

**District 47, CNIA
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2024**

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

Meeting Called to Order: 7:03 PM by District Committee Member (DCM) Mike C.

Committee members present:

Dusty B., GSR for the Springville Thursday Night Gut Level Group
Fred F., GSR for Unity Through Traditions
Laura B., GSR for the Springville Monday Night Book Study
Leah W., GSR for Bridge Street Drunks Only
Mike C., DCM
Allen L., Treasurer
David G., Recording Secretary and Central Office Liaison

Permission requested from all present that this meeting be recorded for the recording secretary's benefit.

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 Allen L.

Concept 11: Concept 11 long form read and explained by Mike C.

Approval of Minutes: October 1, 2024, minutes reviewed and approved: all in favor, none against.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance: \$3,745.62

INCOME

Date	Description	Amount
10/11/24	Unity Thru Traditions Group	\$100.00
10/11/24	Civic Center Group	\$38.90
10/11/24	Practicing the Principles	\$75.00
10/25/24	Tuesday Women Amity Group	\$49.90
		=====
	Total Income:	\$263.80

EXPENSES

Date	Description	Amount
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10/13/24	Mike C. DCM – Mini PRAASA	\$303.76
		=====
	Total Expense:	\$303.76

Ending Balance: \$3,705.66

CSO Liaison Report: David G.

Our October CSR Meeting was held on October 8th. The meeting was a hybrid meeting, both in-person and on Zoom.

Central Office finances: for August 21st through September 20th, Central Office had an income of \$4,507.82 and expenses of \$4,819.88 for a loss of \$312.06. Our balance was \$14,452 with a prudent reserve of \$19,000.

Old business:

1. How to get the word out about what Central Office is and does?
2. We would like to hold a Service Fair or Workshop where each of the organizations and Ninth Tradition Service committees get to present what they do. Central Office, District 47, H&I, PI, BTG., perhaps CNIA.

New business:

1. Grasshopper texting service to remind members of upcoming committee meetings.

Announcements:

Springville Second Sunday Breakfast Speaker Meeting in November 10th.

New Year's Eve planning meeting October 8th, immediately prior to the CSR meeting, in-person and on Zoom. Planning meeting will start at 5:00 PM, and go to 6:00 PM. Flyers and tickets are available at Central Office. It will be a gala event with gourmet food.

Registrar: Josh F. no report

H&I Report: Supplied by Joyce R. and presented by Mike C.

November, 2024 H&I Report

The only purpose of the Northern California Hospital and Institution Committee is to carry the message of AA to alcoholics in corrections and treatment facilities and facilities serving alcoholics in Northern CA. In Tulare County (NorCal Area 93) we continue to meet this purpose by holding AA meetings in 8 treatment facilities, the Tulare County Jail, Avenal, Corcoran and SATF Prisons. In December we will be adding another facility to our roster.

We make AA literature available (Big Books, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, Daily Reflections, Living Sober in English, and Spanish) upon request. The literature is given directly to our inside members for them to keep. Literature is not given to the facility to distribute. The literature is purchased with funds collected in the pink cans passed at meetings.

We continue to need more volunteers. Monthly we cover our commitments in the 8 treatment facilities with an average of 28 volunteers. In Tulare County Jail, Avenal, Corcoran and SATF Prisons, we are above to cover about ¼ of the meetings due to a lack of cleared volunteers. Please share this information with your groups and send any interested AA members to our next Orientation listed below. If an AA member is interested and wants to discuss this further prior to that date, I can be contacted at handiarea93@gmail.com or Central Office can provide my phone number.

As with other service entities, our monthly expenses remain constant while contributions vary. At the end of September, we ran into the negative for the month but were still positive year to date. At our recent Committee Meeting, our 2025 budget was approved and we will be adjusting our prudent reserve and 3 months prior year cash on hand to reflect our current expenses. It is projected that this will put us below our recommended 6 months cash on hand. It would be helpful if all groups would pass the pink can and have their Treasurer send the money in monthly. If your group does not have a Pink Can, please contact Central Office or me. Our financials are posted on our website at www.handinorcal.org and locally on the H&I page of the Tulare County website at www.aa-tulareco.org. There is also a link to email the treasurer with any questions group or members may have regarding the financial position.

Our next in-person orientation: November 9, 2024; 9:00 am; at 526 N. Bridge Street, Visalia, CA 93291 followed by our business meeting at 10:00 am. This information is also listed on the Tulare County Website at www.aa-tulareco.org.

In Service,

Joyce R., Area 93 Chair

DCM Report: Mike C. attended the Mini PRAASA

Matt Delegate Report:

Discussed when he attended his first general service meeting and how it made an impact in his service work for his home-group and fellowship. That first experience had a lasting impact on his sobriety and service work. Since the General Post Conference in May he has spoken at 21 district events across the area. He also recently spoke at the NCAA Nor Cal Conference. He distributed boxes of the post conference assembly reports from AA World Services. He asked that we do not share information in the handbooks to anyone outside of AA. There is also a digital copy online at CNIA.org Delegate Page.

Matt mentioned that the Grapevine subscriptions have increased recently and asked if groups and AA members can continue to purchase subscriptions, so it becomes self-supporting.

He asked that all AA members, GSRs, and DCMs to read the Post Conference reports from the recent General Conference.

The website in the CNIA.org has a new page call "What's New" please look and see information about area events. The AA World Conference Registration is open and under the What's New section you can click on the registration link and get more information if interested in attending. To get more block rooms for members to stay. AA World Conference registration is closing soon please consider registering as soon as possible it is \$160 per person, and you should register before getting a room.

Internation Convention Update: There are over 22,000 registrations so far of members attending and the room blocks have all been sold out already. Staff in AAWS is reaching out to other hotels.

PRAASA 2025 registration will open at end of November. It will be in Alaska next year.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding the plain and simple language big book is now on AA.org.

There is new literature being released for people to purchase and read. The new piece is called "Black in AA" will be coming out soon.

AAgrapevine.org Complete subscription has over 22,000n archived stories online. There are also audio clips that are great for listening while driving. In the past year there has been over 13,00 new subscriptions.

Don H Treasurer Report:

We need to be prudent in our funds; what services are essential and what services are not?

Where is there redundancy? We voted to keep the mileage rate reimbursement rate at .67 cents per mile.

Last year Area voted and approved to increase funds for Archives for rent and new location. In June it was approved and July Area initiated the Area Spending Plan for 2024 vs 2025 and found that we were 15-20k over revenues.

In August and September, we held group conscience to be held at group/district meetings to ask the fellowships what are the best ways we can close the gap?

Step A: Move translation fees to Area Assembly registration and add \$5 per person to cover costs.

Step B: Reduce PRAASA to just allow the delegate to attend. Also, we discussed sending Delegate to International Conference.

We also considered the special conferences - BTG, Technology, Grapevine/La Vina, and Archives. Many of the chairs stated that they get a lot out of attending the special conferences and helped with improving their knowledge in the Area.

Step C: We considered reducing the mileage rate from .67 to .60 and the committee has agreed to keep at .67 per mile.

Step D: Reduce the costs of printing Accents and just make the report all digital.

Step E: Increase contributions from groups to support Area 7. There has been a steady of contributions over the past 10 years.

Proposed Budget Plan FY 2025

There were many concerns regarding adding all members to attend the PRAASA in Alaska they felt that it was not necessary to send that many of the Area staff to attend.

Some DCMs, and GSRs also were concerned with changes made by adding them back to the updated

budget when they had originally had them removed during the August and September meetings when Don held budget meetings. During those meetings it was proposed to only send six members not all twelve members.

Overall the FY2025 budget was reduced by \$30,000 from 2024 and it was approved.

Sunday we held round table discussions and provided feedback on various questions on group conscious discussions.

Mike did bring back from Mini PRAASA a list of group inventory questions, if anyone wants to take them to their group.

GSR Reports:

Leah W., GSR for Bridge Street Drunks Only. The group is going steady. We did discuss sending Leah to the Winter Assembly in Sonora, hosted by District 33, January 18 and 19, 2025.

Dusty B., GSR for the Springville Thursday Night Gut Level Group: Nothing to report.

Laura B., GSR for the Springville Monday Night Book Study: We are reading *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. We read one Step, then read one Tradition, and flop between them. We are still talking about doing a group inventory.

Fred F., GSR for Unity Through Traditions, Wednesdays at 5:30 PM at the Visalia Alano Club. We're going through the book *Experience, Strength, and Hope*. We've had at least ten people show up every week; one week we had more people than books.

Brandon L., GSR for Friday Freedom Fellowship: Things are going well.

Old Business: none

New Business:

1. Discuss District 47 Bylaws – Open discussion
 1. We will scan them to electronic form so they can be posted to the web site and accessed from anywhere.
2. Nominations for D47 1-year positions – Open discussion
3. New Year Eve Dinner Central Office – Do we want to consider volunteering or donating a basket for silent auction?
 1. Leah makes some excellent puff pastries with Nutella.
 2. Mike will make a batch of his superb brownies for the live bake sale auction.
 3. Mike and Leah will work on a gift basket for the event.

Announcements:

Serenity in the Sierras 2024 – 37th Annual Retreat November 8-10, 2024
Fairfield Inn & Suites
40780 CA 41, Oakhurst CA 93644

Declaration of Unity: 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: Read by all “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 7:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David G., Recording Secretary