

**Mid-Southern California Area 9 Area Assembly Minutes
May 16, 2010**

Meeting was called to order by Jeryl T.

Readings: Declaration of Unity: (tape didn't start until after) Tradition 5: Mel/Gilberto Concept 5: Meg /Antonio GSR Preamble: Darryl/Delfino Statement of Purpose and Membership: Rozanne/Jorge

Introductions

Approval of January 2010 Assembly minutes_ Motion/2nd – (names were not given on the microphone) Motion carries

Officers Reports:

Delegate Linda C. – Delegate delivered a powerpoint presentation of report of General Service Conference. Report can be read on website <http://www.msca09aa.org>

Alt. Delegate: Cesar Pow Wow was successful for March and thank everyone for attending the pre-conference workshop in April. Attended District 17, 10 and Riverside Central Office.

Treasurer: Joseph Bank balance at start of meeting \$5,709.65, prudent reserve \$2,532 for total of \$8,240.65. 525 registered groups contribute to the area and 85 unregistered.

Secretary: Sharon – not present

Registrar: Michael Visited District 24 last month, also working hard inputting all the information from the groups on changes. There has been some delay on new GSR's not receiving their packets and I will be contacting GSO this week. Feel free to come up and ask me any questions and if you haven't received your packets yet let me know.

Chair: Jeryl T. I would like to take the time to thank everyone who participated in the Pre Conference Workshop, hosted by District 1 last month. It was a fantastic event, well attended, and a good time was had by all. I was overjoyed by the effort and enthusiasm that all in attendance portrayed, as we left the site and returned to our respective Districts and meetings.

However, I was saddened by the overall lack of informed awareness that permeated the venue. In that, many of us there were not armed with our own Group's Informed Consciousness', nor were we in a position to truly exercise our own right of decision with regard to the proposed subjects presented to us. (How many of us had actually sat with our Groups and discussed the conference items in detail with them? How many of us knew what to ask, and what to bring back to the Area?) I know we did the best we could with what we had to work with, but sad as it was, our own ignorance reared its ugly head and bit me squarely in the face.

All of this was my fault and my fault only. I didn't arm our GSRs and DCMs with enough information, education, and knowledge as to what was needed from them, and what to take to their respective groups for discussion. I didn't motivate committees to discuss the issues before hand so that they could educate the GSRs, DCMs and DCMCs. In fact, I didn't make us aware of that which was being asked of us by the Conference, and I apologize for that. I promise you right here and now, that that will never happen again. As long as I serve as Chair, that will not happen again.

Because the Area Chair is responsible for the overall health and well being of the Area, I need to implement a plan and activities for all of us to participate in that will allow motivation, encourage the exchange of information, and place the strength of our Area, which is our desire to serve AA, in the hands of the most powerful tool we have at our disposal; that of our Committees and our Districts.

We have already begun this process by way of our Finance Committee and our DCM School, discussing and arriving at proposed determinations of how to handle Area issues. One of them being donations and

disbursements; which I believe will eliminate the ongoing discussion that continues to bog down the Area's financial focus; the other being the possible 'Sub Districting' of some of our larger Districts. "Larger," meaning both in square miles and in attendance, and I believe that smaller sub-districts may increase the ability to disseminate information.

These Committees will arrive at a determination; make a recommendation and a presentation to the Area for our possible acceptance, or at least for our own information. And as more opportunities come, either by our need or the request from New York, we will follow the same practice so that when next year's Conference approaches, we will be well versed in disseminating information through our Committees to our Districts, then to our Groups.

I promise you, as I get incite, I will share it with you. I promise that I will be available for any of you who need me or any resources I can provide. I sincerely want us to be ready with truly informed Group's consciousness when polled at the Pre-Conference Workshop next year. We are going to take this next year to be prepared for that.

We, the Area, have taken care of many of the bugs in our bylaws by way of the Ad Hoc Committee, and I am truly grateful for their work so far. We have one more issue pertinent to voting eligibility to fix, that being with regard to Past Delegates moving into the Area. They need to be a part of our Group's consciousness as well, and I am sure we will welcome them not only in person, but also within our Bylaws and Guidelines into the body.

Our Board is making its rounds to all the Districts, either for sharebacks, education, or just plain old motivation. And I thank District 1 for having me last week. You guys really opened my eyes to some of the needs of the Area. Please don't forget to schedule with Michael M. any dates your District would like to have one of us come out for a visit. We are all available.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Mid Southern California Area 9 as the Chair and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. Thank you for the opportunity.

New Business

Motion from March ASC recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee: To remove the phrase, "...in their respective capacities," from article 4.3 of the Bylaws of Mid Southern California Area. Motion carries. Michael explained background of the motion. Joseph requested they read the entire article.

- Members in Good Standing. Members who have attended, in their respective capacities, at least one Assembly or Area Service Committee meeting within the 12 month period prior to the most recently established Record Date, pursuant to Section 4.8 of these Bylaws, shall be members in good standing. Only members in good standing shall have the right to vote as provided in Section 4.7(h) of these Bylaws. For the purposes of determining (a) the total voting power of the Corporation at any meeting, and (b) those members entitled to notice of any meeting only those voting members in good standing as of the relevant Record Date for notice shall be entitled to receive notice of such meeting, and only members in good standing as of the relevant Record Date for any meeting shall be entitled to vote at such meeting.
 - Alan F. object to the spirit of the stated bylaw. All those new GSRs that just introduced themselves would be denied the right to vote if we passed this motion. IT denies them the traditional right of paricipation in Concept 4 and is against the spirit of Tradition 3. The service manual it says (pg. 37) how long must a group have been in existence before it is entitled a group. Usually if the group has submitted a name of a GSR. The GSR is permitted to vote.
 - Patrick - Although what was just said was pretty eloquent, I think this is the opposite of the motions intention. The intention is to be more inclusive rather than exclusive.

- Alex – if you are voting on something you should have an idea on what you are voting on rather than showing up and voting on your first area meeting attendance. We are removing three words so if you were to show up at the December ASC you can vote in the January Assembly. We are changing the wording if you show up as a DCMC in January and you were a GSR in December you wouldn't be able to vote. It's a pretty simple change.
- Suzanne – For those of you that are brand new, GSR's only get to vote 4 times a year anyway this is where the informed part comes in. It's important to note that if you are changing from GSR to a district committee chair, you wouldn't be able to vote.
- John – If I change from my capacity as a Registrar to a DCMC I would miss one vote. My problem is I spend most of my time trying to figure out my job. I get the opportunity to have an informed vote the next time. So I take the time to learn my position.
- Joe – being delegate during the time these were being crafted, we said we could only get it so close and it is up to the Assembly to craft it out how they want it. This is not the end of it I'm sure. This is going to create one of the fixes that we decided need to be taken care of. They are corporate non profit 501c3 by laws that we can change, alter, or amend as we see fit as an Assembly.

Motion: To allow the 2010 Pacific Regional Forum Host Contact Committee to use the Area's Translation Equipment for its possible use at the Regional Forum, August 27. Bruce read motion and stated only financial impact would be minor and possibly buying batteries. Motion carries unanimously

- Rich – Are we going to allow the Regional Forum to practice the 7th Tradition to purchase the batteries for the use to help us.
- Jim – One of the unforeseen financial impacts is that of lost radios. Can we get an assurance that we will get everything back that we loan. Bruce said that we may not have to use them. It is just for possible use.

Standing Committee Reports (submitted in writing. No verbal reports were given)

Archives – Joseph H. 1) April 2010 approval of new Archives materials (books, speaker tapes, pamphlets) into the Area Archives collection. 2) Raul C. Archives Spanish Liaison to approach Spanish groups about submitting group histories. 3) Oct. 24th District 17 to host Heritage Day. 4) Approval of Archives Committee April meeting minutes. Pete B. Area Archivist did a presentation at District 17 Service Workshop. 5) Archives display at the 29th H & I Conference. Upcoming events: Heritage Day Oct. 24 hosted by District 17, District 15 Sorting party, District 2 Archives display and presentation on June 2, June 19 movie night, Michael M. AA Group Tour & Sorting party.

CPC – Bill G. Reviewed MSCA CPC Guidelines. This coming Sat. in Fullerton there will be a community function where the Spanish CPC groups will attend. Discussed having a workshop for the Area with Police/Firefighters/Healthcare Providers. Discussed preparations for Area Workshop and our needs of : who to talk to at each group, place/date/time, refreshments? , agenda/presentation/laptop/projector, cost? Find out issues for each professions. Action items: Bill to email out the upcoming events in Long Beach and Psychologists conference. Rozanne to update phone list, send out template for "Questions to ask Professionals", call HOAG to find out place to have workshop. Everone to make a list of contacts we have in the professional community and make a list of possible sites for our workshop.

CPC Spanish - MartinWe are working as hard as we can to carry the message wherever it is needed. Thank you all for your support and participation in health centers and health fairs. Thanks for your support and hopefully we will continue working in unity and set the standard to follow as it states in the Tradition One and putting into practice the principle of Unity. Thank you for letting me be of service.

Convention Liaison – Joe S. Linda, Bruce, and Manny were in attendance. Bob D. was a no show. We discussed weather conditions in San Antonio in July and suggested that Liaison Chair should encourage members of Districts where Conventions are held to be representatives of Area. Discussed positions of greeters at Pacific Regional Forum. Need to sign up "enthusiastic" greeters.

DCM School – Terry S. 20 people attended with 10 in Spanish. Thanks to Alex for translation. 1) Covered DCM pamphlet. 2) Reviewed in depth “The Visitation Kit”. 3) Discussed how to approach a meeting we are visiting. Best way – a) find out when the business meeting is and ask for five minutes and b) ask secretary for five minutes at secretary report. Try to go to visitation with two or more trusted servants. 4) DCM job once you get GSR to District, hand hold them through their first two to three meetings. Call them before each District meeting. 5) Discussed sub-groups at the Districts and GSR Schools at the District Meetings.

Finance - Jim B. Discussion of request for input from Area Officers Committee regarding contributions to the Area that are designated for a specific purpose or committee. The committee is taking this under consideration and will formulate a conscience of the committee and written recommendation to the Area Officers committee. Initial report back will be June 2010.

Grapevine – Doug M. I regret that I didn't have the time to form a Grapevine table. I was asked by our MSCA Delegate Linda to distribute Grapevine Survey Questionnaires to all who were concerned about the welfare of our meeting in print magazine, the Grapevine. I asked them to fill out the survey and to also share this survey with their home group. Many lovers of the AA Grapevine responded and have already turned in their survey form.

GSR School Spanish - We opened the meeting with the serenity prayer, reading of the AA service legacy and the GSR preamble. New GSRs: Yolanda dist 22, Julia dist 24
We welcomed everyone. We also read Concept V, which was very helpful and we learned a lot about the right of appeal. With love and gratitude in service to the area MSCA. Reynaldo A.

Registration Joe C. sub for Devon. Discussion of new GSR kits sent from New York showed zero kits have been delivered for about 100 new GSR forms sent to the GSO for processing this year. Last year District 12 reported that it took up to one year after the form was submitted to the time the new GSR received their kit.

Special Needs – Scott R. We discussed how to help different Special Needs (hearing impaired, language, blind, literacy) As Chair, I will contact all the Districts to check into meetings that have child care and make a list of those meetings to see if we can help form some. I am going to contact New York to get more information also.

District Reports (submitted in writing, no verbal reports were given)

District 2 – Ramon D. District is presently promoting “Group Business Meetings” through the GSR's attending District meeting. June 5, 2010 is the 75th Anniversary event. Ready and all set per organizing committee. Attendance has increased considerably, but more work is being encouraged to promote an even better turn out. Public Information Chair Keith S. & Marcelo C. will work out time and date for a motivational/information visit.

District 6 – Yvonne B. Approximately 65 in attendance. Roundtable topic – vital services. June meeting at Harbor Light Church. Mentioned May Assembly and Delegate's report back. Five new GSRs. Upcoming event is Service Manual Study on June 26, 2010.

District 7 – Owen F. Highlights are Traditions Play coming up on June 14 at 6:30pm. Hosting ASC August 8. May 10 District meeting we had the Delegate report back with 20 people in attendance. Welcomed four new GSRs for the Area.

District 8 – Aran B. the District will be having Linda C. do a conference report back on May 19th. District 11 has been invited to attend. We have purchased committee chair packets for the District committee chairs. We are doing well financially and our attendance has been good at about 25 in attendance. We hope to see an improvement though in this area.

District 9 – Don B We started with introductions of new GSR's. We had 5: Randy, Elizabeth, Cherie, Katlin, and Becky. 35 members total. We read Concept 5. We have six members at the assembly today. We discussed follow up on the literature our district distributed to the libraries. Considered how to approach schools and to look into some PSA's to distribute. Our delegate Linda C. will be visiting our District 9 on Sunday, June 6 with her report back from the General Service Conference in New York. Our meeting is at Fellowship Hall in Palm Desert at 4pm if anyone is interested please join us. Our Unity Day Picnic will be at Hurkey Creek on July 11th, the weekend after the World Convention from 10am to 3pm.

Hot dogs, burgers, and a raffle. Camping may still be available, all are welcome. We also considered putting together a display from our District Archives and where to put it.

District 14 – Martin J. Attendance today from our area is three. We have one new GSR at our District, Kelly. A budget has been established and distributed thanks to Chris G. our District Treasurer. Our workshop for July 17 is still moving forward. Group visitations continue and we are growing in carrying the message. Enthusiasm is high though attendance is low. Still working on communication with groups who still do not have representation. Using the information we get from Area Registrar.

District 17 – Annie D. Attendance 19 at May 11 District meeting. Attendance at Assembly – 12. May 8 we are having a District event "Pathway to Unity in our AA Community with Service speakers and the Delegate report back. Hosting Heritage Day for Area 9 on October 24. Registrar Michael M. will be visiting our June District meeting on June 8.

District 18 – Tina B. Had 13 members present at the Area Assembly today. The District had the pleasure of Linda C. Delegate report at our District meeting on May 11.

District 19 – Mary Anne R. Average of 12 in attendance. We will be leaving early today as our District meets on the third Sunday. Our District hosts two events every year and our next event is Sat. June 19 from 11am – 3:30pm. Topic "From Young People to the Young at Heart, our Recovery Through Service to AA" at Church of the Nazarene 8518 Maple Street, Hesperia CA 92345. Refreshments will be served.

District 20 - Good afternoon everyone; our district is still active and working as usual visiting meeting and encouraging AA members to participate in services in order to make the work of AA twelfth step possible wherever anyone reaches out for help. We are promoting and planning to attend the international convention in San Antonio. We just celebrated our 25th anniversary on May 25th. We had a buffet and some great AA sharing about service in AA. Everything went well and that is everything. DCMC Osbaldo and Alternate DCMC Melquiades

Recap of Actions

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THE ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED with the Responsibility Pledge: "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."

Minutes respectfully submitted by Panel 60 Secretary as interpreted from audiotapes –Sharon K.