

District 19 Monthly Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2021 6:00 – 7:30

5:45p– Zoom Meeting Opens

6:04p– Meeting is Called to Order

A moment of silence and The Serenity Prayer

6:04p– A moment is observed and a Prayer is prayed.

... (*participants are informed that they retain the autonomy to mute/unmute themselves and are encouraged to do so responsibly.*)

Attendees: (*in order of how they appear on this writer's Zoom Participants list*)

Adrian O. DCM,

Julie O. Treas.,

Kendall B. Secretary

Mo (GSR) We Group,

Rose (GSR) Three Legacies

Ray (GSR) Sober Minded Leather Folk,

Jessica Cole ASL Interp.,

Carolyn D. Beautiful Beginnings,

David A. (GSR) Spiritual Awakenings,

Lizzy H. D19 Registrar/Common Sol. GSR

Caitlyn B. ALT DCM

Rick N. (GSR) Fresh Start Beginners,

Susan C. (ALT GSR) Sky Hi Women's

James F. (GSR) BYOB

Maria C. (GSR) God Squad Too

Beth (ASL GSR) No Barrier

Visitors: n/a ... Invites to be sent to Group Chairs soon, Adrian O. to follow up

Total: 16 souls.

Introductions // Welcome New GSRs//Birthdays:

New GSRs! [insert heart explosions glitter prayer hands here]

Mo, Carolyn D., Maria C

Presenter: n/a

Birthdays: n/a ...silent Zoom Applause and emojis, Hooray for Today.

Recitation of the Declaration of Unity:

"This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; To keep our fellowship united. For on AA's unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come."

6:07p- Secretary Report: Kendall B. ... highlights from January minutes... Positions of Registrar, Alt. Registrar, and Alt. DCM have been filled, Lizzy H., Gordie, Caitlyn B. respectively.

... motion is made to Approve January Meeting Minutes... a second is seconded, all are so moved to unanimously approve.

6:11p – Treasury Report: Julie O., expenses and contributions reviewed... explanation of the necessity and advantages of maintaining subscription to Zoom Business Acct. ... brief clarification between ZOOM subscription and ZOO... a motion from Kendall B. for Dist. 19 to provide Zoo passes to the World Famous San Diego Zoo... motion NOT seconded and dismissed.

... and “ancillary note” from Adrian regarding Dist. expenditures and book-keeping...

6:13p – Registrar Report: Lizzy H. ... to continue efforts and outreach to new GSRs... her contact info is shared... she will be dark for the remainder of the meeting but is lovingly present.

6:15p – Adrian O. conducts A Rousing Review of Recent Orientation Assembly...floor opened for discussion and feedback...

-Ray reiterates the need for GSR's to not repeat things that have always been said in the interest of time efficiency...

-Caitlyn B. concurs...

-Beth (ASL) had difficulty following, provides valuable feedback from an ASL perspective, a bit chaotic and convoluted...

-Rose gently reminds the group that Area Assemblies require the tolerance of Interactive Democracy, encourages communication with Area Chair...

-Caitlyn suggests that people fill out the Area Survey...

-David has questions about the Structure and Guidelines action item...

-Adrian O. provides clarification... discussion ensues... a reminder that all AA members are welcome to attend and although they can't vote, they can certainly give verbal feedback during “open mic” portion of Assemblies... more discussion and clarification...

-Caitlyn B. to reach out in the assistance of communicating with newer GSRs

6:29p- Adrian O. stoically leads an inspired discussion and explanation of the annual GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

[sound cue: Inception horns]

...brief overview of the General Service Structure...list of Agenda Items forthcoming so GET READY TO COLLECT AND FIELD FEEDBACK...

...an invitation to refer to the General Service Manual, PDF provided in most recent email communicate...second use of the word "ancillary" ... more review of GSR responsibilities, significant dates and times, where to find Area Agenda Items... please mark calendars for Pre-Conference Wrksp... March 13th and 14th... GET EXCITED TO READ AND REVIEW... more explanation of the usefulness of Pre Conf. Wrksp in prep. for Pre-Conf. assembly...

timeliness is key and of essence... more explanation and another appeal for all to mark calendar for Pre-Conf. wrksp in preparation for Pre-Conference Assmely in preparation for

THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

[sound cue: brass horns, bass drop]

...Adrian states that he sorry for being long-winded. This statements' voracity is considered, and he is collectively, albeit silently, forgiven *this time*.

6:36p - ALT DCM, Caitlyn B... discussion groups to be facilitated for newer GSRs... is available to help with questions, comments, concerns in regard to Dist. service... the importance of the minority voice...contact info and invitation extended... 619-451-1961... can be reached any time up to 2:55AM but not after...Adrian is encouraged to take personal note.

Adrian expresses gratitude for the new ALT DCM and looks forward to delegating tasks as deemed appropriate.

6:39p Explanation and discussion of PARAASA ("*not you Rose*")

- This years PRAASA will be literally virtual... Adrian bemoans the absence of the buffet dinner... *more importantly* there are informative panels, share sessions, discussions of the varied General Service commitments.... it is "a veritable General Service feast"...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for March 5th - 7th... reimbursement is available for reg. fees... floor is opened for Q&A and discussion...

- Rose (*who will not be silenced, Adrian, how dare you*) shares her experience and enthusiasm for PRAASA... highly recommends attendance and involvement ... ASL is available....

- Susan C. reflects on her illuminating experiences with PRAASA...

- Adrian O. makes motion to cover Reg fees... seconded, all are emphatically moved, the motion is approved.

- www.praasa.org/register

6:44p (*Rick N. has to leave early, apologies, is forgiven...this time*)

6:46p – And now a brief moment for A 7th Tradition Announcement, Julie O. shares Venmo info ...VENMO@DistrictNineteen-SDIAA

6:47p - Review of How to Conduct a "Sharing Session" with focus on helping the new GSRs...Ray is made co-host and shares his screen... the Sharing Session Document/Statement is read aloud by new GSRs Mo, Carolyn D., Maria C., respectively ...

6:51p - (pause to help ASL with technical difficulties) ...
...reading continues and is concluded

6:53p - (*a view of Adrian's chin makes an appearance on camera*)
a practice Sharing Session is executed

...Kendall B. reprise his role as Scribe... Mo will act as "Secretary"...

...parameters and guidelines enumerated and set forth...

...previous practice Sharing Session from Dec. 2020 reviewed briefly by Adrian O.

**(Kendall B. to provide detailed notes in full, please see attached document from Dec. 4th, 2020)*

Sharing Session Topic:

- “Identifying Needs within the District to better assist under-served or under-represented communities...”
- Recognition of need to promote awareness of:
 - Transgender Community or under-represented populations within the existing LGBTQIA Community
 - Hispanic Community with emphasis on LatinX/Transgender crossover within both
- Outreach to homebound, outreach to African American Community...

It is generally agreed upon that a District-Sponsored “Workshop” model would be most effective platform to foster an open discussion...

- Caitlyn suggests a poll be taken... Poll function is not currently available... Kendall B. suggests a broader discussion Underserved Communities within AA with the intent to prioritize needs and interest... time to be set: 15 minutes so that all can share, :30sec shares...

(Maria C. has to leave at 7p, is lovingly excused...this time)

7:00p – Sharing Session begins... going down the Zoom Participant list in descending order:

-Adrian O. ...feels confident in Group Conscience, identifies a personal need to do better in finding and attending meetings of groups identified as “under-served”...

-Ray. ... more clarification of underserved AA groups is needed and warrants a dedicated Dist. Workshop to this end...

-Rose. ... proponent of attending "under-served" meetings, recognizes a personal need to learn more about African Amer. Community...

-Beth (ASL) Some tech. difficulty...is wonderfully persevering... will continue to listen with the dedicated assistance of Jessica C. *(Thank you Jessica C. for your time and talents!)*

-Caitlyn B. ... articulates further the needs and difficulties of serving the Transgender Community... describes encountering predatory behavior at meetings, and how safety issues are of utmost importance...

-David... The Homebound communities... ideas for expansion of ideas to aid outreach... also has encountered difficulties with outreach to Transgender AA members, reflecting Caitlyn’s comments...

-Gordie- ...apologizes for being late *(is collectively forgiven... this time)*...Requests that members from the aforementioned communities relevant to this discussion send a "representative" to provide informed presentations...

further bolstering the idea of a dedicated Workshop...

-Kendall B. ...yields his time, (*just-a-huntin-and-a-peckin-away at the ol' QWERTY...*)

-Susan C. ...concurs with a general invitation to be made to aforementioned communities within the Dist. ... a workshop format could be advantageous...

James F.- (*camera off, ever present, heavy vibe*)

-Mo ... in conclusion reviews and summarizes comments that have been made to this point....concurs with all that has been mentioned...

*(Beth ASL has to leave due to tech difficulties...D**N YOU ZOOM you've won this battle but not the war... ([this writer shakes virtual fist at the sky]*

Adrian suggests a working title for Dist. Workshop: "Celebrating Diversity in..." etc etc with tagline and description TBD ...an Ad Hoc committee be formed...

7:13pm sharing Session completed, an undeniable success!

... IT HAS BEEN DECIDED...workshop will be planned pending further discussion

...Caitlyn B. points out that Meetings To Go is already established to serve "Homebound" AA members... suggest that a "Meetings To Go" be given time at said Workshop for presentation...

...Adrian discusses more ideas of how to conduct a "Diversity Workshop"...

...Ray poignantly notes the overlap of Hispanic/LatinX and Transgender community

Kendall B. to provide Sharing Session notes from both practice Sharing Sessions... December and February respectively.

....Mo muses upon those members of the District that might be tech-averse or tech-challenged etc...

Gordie... speaks to the concerns of older African American AA members...

Caitlyn B. ... more discussion of specific needs and challenges ...general consensus is that topics are specific and varied and MUCH good can be accomplished by focusing on these specifics...

7:20p – TRADITON TWO, as presented by Rose: ... review of poignant "inventory" questions... the spiritual virtues and attributes of honoring an "informed Group Conscience" ...

(... a wonderful presentation in this writer's semi-biased estimation... it's succinctness exceeded only by its authenticity ... this writer muses to himself that a summative title could be: Interactive Leadership in a Recovered Democracy, a dedicated member of AA shares her experience, faith and hope... but this writer has digressed...clearly.)

7:26 - Caitlyn B. to provide Tradition Three in March...

..last check-ins with new GSRs...

7:27 - TWO PRAYERS IN, TWO PRAYERS OUT

...Respons. Pledge...

... Serenity Prayer lead by Mo

7:28 - gratitude and love expressed ... Adrian points out the “hardcore: remain to the bittersweet yet enlightened end... so it is.

[Let it be so noted that it is the opinion of this writer that the needs of the District, as presently constituted, were sufficiently discussed ... Permanent Unity was increased in the spirit of a slow and educational variety.]

(This episode of “District 19, a monthly general service committee meeting” has been trudgingly brought to you by: Service, Recovery, Unity, and Adrian O.’s sober chin.)

[fin]