

General Service District 11 Panel 71

October 1, 2022, 10:00AM

Meeting ID: 87300225118

Passcode: D11dbm2022

Opening of Meeting- Serenity Prayer

Tradition 10 – Joe T

Concept 10 – Elisabeth B.

Birthdays: Thelma 28 Years!!

GSR Take Back: Thanks Devyn for your take back. Jo M. volunteers for next month.

Visitors: Miguel H – CNCA06 Chair

New GSR's: None this month

Introductions (in attendance): Elisabeth B- DCMC; Jeff D.- DCM 002, Chair of Web Committee, Web Editor; Sandy S- DCM 001; Michael M.- DCM 003; Jo M.- GSR Tuesday Big Book Meeting, H&I and Intergroup Liasson, Ad Hoc Finance Committee; Annelise GSR Never Too Young, Alternate GSL NAPYPAA; Charlotte T.- GSR Serenity on Saturday; Chris W Recording Secretary; Devyn- GSR Friday Night Candlelight; Doug M.- GSR Saturday Men's Stag; Joe T.- GSR Crosstalk at Crosswalk, Beginners Meeting Chair; Kelly G.- GSR New Life Women's Group; Laura K.- GSR Day at a Time; Mary N.- GSR Talking Stick, Registrar; Thelma – GSR Sunday Tucker Farm; Thom H.- GSR Sunday Night Big Book Study, Treasurer

Approval of Minutes: Approved

Officer Reports:

- **DCMC- Elisabeth B-** Attended Pacific Regional Forum. Was an inspiring opportunity and I learned how to reach those still suffering. Was packed. We presented topics from our region. I shared on experiences with virtual 12 step work. I also attended a sharing session about participation. They wanted people to dance and some people didn't. The chair asked for a minority opinion on why they didn't want to dance. Got to hear from the General Service Board Trustees. They are volunteers and work very hard. Much of the information will be in the final conference report. Our delegate Jennifer has good information about that report. There is also a link, let me know if the link works. If you have questions about the topic results the answers are in the report. I'm grateful to represent our district. I will request funding for travel to the event. I would like to make it a reoccurring item instead of discretionary.

- **Alt DCMC/PICPC Chair– Open**

Elisabeth- I have been participating in district and area levels. On Thursday I went to the health and recovery fair. We greeted professionals in the community. Probation wants us to give a presentation. As a member it is huge for us and AA in our community. Clinic Ole is open to carrying literature in their offices. Think about this position in the next election.

- **DCM 001- Sandy S-** We had a sub district meeting covering the third legacy. The topic came from a GSR. It went well. I went to the Pacific Regional Forum. Good group from Napa went. Got to fellowship. Last Saturday I went to the Sharing Session and I learned about Working Groups. Chase C gave a presentation. I was not aware what this was. There is info in the Manual. Chase is on a group for the New Pamphlet for African Americans in AA. She was asked by a trustee to be on the committee. They are putting together stories about peoples experience strength and hope in AA to better reach out to future members. They are coming to the end of the working group. Happy to discuss with anyone interested.

- **DCM 002 – Jeff D-** Happy to help with going to business meetings. Went to a meeting with a group in Napa about safety. The discussion will be ongoing. I also went to the Regional Forum. Great program and fellowship. I got to sit with that Trustee on the airplane. My take back is that when you're talking in the hallways that is where you get a lot of information. I attended some of the workshops around the web. With Zoom Meetings, have a standard format for naming yourself. Encourage people to turn off their phones. Turn off your own image, it can distract you and it will help you to focus on the group. Next month I encourage you to go to the Sharing Session. They will discuss Sub Districts. Meeting will be in person and online from Petaluma.

- **DCM 003-** Michael M- I didn't make the forum. I went to the previous one in Santa Clara. I went to the Area Meeting. It was good to see Laura. Eric gave a job description. The delegate will give a description next month. There are different committees and they were good presentations. Molly will share at the upcoming session. Next one will be in Vacaville.

- **Secretary -Chris W-** Nothing to Report

- **Treasurer- Thom H-** Share screened the September Treasurer Report. Credits and Debits outlined. Reimbursements made. Equipment purchased but still need the hotspot. A couple of outstanding checks from Unity Day. Our bank statement is current as of the 16th. There is an outstanding check for the CNCA 06 check. It is not on the statement but has cleared. There is an unidentified error of \$16. Bank statement send to all via email. Submit for disapproval.

Treasure's Report Approval- Approved

- **Registrar- Mary N.-** I have all the database updated. There were some address changes but all is up to date.

- **Archives –** Open. Chris W will send minutes from our panel to the Archives.

- **Literature –** Open

- **Beginners Meeting- Joe. T –** Meeting is doing well. There were 10 people there yesterday. Charlotte is doing a great job. Need to order some literature and will connect with Thom.

- **Bridging the Gap- Teresa V-** unable to attend.

- **Intergroup Liaison- Jo M-** AANAPA.org is the place to go. There is a lot of information there. Halloween/Anniversary event upcoming. Thanksgiving and New Year's Alcahons are covered. Need a Christmas chair. Need hotline volunteers. Alt Chair and Secretary positions open. The birthday meeting needs a coffee person.

- **H&I Liaison**- Jo M- Recovery Resource fair. Six-month sobriety requirement for going to meetings. Center Point needs a coordinator chair. That and the Shamaya house are the most active for meetings. Jail.

- **Tech Committee**- Jeff D- Serving as the district editor and the chair of the napa group that is an outside entity. A lot going on. Our website is experiencing difficulties. There was an attachment, some plugins were corrupted the upcoming events and other sections dropped off. We have a new member Alex W. He is very adept. Safety and stability of the website is our main concert. There will be another layer of security for sending messages. We changed the admin URL. Screen shared upcoming meeting schedule. It has filters including day of the week. Google sheets will still be available. The new system will be going live in November. Currently testing for stability. Having trouble with groups not having a specific location. Actively getting website up to speed. We are looking at a new theme with more efficiency and security and stability.

- **NAPYPAA Liaison** – Annelise- had to leave meeting early.

- **Financial Oversight Committee**- Jo Moore. – I was appointed as the chair. Kudos to Jeff and Sandy for working on the Budget and Thom for doing the treasury position. Sandy will present the proposed budget.

Sandy- Thank you for sending everyone the proposed budget. Jeff screen shares the proposed budget. I have this titled as the working budget. When we present to the district it is presented for disapproval. I will review with the Group and if there are no objections it will become the 2023 budget. We have a side by side with the 2022 budget, we did a line-by-line review. Some things were increased and some were decreased. We have some excess of the prudent reserve. What we had at the time of preparation was an older figure. It is broken down quarterly. Outlined are expected group contributions, we have estimated cash on hand as well. Expenses are broken down quarterly. Review of individual line-item adjustments. Some things like paper copies were reduced. There are reductions for the DCMC and DCMs for copying. There are projections for travel expenses. We know where PRASSA will be, flight will be cheaper than driving so we used those amounts. There is an increase due to moving to in person/hybrid. There was a doubling of that expense (40%). Archives expenses are covered so we budgeted for that even though we don't have an archivist currently. Outlined budget projections for other entities. BTG had a request for printing. Literature was increased, we removed copies, left small stipend for supplies, funds for the Grapevine. Added copy and supply funds for Registrar. We did not previously have a web/tech line item. This will be needed so we added it into the budget, Wi-Fi supplies, Zoom. Hot spot estimated in as Wi-Fi. Totals for committees, events (Unity Day), workshop. Total expenses and discretionary item totals outlined. Discretionary items not included but will be if and when there is a request. There could be a partial contribution for PRASSA. One year we received funds from Intergroup and funded 10 GSRs \$200 each to attend. There is no forum in even numbered years.

Jeff D.- for clarification, in web/tech we made an assumption of costs for Zoom and equipment. Under Travel there is housing included with air fare according to the Financial Guidelines, meals not included. We replicate the Area's reimbursements.

- **Presentation of 2022-2023 budget for disapproval**

No objections. This becomes the Budget for 2023.

• **AD Hoc – Hybrid Committee-** Thom H – Noting to report. Laura has stepped up for this committee. Looking at where we will have our meeting. Laura has become the point person.

Laura K- We met and brainstormed for locations. I divvied them up and we will call the places. We made a criterion of what we were looking for. I have not gotten around to making the calls. Looking to make the calls in the coming month. We haven't come up with a deadline. I will contact Walter and Sandy and follow up.

Sandy- I didn't get around to it either.

Thom- the church First Presbyterian in St. Helena. They are open for that.

Joe T.- this late in the panel do we continue to move forward with this or leave it to the new panel. The decision could be made by the next panel as to meeting format.

Elisabeth- if we don't come up with anything or make a decision it would be left for the next panel. We had voted for hybrid and purchased equipment.

Kelly G- I shared at the Beginner's Meeting with the Hybrid setup. There was a virtual attendee. The set up was really good. Good job to those who worked on this. They came through clearly. They had a view of myself looking at the screen which took getting used to.

Elisabeth- We will continue with this.

Break

Reopen with Serenity Prayer

• **Visiting Area Officer- Miguel H-** CNCA06 Area Chair will share on his experience as Chair of CNCA06 this Panel

Our Area goes from King City all the way to Oregon. I would like to make some announcements. The address change for Area Correspondence:

**California Northern Coastal Area 06
1390 N. McDowell Blvd Suite G
Petaluma CA 94954**

Current elections will be upcoming.

My experience with Area Chair, I don't know where to start. My job description is 7 pages. It has been a busy 2 years. I have been serving at the chair for almost 2 years. It has been an honor. When I first started as a GSR I didn't know what I was doing. I started to get involved. I encouraged to continue at a forum in 2000. I started coming back. When I was elected as the chair, I didn't consider myself the most qualified. I wasn't the most tech or document savvy guy. In leadership there is a saying to lead by example. It will cause people to want to help them with their job. A lot of people have helped me as the Chair. The theme at the conference was beyond fear. While attending, a past trustee mentioned that their struggle with having to step down at a conference. There are people that are still sick. It gives me hope that I don't have to be perfect. I arrived at AA very damaged. I saw the joy of living on the people. They always talked about service. I was very scared. I was filled with anxiety. I didn't belong. People

were talking about service. They were patient with me. Even today people are patient with me. I was the best coffee maker. As the GSR the people had a position for me. There was a position for me when I arrived. I wasn't that great even with the translations. One of the hardest situations was transitioning after the pandemic. People responded to keeping meetings accessible. The same year we created the technology committee. God bless Nick, our former tech chair.

As chair I got to hear conflicts. Decisions from the groups to remain open. We didn't know what to do or how to handle virtual meetings. Some of the discussions and dialogs were desperate. I realized that I am not in charge, the Area is. We listened to peoples experiences. We worked with fear and without fear and you get the same results, the work is the work. Let new people know that there were people doing the work to keep them sober. We kept people connected. The Forums and conferences were super exciting and it was a spiritual boost. I learn to not take myself too seriously. It took practice, I can't break AA. Also don't take others too seriously. We all have opinions to share. I look at what I can do and see if there are amends that I need to make.

This year while reading the background material for the assemblies I received a text with a link to different big books in different languages. There was a meeting in 15 minutes, there were international members, at this meeting I recognized my sponsors face. There were members from Ukraine, they were in the capitol, another was evacuated. A missile hit while he was in the meeting. Other members encouraged him, someone shared a video of a missile hitting his house. He was happy to see us and didn't know when he would be able to get back online. No one expressed opinion about the political situation, everyone was just there to support. This was the legacy of the past of AA. It is a legacy of the Unity of AA and the lives to come.

I have been doing translations. I have to get good rest. I have to print copies. I have to do the tech setup. I have to make a script to keep track of my presentation. All this happens monthly. You have to be aware of mistakes and aware of miracles as well.

These have been the highlights of my service. After being a new member afraid of the meetings. I was scared to even go to the bathroom as a newcomer. I am not scared anymore. I see a coffee maker as someone helping the fellowship. Coffee service is the most important position in AA. Thank You.

Elisabeth- I have definitely appreciated your presence as the Chair and it has helped me with my position.

Sandy- Thank you Miguel. I admire your humility and action. I was never good with languages, just a few years ago you were not an English speaker. You are a grace to watch. I appreciate your service, amazing story about the AA meeting in the Ukraine. Very touching knowing their situation and knowing AA is still alive and well.

Laura K- Thank you Miguel, I had less than a year when COVID hit and was able to stay sober through Zoom and all the work put in behind the scenes. I started in General Service before I had two years. It has carried me, whenever I am doing a commitment, it is a we experience. I used to have to be a leader in my profession and it was a lonely place to be. Being in AA surrounded by humility has been an incredible learning experience. I see the transformation in others. Seeing the HP in action in every decision and all that happens in synchronicity with the miracles that happen. You have been a person that I see frequently in Area and one of the first people I began to recognize outside of my district.

Michael M.- Thank You Miguel. I can relate. I started with coffee. I make the best coffee; I have also been a greeter. What is next for you?

Miguel- I will make myself available and see what is out there for me. I will raise my hand and see what happens.

Jo, M- Thank you, I first met you when you were doing literature, I can't image taking it on with the language barrier. In your current position- to have people disagree, you have done it with grace. Wonderful thank you so much.

• **Officer Responsibility Description** - At our November District Business Meeting, we will elect new officers for the next panel. Each month until November, we will hear from district members, share their experience. Today we will hear from Jo who will share her experience as Liaison, and Elisabeth will share information about the Literature chair and "What is a voting member?" in this district:

Jo M.- Intergroup and H&I Liaison – go to the meetings and take notes to bring to the other meetings, it facilitates communication. There is the wonderful website. You can ask for help when needed.

Literature/Grapevine- There are a range of media that the GV uses to reach out to people. It is a wonderful opportunity for participation. You can go to the Area Committee Meeting and hear about General Service and bring it back to our district. Business meetings for the Area are suggested. District meeting required. Attend Area Assemblies, facilitate communications, order literature. A lot of what you need to do is provide PICPC literature for their service. Collaborate with the GSRs for their literature needs. Many groups like to offer literature. If there are further questions ask me.

We don't have protocol on who can vote but we rely on the traditions on who can vote. Alternate DCMC votes at the district but not at Area unless DCMC unavailable. GSRs are welcome to participate in the election process. If you know anyone that would like to be of service invite them to the elections next month.

• **Housekeeping motion**- Housekeeping Motions: A motion of a routine nature dealing with administrative or purely formal matters necessary to expedite House business. If there is an objection this will become new business next month

• **House Keeping Motions** – Request discretionary item in budget for the district to fund the DCMC to go to the Pacific Regional Forum

Any objections?

Jeff- not objecting but clarifying. Are you asking that the upcoming forum be included or for a current reimbursement?

Elisabeth- I would like it to be recognized for future DCMCs. Also seeking a reimbursement for this Forum.

Sandy- what was the Amount?

Elisabeth- \$265.

Sandy- just so everyone knows, this was already approved in the budget.

Thom- is these two items? A line item and a reimbursement.

Elisabeth- just the reimbursement for now. But I would like it to be consistent for the future to be included in the budget.

Jeff- it only occurs once per panel, we do it as a discretionary item with funds available. It is usually requested prior to the event. It got lost in the shuffle and I don't object. It is not a required event.

Jo. - we are over our prudent reserve. We have always been ok. The importance of knowing there is financial backup will make more people available.

Elisabeth- I understand that it is an important piece for people that may not be able to attend.

Motion to Reimburse DCMC Approved

Experiences with the Regional Forum

Joe T- The forum was a fun trip. I got the most out of the First night. Molly, a nonalcoholic trustee spoke. I first realized that the trustees and people from the GS Board are unpaid. I had never considered that before. She gave her history. She was in an alcoholic marriage and is now engaged to a sober alcoholic. It filled my heart with how the non-alcoholics want to help us. There was a presentation of the non-Alcoholics that served on the board. There are pillars of our history that were non-alcoholic. They learn life skills from the principals of AA. I find it cool that someone said, God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called.

Laura K- I love that quote as well. My sponsor told me that quote. We learn as we go. As far as the conference, experiencing the upside-down triangle in action and meeting those at the point. Seeing everything on the point. Getting to hear them share and see them in action and knowing that they have gone through their own growth as have I, and progressing. My experience is that my HP works through other people. Being in sobriety and being social and then seeing the conference, it was seeing my HP in action. I went in with an open mind. It was eye opening. My favorite part was the what's on your mind. It was mind and heart opening.

Joe T- The other thing I wanted to share was that the corrections correspondence group is needing help (Spanish) it is important since H&I isn't going in. I wrote a note that there is a Cooperation with the Elderly Committee. Our district may need to create this kind of group for outreach.

Elisabeth- this could be a focus for the next PICPC person. When we have a committee there is an opportunity to bring in literature and pamphlets into these places.

• Old Business –

1. **Venue for Hybrid District meetings – discussed above.**

• New Business-

Discussion:

- Tech Committee Job Descriptions, and whether the Tech Committee should include the Web committee and members assume responsibilities based on need

Jeff- They are two separate jobs. I propose that it is named as one committee to avoid procedural overload. Inside the committee there would be two job descriptions, one for each position.

Elisabeth- we will continue to discuss in December. To be presented as new business.

- **format for hybrid meeting**

Item for discussion we could continue.

- **Pass it on**, any materials that are District 11 literature, pamphlets or materials can be stored at the Storage shed at Crosswalk Church. (Flash drives too)

- **What's on your mind**

Sandy- Motion to close the meeting.

- **Next Business Meeting – November 12 at 1:30pm / Sub District meeting at 12:30pm**

Close with the Responsibility Statement