

District 47 Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2023

This is a hybrid and Zoom meeting with members participating from various locations, including the Central Office in Exeter.

Meeting Called to Order: 7:06 p.m. by DCM Allen L.

Committee: Allen L., DCM; Ralph D., GSR for Bridge Street Drunks Only Group; Jim K., Recording Secretary, GSR for Monday Men's Stag; David G. GSR for the Friday Freedom Fellowship. Ally A., GSR for the Sat women's 12 x 12; Mike C., GSR for the Friday Night Pine Recovery Meeting, Sean A., GSR Practicing the Principles; Fred F., GSR for Unity through Tradition Group at Alano Club.

The GSR Preamble was read by all attendees. "We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A. We realize the ultimate authority in A.A. is a Loving God as he may express himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that the groups can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our groups and A.A. as a whole."

12 Traditions: read by David G.

Concept 12: Concept 2 long form read and explained by Allen L.

Approval of Minutes: Jan. 4, 2023 minutes approved. Correction was made regarding Josh F., treasurer, not secretary.

Treasurer's Report: Josh F. was absent. A check was written for \$400 for annual rent to Central Office for our meeting. Mike C. was reimbursed \$446.25 for travel and registration for the Winter Assembly meeting. Updates on balances and income will be reported next month.

CSO Liaison Report: David G.

Our January CSR (Tuesday the 10th) (2023-01-10) meeting was a hybrid meeting, with one member joining via Zoom. There were fifteen members present. Our new landlord installed a motion light so we will have better visibility toward the street for people who attend meetings at night. Central Office finances: for November 21 through December 20, Central Office had an income of \$7,216.08 and expenses of \$2,808.49 for a gain of \$4,407.59. The Big Book is still on sale for \$9.83 for the hard cover. Sara is working on starting a Bridging The Gap committee; the first meeting date will be scheduled soon. (By now, it has been). The Lindsay Fireside Fellowship group is now officially dark: the church where it was held has closed. That was the last English speaking meeting left in Lindsay. There was no old business or new business; but we started talking about plans for the Founders Day picnic, the golf tournament, and (perhaps) a New Year's Eve party.

Registrar: Our new registrar David G. No report.

H&I Report: Rafael D.

Tulare County H&I continues to bring H&I Panels twice a month to Turning Point, Pine Recovery, and Mothering Heights Women's Recovery. Once a month we take panels to the Mental Health Transitions Living Facility. H&I Panels are continuing in Corcoran SATF and Avenal Prisons along with the Tulare County Jail. At our January 14, 2023 Area Meeting, we welcomed Violet Q. as our new Recording Secretary, discussed utilization of current volunteers and welcomed three new volunteers who attended orientation. Our Area Chair position remains open. We are also holding zoom orientations as needed on even months. We will be looking to expand to other facilities in the area to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. At the Regional level, Fresno Area 92 continues to expand their meetings and are growing in their volunteers and leadership team. Madera/Mariposa Area 91 remains active in the Chowchilla Prisons and Mariposa is once again active in Mariposa County Jail and Mt. Bullion Fire Camp. At our January 28, 2023 NorCal Committee Meeting, we welcomed Area Chairs to our voting body and had a very interactive meeting sharing ideas and supporting the Areas. The IVSS Program which offers one on one sponsorship to inmates is growing. Currently, this program has 112 inmates on its roster and is in need of more volunteers as San Quentin currently has 38 inmates waiting for sponsors. This program is in the process of being added to the GSO Corrections handbooks as it has been proven to be transferrable. We will also begin on a trial basis rolling this program out to County Jails and Treatment Facilities. This will provide the opportunity to provide sponsorship to confined alcoholics in more facilities. While this program operates under the H&I umbrella, volunteers who participate as an IVSS sponsor do not participate in H&I panels at the same facility. This policy helps to avoid confusion of the purpose of the two programs. Our next in-person orientation will be March 11, 2023 9:00 am followed by the Area Business Meeting at 10:00 am at 526 N. Bridge Street, Visalia (BSDO meeting place).

DCM Report: Mike C., Alternate DCM attended the Winter Assembly meeting.

Pre-Conference D37: Gavin stated they have secured location in Tracy

Post-Conference D15 (Chico): The post conference will be held at Lincoln High School and online registration will be available in a few weeks.

Finance Committee: Don H. stated the committee met and Prudent Reserve will go from 8k to 14k. The webpage has been updated and will be unveiled this weekend. (Feb 7) The new website will have a calendar on it where the ACM meetings will be added and the zoom link for attending.

Delegate Report: Jenn D. Jenn discussed the importance of the GSR and as trusted servants of AA we need to remember that the future of AA is in our hands. GSRs and Home groups are the leadership of AA. Our job as

GSRs is to take information shared at assemblies back to our home groups to get their input from Agenda Items than bring back our group's conscience to the pre-conference assembly.

There are 180 agenda items at the conference which are being discussed that will go forward, and half are related to literature.

Translation process for the Agenda Items is about 80% complete in English, Spanish, and French. The agenda items and background will be available by mid-February.

DCMs and GSR should hold an agenda item workshop and need to get a group conscience before the pre-conference assembly in April.

Prepare questions for Jenn and the board and what they mean for AA.

DCM when hosting a workshop, we should ask the GSR from fellowships which items they would like more clarity about.

Some people may not have a computer or access to print we should inform our groups as best we could regarding agenda items and background information.

Bring our groups conscience and speak about who was in favor and who was not, tell why they were not in favor of the agenda topic.

There was not a preliminary agenda released in October this year.

The agenda topic items will be as follows: "Review, Discuss, Consider"

The 5th edition will be the same the only changes that will occur is the stories in the back.

There were over 1400 stories submitted for the 5th edition, if groups have an idea of the type of stories that should be included such as LGBT, Transgender to inform the delegate at the pre-conference assembly.

There will be a plain language pamphlet printed for the big book. There are currently 6 chapters that have been translated and will be made available at the conference in late April.

Three items regarding changes to the twelve-by-twelve did not come out of committee.

Old Business: Our delegate Jenn will be attending our Agenda Item Workshop on March 19! We have the Recovery Club in Porterville reserved for the meeting, but it may end up some place else. We are looking for an Event Chair, Food Committee chairman, Publicity Chair, and other positions. The event needs a title, also. Many positions were assigned at the meeting.

New Business: None

Seventh Tradition: None

Announcements: None

DECLARATION OF UNITY: Read by all: “This we owe to A.A.’s future: To place our common welfare first, to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.”

RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION: “I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that, I am responsible.”

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim K, Recording Secretary