attendance at the district meeting//about 8 GSRs attend//I try to get to as many meetings both virtual and in person as I can

**District 9:** Lorie W. District 9 is still staying active . The Triangle, 151 group, and Alano Club are still holding face to face meetingsI with active participation in masks and social distancing. . Due to the closing of the facility that provided the DIVAS a meeting place a zoom meeting was created and has been very successful for women in recovery. A Sunday zoom is also very effective in drawing in members, new and current . Due to the slow attendance face to face, most meeting places are struggling to meet the rent but HP provides.All members are encouraged to practice 7th tradition too. all the groups. Changes to the meeting schedule is forthcoming.. thank you for letting me be of service , Lorie W

**District 10:** Paul K.: Jerry gave a nice report to the one GSR who showed up! There are only 2 meetings in El Cajon on the Central Office schedule list

**District 11:** Linda-

**District 12:**Cindy:

**District 13:** Ronnie;

**District 14:** Patrick; the OB Clubhouse is have 2 daily meetings//but there is a problem with being listed at Central Office// most meetings are on Zoom//we have been losing some attendance at our district meeting//next Wednesday will be our district meeting and we are looking for an officer or committee chair to attend and speak//we are talking about a zoom meeting mental health workshop

**District 15:** Marcela:

**District 16:** Ted: our district sent a \$3000 contribution to GSO and we may have enough for another at the end of the year//there are a couple of in person meetings on the beach//we got 4 new GSRs in the last 2 months//October we will put on a Workshop "Guide to Meditation"

**District 17:** Santiago;

**District 18:** Esther: Carlos: our district is ok//exasperated because we can't meet in person//there are 8 groups that are meeting in person with precautions//

**District 19:** Adrian:

**District 20:** Flint N:

**District 21:** Rick;(Wigs) District Summary:

District Summary:

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

5 GSRs were present plus our Alt. DCM and our regular Guest attendee.

The DCM was periodically away from the meeting due to personal commitments.

We had no Birthdays this month.

We approved last month's Minutes.

We approved last month's Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$5,163.18.

Registrar:

There were no updates to our D-21 Roster.

ACM Report:

GSO is now reviewing its 2020 budget. Keep the \$3.60 challenge going, please. Please show your groups the year-end report. This helps show where we spend the money.

Following are events which will be held on line:

September 12: Big Day Area Assembly

November 7: Budget Assembly

The Delegate's Report is available on the website: [area8aa.org](http://area8aa.org) under "Delegate's Corner"

Old Business:

Please remember to let any newcomers in your meetings know that the District 21 will provide them with a Big Book and a 12 x 12. Have them email Terri for these. Terri says she only had one request so far.

New Business:

Poway Alano Club is having "in person" meetings specifically for newcomers. They have the meeting on zoom, but are open for newcomers. Someone comes in and sets up the Zoom part of the meeting from the club. The Zoom information is the same for all meetings except the 0900 Sunday Men's Meeting and the Saturday evening Speaker's Meeting.

Poway ALANO Club meeting info:

Meeting ID: 980 4068 9680

Passcode: 835737

Guest:

Our guest, Area 8 Chair Blaine H, gave his presentation. He talked about how he got into service. He discussed our current meeting situation....zoom, hybrid & in-person. What will happen when we "return to in-person meetings? Will the on-line meetings continue to happen after that? What Districts will they be in? Will we have an "on-line" District?

Our area committees are having difficulty. Agenda committee hasn't met since we went on zoom. They set agendas for Area Committee meetings and Area Assemblies, and help the Area by offering for topics for upcoming General Service Conference Agendas. The Newsletter committee has no regular members – two past servants are doing the work. Most committees are populated by GSRs who sign up to participate on a committee when they first come to Area Assembly. Question: If you are not a GSR can you be on a



committee? Yes. The Area voted to allow anyone to participate on a committee. Please let your group members know they can participate.

Finances: We are in an interesting position at the moment. We are not spending our money on mileage and on the conference (it was virtual). When we have “excess” funds, we send them to GSO. However, it is possible that there are alternative uses for these funds in our Area in our new situation. We are now in the process of reworking our expectations for how we should spend our funds. Can the GSR’s vote on this in September? Or does this have to go “back to the groups”? The difficulty with sending it back to the groups is that we won’t have approval for using the funds until the last month of the year. This may not be practical.

We have three Finance motions on the floor for the September assembly: These are all Structure and Guidelines motions, requiring two votes. Each has passed the initial vote to be taken to the groups for review. We should be reviewing all of these with our groups and be prepared at the September Assembly to vote to make the Structure and Guidelines changes or not. Motion #1: Changing the duties of the Finance Committee passed in December and was sent to the groups. Motion #2: Having two treasurers with separate duties. Motion #3: Alternative motion for Treasurer duties. Blaine is going to send copies of all of these materials, in two emails. The first email will have the three motions (both in English and in Spanish). The second email will have summaries of each of the motions. The summaries are to help with the review. The two Treasurer motions are competing and create a problem for presentation. This information will also be on the website.

There will also be the motion for making the ad hoc committee on the Armed Forces into a standing committee.

There will be a talk by one of our Class A Trustees as well at the Assembly

With our District Agenda Rick sent us an End of the Year Financial Report from the Area showing where the Area funds were spent in the past year. This was for showing the GSRs and groups how the money given to the Area is spent.

We thank Blaine very much for a most informative and professional presentation with excellent discussions.

#### Roundtable:

Excellent GSR Roundtable.

Rock the Talk – Rick reported the group does both Zoom and in-Person outside at the church. The in-person meetings are about 15 people.

Sunday Morning Men's – Rick reported they have 40-45 people attending. A lively meeting & well attended meeting that uses both Venmo and PayPal for 7<sup>th</sup> tradition. Supports the Alano Club.

No Ifs Ands or Buts – Fess reported that the group was offered the church facility back for meetings; but would increase rent by \$25 per meeting for cleaning fee. Group voted not to go back yet. Terri noted that this type of extra expense might be something the District funds could be used to supplement.

RB Early Birds/Just Say No to Corona – David reported that the Broken Yolk is open and the Early Birds have started in-person again. These two meetings are not hybrid. Each is going on. The EB meeting is limited to 25 persons. The Just Say No to Corona continues – probably beyond when meetings all go back. They do virtual basket on Venmo with no problem. The meeting gets people from all over and is very active.

TGIF – Kenny reported that on Zoom they are not getting many newcomers. The church has not reopened; no plans for returning to in-person meetings at this time. The meeting is currently about 30-35. Adjustments to structure of the format to accommodate the Zoom format.

PQ Tuesday and Thursday – James reported Tuesdays we have 20-25 people with people from out of area. Thursday is 10-12 with a core group.


Freedom of Choice Book Study – Diana reported they are on Zoom with 15-20 participants. 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions directly to the pie chart entities are encouraged. Addresses for contributions given in the chat.

San Rafael Tuesday and Friday 7 am – Diana reported they are on Zoom with 20 participants with several out of town participating.

The next District 21 meeting will be at 6:30pm on 3 September, 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 as part of the Agenda.

#### **Joke of the Month:**

**"Did you know you can raise your energy levels by holding sodium in one hand and an AA in the other?"**

**Worst thing that will happen is you'll be charged with, A salt and battery!!!** 

**District 22:** Lynda

**District 23:** Darryl:

News from GSO

News from Area 8

News from other Districts.

Due to the rise in Covid cases meeting have started meeting outside.

News from our Dist.23

Our last District meeting was on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and was attended by 11 GSR's.

We are continuing with the promotion of the survey.

We also discussed making effort to collect a group contact from meetings that don't have a GSR

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

**Accessibilities: Robert** we have a venmo account for gold can contributions//we have been doing well during the last few months//I or Jeffrey will send that to the secretary or it could be posted on the website

**Agenda:** John resigned

**Archives:** John B. ;[archives.area8@gmail.com](mailto:archives.area8@gmail.com)

**CPC-Vito:**

**Grapevine:** Marc J-Grapevine Report

#### **Grapevine August ACM Report**

- We met on Aug. 8th, with nine in attendance, including four standing committee members and two GvRs.
- We discussed several main sections of our new guidelines, focusing on committee membership, position descriptions, and our committee election guidelines.
- We are ready to hold elections for a new chairperson alternate chair, and secretary at our next committee meeting.
- Our amazing subcommittee met a few times to plan our Gv/LV writers workshop, to be held on October 10, 9:00am to 12:00pm.

- We discussed and edited the flyer. It has been approved, you can find it in the documents download for tonight's meeting.
- Please get our flyer and pass the word to encourage prospective article submitters to attend. I know you know someone who should submit their story to the Gv, get them to this workshop.
- Attendees are encouraged to pre-register to receive a preparation packet prior to the workshop.

**IT:** Chuck M.

**Translation:** Richard: Reminder-send all documents as a word document--also the sooner the better!

**Finance:** Joshua; we continue to meet and talk over numbers and meet with the Treasurer//It is our job to go out to the districts to discuss the budget//we will have 4 workshops this year instead of only an hour duration//they will be in September and October//these will be done on Zoom with the same id numbers and password//this is for anyone who would like to attend

**Literature:** Sasha.: NP

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

**Policy:** Ernest D.; Chuck P-we continue to work on revising the S & G//currently individual members have been assigned specific sections//we have 2 meetings per month//we hope to have a document ready for presentation at the Orientation Assembly

**Newsletter:** No Chair

**SD H&I:** Gerry S.: We met last Sunday//on Zoom-posted meeting specifics on chat//we are going to start doing orientation on Zoom//11 people were at our last meeting//we needed a Treasurer and a new one was voted in// we would like to provide Zoom meetings for institutions//SARP has a couple of live meetings and the VA at Sharp//many of the facilities aren't open yet for in person meetings

**Young People's (YPAACC):** Bill: Our committee met at the usual day and time (2nd Friday of the month 7:30 p.m.). We have decided to extend at the membership survey until October 15th, because there was money in the budget previously allocated to travel that has not been used. Currently we have 93 group responses and 878 and individual responses to the English version of the survey, and 7 individual responses to the Spanish version of the survey. We are expecting to receive some written versions of the survey back from one of the Spanish districts. We are also hosting a workshop this coming Saturday August 22nd "The Modern Doctor's Opinion" -at 10m the zoom will open, the workshop will start at 10:20 please join us.

**Closing:** Responsibility Pledge and Serenity Prayer

**Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.**

*Respectfully submitted, Panel 70 Area Secretary : Renee R.*

**Next Assembly: September 12, 2020  
Big Day Assembly**

