

**San Diego-Imperial Area Committee Meeting  
February 18, 2021 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 7:00 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.: GSO has made it easier to keep track of the groups and amend their information in the new system//I have provided most of the DCMs the rosters of their groups in their districts//we will be making a list of groups with their ID numbers on the Website//This will be done by group name.

**Approval of the January 2021 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)*
- January 2021 ACM Minutes; were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cheryl (Treasurer) January was a month of ups and downs in finance. We took in a number of sizable contributions and have paid most of our reoccurring annual bills. A few checks written in December

towards the reallocation were cashed in January and are accounted for under Line-Item R.11 IT chair and webmaster computers. R.01-R.10 are 2020 reallocation funds and are accounted for separately.

On the down side, we had the detection and investigation into the fraud case stemming from the theft of checks from the US mail. Although two checks totaling \$6945.09 have been recovered and returned to us, there are still three checks that have yet to be recovered. The remaining three checks come to a total of \$2231.96. Bank of America has credited us with \$1000.00 which leaves a possible loss of \$1231.95

We ended January with a corrected (due to fraud) cash on hand of \$25,391.33. It should also be mentioned that according to our Structure and Guidelines we have a pending GSO send-off of \$1919.72. As your treasurer I feel that the area is financially stable at this time and we will not suffer by sending those funds.

February is the month that the Finance Committee provides you with the budget time line for the following year spending plan. This month is no exception, although the process this year is somewhat different. We have heard that the assembly is interested in being a part of the spending plan development. With that in mind, we have developed a process that we hope will provide Officers, Committees and Groups the time and opportunity to be more intimately involved. You should have been provided a copy of that process timeline I can answer any questions you may have. In addition, I have provided some guidance on preparing project submissions along with samples. That guidance can be found on the Treasurer page of the area website. Here is a link to the document:

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/SubmissionSamples.pdf>

The Finance Committee and I have received some questions and some feedback on the reallocation process. I am sure you have questions on the new budget process as well, we invite you to send us e-mails, call us or join us at the scheduled budget

workshops or any finance committee meeting.

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/JanuaryContributions.pdf>

- 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 code is. It will help the Treasurer.
- Please make sure to submit any reimbursements before the end of the year.

January 2021	January Actual	YTD	2021 Budget 58,395.00	Variance with Annual Budget
Group contributions:	4,095.66	4,095.66		
Individual contributions:	751.40	751.40		
District contributions:	0.00	0.00		
Total contributions:	4,847.06	4,847.06		53547.94
Total budgeted expenses:	1,842.84	1,842.84	58,394.95	-54,409.11
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	3,004.22	3,004.22		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	0.00	0.00		
Total expenses:	3,531.90	3,531.90		
Contributions less total expenses:	1,315.16	1,315.16		
Total Cash Balance: January 2021	25,391.33		<b>25% of budget</b>	
<b>Prudent Reserve Balance</b>	5,000.00			

Questions: Is there a spreadsheet on the re-allocation funds//they are listed on item R on the Finance Report//What annual payment were not paid in January-ans: Everything except Storage//this year we are using the old budget information from officers and committee chairs will be carried over to next year//this

will not include any discretionary funds for special projects//”Barebones” budget will be presented next month//L.19 has already been paid from the reallocation funds//please send me your check requests by the Sunday following the ACM//May 10 and June 14 will be the Budget Workshops this year.

**Chairperson’s Report: Blaine H.** Tonight will mark the 12<sup>th</sup> virtual Area Committee Meeting to be held during the pandemic. The IBEW has returned the monies we had previously paid as our rent on their facility. They have said they would let us know when they will again be open for our business. They, as well as Alcoholics Anonymous, will be guided by CDC, state, and local regulations regarding the ability to gather in person.

Our organization has suffered as a result of having to do business on a virtual basis. Last month we mentioned the fact that were only two thirds the number of GSRs attending the 2021 Orientation Assembly as compared to the in-person one held in January of 2020. That decrease in participation has also occurred in our standing committees and our districts. While we can do business on Zoom, we have lost some of the magic of one alcoholic working with another. An in-person assembly might require the cooperation of three districts, maybe 15 – 20 people working together to direct traffic, set up the room, make coffee, prepare and serve food, clean up, HUG, etc. A virtual assembly needs only a few techies and a computer. Relationships develop in those in-person events that strengthen our sense of belonging to the Fellowship. Much of that is gone now. Let us all try to keep that connectivity going!

Service is the Third Legacy of Alcoholics Anonymous. There are vacancies in all forms of General Service within Area 8. Groups need GSRs and alternates. The same is true for district DCMs and our committee chairs. Last month we announced a vacancy in our officer corps, the need for a new Alternate Treasurer. Thus far, neither I, nor the Finance Committee has received notification from anyone interested in standing for that position at a special election which will most likely take place in April.

On the subject of elections, we will be having one in September to elect officers for Panel 72, who will begin their terms next year. While some gung ho service sponsors tell people to “volunteer for the next position available”, it would be in the best interest of the Fellowship for potential officer holders to carefully study the duties of a particular position and assess their own willingness to carry those out for the full two years. Some positions require expertise not necessarily inherently present in your average drunk. Take the Alternate Treasurer... Please, it helps to have the ability to deal in figures with precision. A good place to look for those duties would be the proposed updates to the Area Structure & Guidelines on the Area 8 website <area8aa.org> “Helpful Resources”.

We are looking forward to several upcoming virtual events:

Saturday 2/27/21 – DCM & Committee Chair Training Session

Friday 3/5/21 – Sunday 3/7/21 PRAASA – Registration open at <praasa.org>

**Delegate's Report:** Jerry S:

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/71st-GSC-Final-List-of-Agenda-Items-English.pdf>

My name is Jerry and I am alcoholic. It is my pleasure and humble honor to serve as our San Diego / Imperial Area 08 Delegate to the General Service Conference. Okay... here we go! The Conference Agenda Items are published and immediately available on the Delegates Corner along with the Background Information in ENGLISH. The SPANISH translated document is expected in early March. I will be discussing coordination's and shared efforts of support during the New Business section on our agenda tonight. So more will be revealed... like in an hour. So, our Board had its January Board Meeting which was attended by all Conference Committee Chairs and a variety of guests and possible new Class A Trustee Candidates. I have heard from multiple sources that it was a tremendous experience overall and spiritual on all fronts! Its defining quality: UNITY. Here are some highlights: • There is a slew of new hires and new candidates for hire from office staff up to Board members. • The Remote Communities Service page will soon be available on aa.org. The page will include relevant literature and access to useful links for service work. • Out of Corrections: The Winter version of "Sharing from Behind the Walls" was distributed to prisoners across the U.S. and Canada, along with requested books and pamphlets. Over 560 male inmates were matched during the period January - December 2020; 105 females were matched for the same period. • Contributions revenue in 2020 reached an all-time high of \$10,304,185, which is \$417,930 greater than the reforecast. Great gratitude was expressed to the Fellowship for contributing \$1,442,421 in December to propel Seventh Tradition contributions past the \$10 million mark for the year. • The committee recommended that the General Service Board approve the 2021 G.S.O. budget, which reflects total revenues of \$15,594,000, total expenses of \$14,952,613 and a bottom-line surplus of \$641,387. The committee recommended that the General Service Board approve the 2021 Grapevine budget, which reflects total revenues of \$1,358,481 and a bottom-line deficit of \$354,225. The committee recommended that the General Service Board approve the 2021 La Viña budget, which reflects total revenues of \$62,968 and a bottom-line net cost of \$401,790. • We have coordinated with Ingram CoreSource Plus to support our literature being made available on 38 major ebook platforms and initial sales are progressing month on month and hopefully will add a much-needed revenue stream to our struggling Grapevine & La Vina. • The committee reviewed a memorandum from the senior manager of the Communication Services department regarding the "Does Alcoholics Anonymous Work?" video produced by Stanford University. The committee requested that the staff secretary craft a memorandum to the Ad Hoc working group expressing their appreciation for their work thus far and requesting that the working group continue exploring ways to use the video "Does Alcoholics Anonymous Work?". • Update on Audio interviews with Military Professionals: The committee listened to one final draft of an audio interview by the appointed committee member (ACM) and an A.A. member in the military. The committee expressed appreciation for the work being done and noted the effectiveness of the interview format for carrying the A.A. message to alcoholics in the Armed Services. • Regarding Literature Agenda Item-U regarding "The Big Book: Researching Issues, Possible Tools and Access (70th General Service Conference 2020)," a presentation video has been made available to the fellowship. You can access the video here:

<https://vimeopro.com/user112910871/big-book-riptab/video/500617913> We will surely be discussing its content further as we prepare for Conference. Btw, I have created a user-friendly time slotted notes to help navigate the video relative to specific topics. discussed. Do you want my notes? Shoot me an email, and I'll attach it in my follow up. Creating a podcast seems to be gaining some steam across multiple departments. This too will come up as we prepare for Conference. As I will be discussing all things Conference related later in the evening, I will offer my report as submitted and complete. Are there any questions?

No questions

**Alt Delegate's Report:** Monty C. This is the time of year when General Service is in full swing. Even though we are not meeting in person, there is still lots of work to do. With the conference agenda items out now, there should be conversations that will last all through the summer and beyond. I would encourage you to attend one or both of the two planned Pre-Conference Workshop. They will be held on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 9am and March 14 at 1PM.

We have always participated in the Spring Round Up. This year, it will be held virtually starting April 1<sup>st</sup> thru April 4<sup>th</sup>. I was asked at the intergroup if the committee had reached out to me about the General Service Panel. They had not. I have since been able to confirm that there will be a General Service Panel. We are being asked to present on April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9am to 1030am.

We will need a list of volunteers. There are 4 readings and 3 speaker spots. If you would like to fill one of these spots, please be sure to let me know. Send me an email or message in chat. If you know someone that would like to participate that is not here tonight, please have them call or email me.

We are asked to register for free on the website. The website is sandiegospringroundup.com. You will have to create an account first. A timeline of events for the round up has been posted on the site.

Registration for PRAASA is still open. If are planning on attending, please register. I am sure there will more information given tonight.

Next, I would like to mention Unity Day. I am asking for input on Unity Day. I am looking to come with a theme and start planning the event. If you have any input, please let me know.

During the course of the evening, I will be sending out emails to the DCMs. Please response at your earliest convenience about your district meeting and information.

### **Two minute Liaison Committee Reports: Joann Z.-not present**

- Coordinating Council-SD: NP
- North County Intergroup: Mike M.: Tickets, \$20.00 each, are still available for the Traditions Breakfast on Zoom, Sunday, March 21, 2021.. 9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Ticket sales are open through March 17, 2021. Call 760-758-2514 for more information and to purchase tickets. To order Literature, please call 760-758-2525 during the hours listed below. Office hours for contactless pick-up of literature are Monday: 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Tuesday and Thursday: 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

- Oficina Central Hispana-SD: NP
- Oficina Intergruppal Condado Norte: NP
- Oficina Central Sur, Chula Vista NO longer active
- GSDYPAA: NP
- NSDYPAA :: Jeremy-On March 2, 730pm to 830om will be a PI Committee meeting
- Native American Liaison: Wolf:
- East County Intergroup:

## Old Business:

- **Status-AD-Hoc Committee Area Inventory on Communication-**Blaine this was discussed last October//committee was formed//got sidetracked, with other duties and is now on hold//Is there any interest in re-upping this committee? What we are doing as far as communication is concerned and how communication might be improved: Karen P. and Paul B. are interested//Angelina is already on the list//will this utilize the communication training money as part of the reallocation-no they are not connected//Tom (D14)interested and Jeffrey from Accessibilities is interested.
- **DCM and Committee Chair Organization:** Blaine-we are no longer talking together in person, perhaps they could get together about once a month//please contact me if any of you are interested in putting this together//DCMs getting together and Committee Chairs getting together//fostering them getting together to put on workshops, etc.//for the sharing amongst themselves//Paul K is putting a list together of Standing Committee Chairs//Terri would like to lead a DCM meeting//Other Areas have DCM meetings//could we talk about this at the DCM training session? yes
- **Alternate Treasurer Search- Election possible 4/10/2021:** Blaine-Chuck has a candidate and will reach out to Blaine and Cheryl with his contact info.

**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.

**Birthdays since last ACM-(Jan 21)** Cindy 8 yrs

**Break 8:10pm-8:20pm**

## New Business:

- **Spending Plan (Budget) Preparation Process:** Cindy H and Cheryl F.:the contributions list for January 2021 was provided and it will also be provided from now on.
- **The Road to the Conference:** Jerry S and Monty C. Conference Agenda Items have been sent out to their respective Committee Chairs//Literature Committee has the greatest number//DCMs are the go betweens to keep their GSRs informed//Background information in over 1,000 pages long//plus signs represent the forwarded items from last year//this year will be a full conference rather than the shorter one last year//Jerry will not bring back forwarded items if there isn't anything new about them//we have narrowed down the Agenda Items to about 20//there will be a workbook with a summary of the background information for discussion which will be ready at least one week prior to the workshops//when would you like the Committee summaries before the Workshops? Yes, I would like to get them as you have something ready, send it to me!//Could the Newsletter Committee help with some items? Yes, I have several items I didn't know who to give to, so that would be great!//

- **DCM/Committee Chair Training Session:** Blaine-Reminder that a week from Saturday is our DCM/Committee Chair training sessions//we have many presentations outreach and recruitment and technology being a couple of them//effective Communication by Bill S//talk on service opportunities//9-12am

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

**District 1:** Brian-

**District 2 :**Jeremy- NR

**District 3:**John:

**District 4: Maureen** we met and there were 8 present//we went thru the Area 8 Website and Conference Timeline//discussed what the meeting after the meeting was like.

**District 5:** Dave F

**District 6:** Maire: very smooth transition from Natalie//I have posted our Zoom info on the website//we are small//trying to increase the GSR attendance//we have guest speakers for the next 12 meetings//all are welcome to join our business meeting.

**District 7 Allison:**

**District 8:** Angelina-NR

**District 9:** Lorie W.

**District 10:** .Paul K-D10 doesn't have a DCM currently there are a couple of alternate GSRs//trying to keep it alive

**District 11:** Michele

**District 12:** Kevin

**District 13:** Ronnie;

**District 14:** Patrick; Tom(alt DCM)Hello Everyone,

- Our last District 14 meeting was held January 27<sup>th</sup> - we commenced with the Declaration of Unity. -

We went through introductions.

- We celebrataed an sobriety anniversary – Tom F celebrated 17 years on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. -

We read "Why we Need A Conference", Tradition 1 long form, and Concept 1. - We had a

Treasurer's Report and District 14 is in good standing financially.

- Regarding indiividual Group reports:

1) "What's Great?" (a Women's Zoom Meeting) is growing and getting more organized. There are no issues to report. They now have about 20 members that show up.

2) The Peer Group has no issues to report.

3) Harmony Group is doing well. The meeting is on Zoom only at this time. The Church was robbed and bandalized. They are still paying rent to the Church. There are many brand new Newcomers these days.

4) Women in Harmony is on a new Zoom platform starting in January and it is now listed on the Central Office web site. New people are also coming to this meeting. They are meeting soon to talk about how to get some more people involved in service in the Zoom meeting. They also discussed the upcoming use of technology equipment to have hybrid meetings. Perhaps different meetings may share the equipment amongst themselves so that multiple groups can have a hybrid meeting. 5) Evening Serenity is holding meetings in-person and also on Zoom. Both of these daily meetings are running simultaneously. 10 – 15



people attend nightly at the physical clubhouse and 20 – 50 people attend nightly on Zoom.

6) Wednesday Women's Big Book Study has no issues.

7) Some other GSR's were not present at this January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Alternate DCM Election: Tom F nominated. It had a second. Vote unanimously approved. -

We read from the Grapevine about the lockdown and the impact, and also read a joke.

- The new Alternate DCM gave a report, and recapped a little of January 21<sup>st</sup> ACM meeting. The main discussion was in regards to the timeline of the Agenda Items for the upcoming Conference.

- We are encouraging participation from unrepresented groups. We have approximately 49 groups in District 14 and currently have approximately 7 GSR's.

- We discussed with our District 14 group members where to find agenda item information on the Delegates Corner within the Area 8 website. Reviewed together the rollout of Agenda items on Feb 15 to General Service members. Discussed the timeline to the conference.

Meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

**District 15:** Marina V.:

**District 16:** Ted: we received \$700 in contributions this year so far//Diana our alt DCM has been a great help//we have several GSRs who have joined Committees//our registrar has done a great job.

**District 17:** Santiago;

**District 18:** Carlos: we are getting together//we were having virtual meetings//and now we are adapting ourselves to what's going on//we want in person Assemblies//we are carrying the message which is our primary purpose

**District 19:** Adrian O.

**District 20:** Flint N: we have 17 or 18 groups continuing to meet in person, 5,6 GSRs and continue to hold our District meetings regularly

**District 21:** Terri- District Summary:

- Terri, our DCM, opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer and GSR Preamble. Welcomed new GSRs, introduced new District officers.

Birthdays:

- Terri celebrated 31 years on January 10th

Last Meeting's Minutes:

- January's Minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

DCM Report

- Terri provided report out from January's ACM. Discussed GSC timeline and workshops coming.

Alt DCM Report

- Kenny reviewed the Motion to adopt the amended Structure and Guidelines.

Treasurer's Report:

- Diana presented the January's treasurer's report which was approved as submitted.
- Ending balance is \$2,137.91.

Registrar:

- No Registrar's report.

Old Business:

- 14 BigBooks and 12&12 left to distribute to newcomers within District 21.
- New GSR gave report on GSR School.

New Business:

- District initiative for outreach to unrepresented meetings. Discussed elevator pitch for seeking out GSRs for meetings that do not have any GSRs. Kenny will work on prompt. Sahara will work on adding Zoom links to meeting sheet for the meetings that do not have it yet.
- Speaker for next meeting - Chair from Policy to review the motion and provide information on how to discuss with groups.
- Approved a motion for the District to send any GSR or officer to PRAASA

GSR Roundtable:

- Good discussions. Main observation is that attendance is declining with the exception of the RBEbers.

The next District 21 meeting will be at 6:30pm on March 4<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. Instructions will be sent out to all as part of the Agenda.

**District 22:** Lynda NP

**District 23:** Shone-

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Accessibilities: Jeffrey** I am excited to be the chair now//we have a meeting every day of the week for the deaf alcoholic//AREa 19 Accessibility Chair joined us last month//they are interested in starting the Gold Can//there is an American/Canadian Remote Community meeting//WE will join with D6 to do a sponsorship workshop that will be tri-lingual English, Spanish, and Sign Language

**Archives-John B.:**

**IT Committee : Paul K.:**

**Armed Services:** Tiffany-

**GrapeVine:** Lynn-The March Grapevine is about making Amends and stories of hope during Covid//there are upcoming magazines that will need articles//the La Vina magazine will have an anniversary coming up

**Finance:** Cindy: I don't have anything else to add//except that Cheryl did a great job on the flow chart.

**Literature:** Sasha.: We just met this last week and we would like to donate libraries to assisted living facilities and other places, recovery homes//Treasurer-you can use your budget however you wish!

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

**Policy:** Ernest D The Policy Committee discussed the comments received at the previous month's ACM and Area Assembly. Comments received to date were distributed to Policy Committee members for review. Policy Chair reached out to individuals commenting on the Draft S&G during the ACM and Assembly to ensure the Policy Committee captured his/her comments. Unfortunately, few people responded. In addition, the Policy Committee is considering hosting a virtual workshop to provide an opportunity for Area 08 AAers to ask questions on the S&G and to better understand the S&Gs when sharing this information with their respective meetings.

**Newsletter: Roxane R.** we had our first meeting with members//we are theming the next newsletter on the Conference//If you want to write an article about the theme of the Conference//GSRs are welcome to submit an article on what they don't know//the Newsletter is digital right now, print it if you wish//Karen has been helping us greatly//email me with any questions

**SD H&I:** Diana: Our online orientation is at the same time as the Area Committee meeting. We have a new leader for this meeting as of this month. Last month (January) there were 7 people in attendance; tonight there were 6 people in attendance when I left to come to the ACM.

We have some H&I Panels going on in person, following the institution's requirements for Covid 19. We have some H&I panels occurring on Zoom. We are also cooperating with North County H&I in making recordings of H&I panels which we offer to any institution wishing to use them. We are also reaching out to our facilities to see if they are in need of literature. We have been reaching out to our Treatment Coordinators to see what we can do to help them with their commitment.

We have several committee positions that are open. If you know of anyone interested in participating in H&I Committee work, please have them contact us through our website: [sdhandi.org](http://sdhandi.org)

We are working on putting together an H&I panel for the San Diego Roundup and we are working on providing input to our Delegate on the Conference Agenda Items in the Corrections.

**Translation:** Richard NP

**Young People's (YPAACC):** Jeremy PI Committee coming up

Please update your committee and district meeting information on the website//esp the Zoom Links//Monty will help

**Closing:** Responsibility Pledge and Serenity Prayer

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.**

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

**Next Assembly:**

On Zoom



