

## **District 47 Meeting Minutes**

### **February 7, 2024**

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

**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:00 PM by District Committee Member (DCM) Mike C.

#### **Committee members present:**

Mike C., DCM and General Service Representative (GSR) for the Valley Group  
David G., Recording Secretary and Central Office Liaison  
Josh F., Registrar  
Jason K., filling in for Joyce R., Hospitals and Institutions Liaison.  
Brandon L., GSR for Friday Freedom Fellowship  
Fred F., GSR for Unity Through Traditions  
James W., GSR for Bridge Street Drunks Only  
Jerri T., GSR for the Saturday morning Women's 12 x 12 Study Group  
Laura B., GSR for the Springville Monday Night Book Study  
Sean A., GSR for Practicing the Principals  
Allen L., Member  
Dusty B., Member

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 Jason K.

**Concept 2:** Concept 2 long form read and explained by Mike C.

**Approval of Minutes:** January 3, 2024 minutes reviewed. Correction to agenda: 2024 minutes instead of 2023 minutes. Approval of minutes vote taken: all in favor, none against.

**Treasurer's Report:** Courtney R., had notified Mike that he was stepping down from the position of Treasurer. Joshua F., previous treasurer, gave the report for the month

Balance Forward	\$3,142.80
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#### Income

Unity Through Traditions	\$75.00
Tuesday Women's Amity	\$75.12
Springville Gut Level	\$75.00
Keep It Simple Sunday	\$46.60
Springville Book Study	\$60.00
Valley Group	\$60.00

Total Income	\$391.72
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Expenses

DCM Reimbursement	\$175.00
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P.O. Box Rental	\$102.00
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Central Office Rent	\$480.00
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Total Expense	\$757.00
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Current Balance	\$2,777.52
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Questions and answers:

How are we doing for money? Our prudent reserve is \$2,400, so we doing well. During Covid, we accumulated money because of reduced travel; recently we've been having more expenses, but we have also been careful with our spending, so our position is good.

**CSO Liaison Report:** David G. Our January CSR Meeting was held January 10. The meeting was a hybrid meeting, with one member joining via Zoom. There were thirteen people present in-person.

Central Office finances: for November 21 through December 20, Central Office had income of \$4,115.64 and expenses of \$3,451.60 for a gain of \$664.04.

Old business:

1. New Year's Eve event: it was a success: Glenda & Debbie did a great job. It was smooth, flawless and fun.

New business:

1. Founders Day Picnic: we need a chairperson. George and Jason will be happy to assist.

2. Unity Event Committee: please ask your group what sounds fun and report back any suggestions. So far, park barbecue, painting night, softball, and bowling seem to be popular.

3. After-hours phone service: all after-hours phone calls are still going to Cheryl H., but it would be good to rotate this service position. Cheryl has been doing it since pre-Covid.

Questions and answers:

When will Founders Day Picnic be? June 8, 2024 at Arbor 9 in Mooney Grove park in Visalia.

When will these other Unity events be? We're still planning and want feed back from the groups what they want to do.

If someone wants to sign up to take after-hours phone calls, how do they do that? Call Carol Ann at Central Office to be put on the list. This next CSR meeting, we will hear about telephone call distribution software and prices.

**Registrar:** Josh F. My update is that this month I have no report.

**H&I Report:** Jason K. on behalf of Joyce R., Tulare County Hospital & Institution Committee Liaison

In January, we were able to hold 12 H&I Facility Meetings (one was cancelled by the facility) and 2 H&I meetings in the Tulare County Jail. We utilized 31 volunteers and distributed 102 AA Books. This month, we had 9 volunteers attend training at the Tulare County Jail which included two Spanish speaking volunteers. We hope to have all cleared in the upcoming months and increase our H&I meetings at that facility.

NorCal's financial position remained Neutral at the close of 2023 as we are slightly above your 6 months recommended cash reserve. In 2023, we purchased \$471,399.05 in literature which was 89% of our total expenses. The literature was distributed at the 25,200 meetings NorCal H&I supports. However, our income after processing fees was \$467,152.37 which left us ending the year with a negative \$60,669.07. While it is not sustainable to operate at a loss, if we work together to encourage groups to continue to pass the pink cans together, we can create a revenue source that meets our expenditures. If your group does not have a pink can, they are available at Central Office or by contacting me directly.

The Inside Visiting Sponsorship Service which provides inmates with outside sponsors is gearing up to begin at the Women's facility in Chowchilla. Please encourage any women with 5 years of sobriety and sponsorship experience who are interested in this type of service, reach out to me to be connected with the new coordinator.

We are in need of more H&I Volunteers in order to continue growing as we begin the new year. Please send any interested AA members to our next Orientation: March 9, 2024, 9:00 am followed by the Area H&I Business Meeting at 10:00 am. The meeting is held at Bridge Street Drunks Only, 526 N. Bridge St., Visalia, CA 93291.

In service,

Joyce R., Area 93 Chair

Questions and Answers:

What times are the orientation and business meetings? Orientation is at 9:00 AM, every month, and the Business meeting is at 10:00 AM every other month – next one is in March.

**DCM Report:** Mike C.

I went to the Winter Assembly in Merced, and took some notes. One of the suggestions by our Delegate was to compile a binder of service positions, with a one page form description of responsibilities, which can then be given to new position holders. Another was to hold a GSR Workshop; Emily L. will work with us, and she read the pamphlet *The GSR is the most important position in A.A.* Regarding agenda topics for the annual conference in New York, the material will be available in mid-February. We should pick four or five and to discuss with our groups, so the GSR can go to the Pre-Conference Assembly and present an informed opinion from our groups. Next was a presentation by Matthew L., our Delegate. Matthew said it was important to get a Service Sponsor. Also, consider asking your group to PRAASA, which is in San Francisco this year. Speaking of out-of-town events, I (Mike) might be going to the NCCAA event March 15, 16, 17 in San Jose, if anyone wants to carpool. Holly, our Alternate Chair, said that there are documents available on the website for officers who want to bid on holding an Assembly. Don, our Area Treasurer asked that when groups send in contributions, to please put your group number on the check. Also, our Archives facility rent is being raised, so Area 7 has created a committee to find a new location. They came back with three or four options of different facilities in Carmichael,

Stockton West, and Sacramento. They would like to find a facility which can do all three: hold the Area Committee Meetings (ACMs), audio/visual equipment storage, and be the Archives office. Under Area New Business, they want to start up an Accessibility Committee which will provide Uber rides to meetings and sign language interpretation.

**Old Business:**

Zoom account sharing with Central Office was approved by the board.

**New Business:**

Discussion about possible fundraising activities to help support GSRS whose home groups can't pay for the full cost for them to go to PRAASA in San Francisco, or the Pacific Region conference coming up in Las Vegas in July. NCCAA will be doing a spaghetti dinner, for example. The deacon at St. Paul's Episcopal said they would charge \$125 for a morning, and they do have a kitchen. Jason said that N.A. had a breakfast at the Alamo Club, although they don't have a kitchen (only a sink) so members brought in a camp stove/grill.

Co-hosted agenda items workshop with Fresno County. We were approached by Bill, a DCM from Fresno: he had asked Matt (Delegate) if can come do an agenda items workshop. Then Bill asked us if we want to co-host. We would need to vote tonight. Jerri suggested that we say "How about next time we have one of these, that they come this direction and help us?" Motion made and passed that we co-host the agenda items workshop with Fresno County.

Co-hosted Post-Conference Assembly with Spanish District 55 in May. I met Simon, the DCM and he asked if, because a lot of their members don't speak English very well, if we'd be willing to help co-host with them with the registration and some of the sales. If we wanted to sell some breakfast items or lunch items and then we could split the profits on that. Motion made and passed that we agree to co-host and supply volunteers for the event.

Discuss attending PRAASA in San Francisco, March 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>. Does anyone else want to go and carpool? Mike will likely go to the NCCAA conference in San Jose March 15<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>.

Discuss dates for hosting hybrid GSR workshop. Emily, alternate chair for CNIA 7, is willing to do a GSR School / GSR Workshop on Zoom. Consensus was yes, we should do this in March. Mike will ask Emily how long it will take; depending on the answer we will do it either during the GSR meeting or on a separate event.

Remaining three items on the agenda tabled to next month.

**Seventh Tradition:** 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:** 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 8:12 PM

Respectfully submitted,

David G., Recording Secretary