

Abbreviated July 2021 ACM Minutes

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl (Treasurer)

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.

June 2021	June Actual	YTD	2021 Budget 58,395.00	Variance with Annual Budget
Group contributions:	1,030.72	15,386.90		
Individual contributions:	137.76	2,143.36		
District contributions:				
Total contributions:	1,168.48	17,530.26	58,395.00	40864.74
Total budgeted expenses:	3,826.48	15,799.59		-40,452.36
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	-2,658.00	1,730.67		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	00			
Total expenses:	3,826.48	17,719.31		
Contributions less total expenses:	-2,658.00	-189.05		
Total Cash Balance: June 2021	23,733.64		25% of budget	
Prudent Reserve Balance	5,000.00			

Total Special Line Items

YTD 1,981.24

2021 plan 3,773.75

Questions:

Chairperson's Report: Blaine H. Well, we are in the Summer of A.A. The excitement of the General Service Conference has passed, the planning phase of the budget process has taken place. We still have two months to go before our next assembly. That is a most important one as the Area will choose the officers who are to serve us for the following two years. Yes, Panel 72 is almost upon us.

I do get a sense that there is a bit of a lull in the activity of General Service. Attendance has been down, even at this monthly meeting. Likewise, the attempt to have our DCMs and our Committee Chairs get together on a regular basis has seen a minority of those participating. The good news is that the hand of A.A. is still out there! I have noticed a steady influx of newcomers at both the in-person and virtual meetings which I attend. And a substantial number of those newcomers are sticking around and picking up chips for months and even a year of sobriety. It still works! I am encouraged by the fact that the Grapevine/La Vina Committee and two districts (6 & 19) are planning workshops for next month.

Tonight, we have two very important items on the agenda (of course they are ALL important). The 2022 Area 8 Spending Plan will be formally presented to this body. At that point it can be widely disseminated and taken to the Groups for discussion. Of course, the final say will come from them at the November Budget Assembly.

We will also receive the proposed draft of the Updated Area 8 Structure and Guidelines. This document has been under review and undergoing updates for more than 2 years. The updates reflect motions and activity which have taken place since the current S&Gs were adopted in 2017. Perhaps you do not have the time or are not currently inclined to read through this document. Please DO read the short (2+ pages) cover memo which explains the process and addresses some of the significant changes. It should be understood that this is a fluid document. As noted in the memo the Policy Committee is still asking for your input. Additional information including a workshop on it will take place between now and the anticipated final vote in November.

It is Areas 8's turn to host the Four Area DCM Sharing Session this year. Saturday July 31st 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon is the selected date and time. The content will focus on the theme and items from next year's General Service Conference. DCMs from the participating areas have decided on a PRAASA like format. There will be two speakers, our own Tiffany G., Armed Services Committee Chair, and Billy N., Past Delegate from Area 19 and a Past Class B General Service Trustee. Following the speakers there will be three sessions of open mic sharing on topics for the 2022 Conference.

Zoom for this event: ID: 919 2712 1685 PW: 2021DCM4

Thank you all for your service!

Delegate's Report: Jerry S My name is Jerry, and I am alcoholic. I am currently honored to serve as our San Diego / Imperial Area08 Delegate. I have a very limited reports this month. Since our last meeting, I have visited with 8 Districts and look forward to another 8 over the next two months. The discussion and feedback have continued to assist me in sharpening the presentation and I am grateful for the enthusiastic participation. So, as we in California much like our counterparts across the country and especially in New York begin to tiptoe out of shelter in place orders and begin to taste the sweet sense of normalcy, please know that our General Service Board and the Group Service that our Board provides are still in special need of our collective support. So, here is a little history and a creative idea to help keep the foot on the pedal as we transition out of this challenging chapter in our fellowship and world history: Five years ago, the Oregon Area 58 delegate issued a challenge to Alaska's Area 02 to encourage groups to send an extra contribution to GSO. The amount would cover each member's share of GSO group services. At that time, the annual cost of providing services to groups was \$7.14 per member. Just for fun, the challenge was for each area to collect this amongst its groups and send it to GSO before 7/14. Groups in Oregon and Alaska loved the idea. As flyers circulated, more groups joined in the fun. Other delegates asked for a flyer, and soon the Chairman of the General Service Board called and asked for permission to translate and send flyers to delegates of all the other areas. That first year almost \$20,000 was collected by groups. By the next General Service Conference, even more attention was given to the Financial Report by delegates. They relayed to groups that the Challenge that year was \$7.27 on 7/27, and groups responded with \$76,829 sent back to GSO. Groups started asking their delegate "What's the Challenge date this year?" In 2018 it was \$7.40 on 7/04. The following year it was \$8.06 on 8/06. In the pandemic year of 2020, the cost of group services was not known in time to send out a flyer. But this year we know the cost is \$7.34 and the nearest date is 7/31. I hope members in your area will continue to enjoy this innovative way to unite groups and unify them with Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. Many members have found that it is easier now to make personal online contributions regularly rather than drop it in a separate can at their group, so individual contributions have increased because of the Challenge. That is a good thing, but let's remember that this started out as a group recognition of services received and, as a result, members took up the challenge to support their groups and GSO in a simple and fun way. And, because of the enthusiasm and discussions involved, lots of A.A. members now know that when they receive services from GSO, they have an implied individual responsibility to their group to support those services. So, unless there are any objections, I would like to post the following flyer in support of this effort in unity to the website and challenge each of us (DCM's especially) to spread the word over the next few weeks. Btw, this challenge is specifically annotated when showing the collective contributions from within all Areas. So, let's rock the boat and win one for the Gipper

Alt Delegate's Report: Monty C. I don't have much to report, first planning meeting for an in person event and will know more next month//Committees please let me know if you are willing to do an in person event//we are trying to find out how many of you would like to participate//DCM sharing session on the 31st and please invite your GSRs.//Questions: Is Coordinating Council meeting in person yet-no//

I really do not have much to report tonight. I am currently on my first business trip since PRAASA 2020. Feels good to be on the road. Much of what I would like to report will most likely be reported by the respective committees or the Delegates.

We have our first planning meeting to host an event in person. We are looking at dates and locations at this time. Hopefully by next month, I will be able to give more details. Committees, please let me know if you would be willing to participate in an in-person event? We are trying to get an idea of fun things to do and how many people would like to participate. Yes, this will be a joint event with San Diego Central Office. As previously stated, more info to follow.

I hope to see you at the DCM Sharing Session on the 31st. I hope that all of our DCM will be present. DCM please pass this along to your GSR. Some of them will become DCM in the future. This will be a great event to explore the duties and responsibilities of the position. You will be able to hear different points of view from other DCM from other areas as well.

I have a district visit coming up before the next ACM. I look forward to seeing some of you at meeting around the county.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Old Business:

- **Status Ad-Hoc Committee Area Inventory on Communication:** Shone S.- Shone not present
- **DCM Group:** Terri H.: July meeting was low-6 members attended//we discussed Workshop Planning//all aspects of putting a workshop together//Workshop is coming up in August or September-Accessibility to AA meetings D 6 and D 19//we are open to help and the workshop will be hybrid//
- **Committee Chair Group:** Michael-we only had 3 or 4 members in attendance//we are looking to get a higher number of participants//we had a general discussion//
- **Spending Plan/Budget Presentation to the ACM:** Cheryl F & Cindy H-

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/E2022BareBonesspendingPlanMay20.pdf>

[Spending-Plan-Request-DCMCC-Training.pdf \(area8aa.org\)](#)

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2022ProposedSpendingPlanJun19-3.xls>

There might be another re-allocation this year (2021) for 12 Step work or Area Improvements//there is still about \$3,000 left from unspent monies for 2020 Re-allocation.

After ACM last month the June 2021 version of the spending plan are reflected in the figures//Lynn from GV/LV isn't seeing the correct numbers reflecting her request//

This version needs to be sent out and posted on the website for individuals to form questions for Cheryl//Isn't this supposed to be presented to the ACM for recommendation or not to the groups//to be pushed forward to August ACM-tabled.

- **Structure and Guidelines Revision Draft-Presentation to the ACM:** Ernest D.

[Microsoft Word - \(E\)S&G Cover Memo.docx \(area8aa.org\)](#)

[\(E\)Area S&G - July 7, 2021 - Final Draft-2 \(area8aa.org\)](#)

Comments back to Policy by August 17, 2021 ACM

Workshop on 10/19/21

Approval sought at the November 2021 Assembly

New Business:

- **Four Area DCM Sharing Session-7/31/2 Blaine H.-**

[Spending-Plan-Request-4-Area-DCMSS.pdf \(area8aa.org\)](#)

- **Possibility of an In-Person Budget Assembly-Blaine H.-** how do you all feel about that?//this virus isn't over with and more and more people who are not vaccinated are getting the virus//I recommend we do this Assembly in Zoom format//I am in favor of in person based on current guidelines, that we can gather safely, we should plan for an in person Assembly but vote in October whether to have it in person or not//there are official guidelines in place and they are relaxed and it is important for us to make this decision as a group//we should at least have it hybrid for those who are health challenged//I am in agreement that we meet in person, but we should be prepared if circumstances don't permit meeting in person//we don't want to exclude persons to the assembly if they are concerned with meeting in person and miss the Assembly//let's plan for this at the next ACM//Blaine will send out the format for putting on an Assembly so DCMs can see what it involves.