

May7th 2007 Minutes District 23 GSR Meeting
www.ccaadistrict23.com

1). The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer at 7:05 p.m.

2). GSR Preamble- Mandy

3). Welcome new GSRs

New: Deion GSR Getting to Know You Group Sunday 8 pm
Stephan GSR Tuesday Night Question and Answers Tues 8:15 pm

3rd Legacy Elections for Recorder and Treasurer

Mara defined the responsibilities and criteria for the Recorder as described in the email she delivered to those participating in Service work. The floor was opened to a 3rd legacy election for both positions

Stephan G. volunteered to accept the Recorder position as a new GSR for the Question and Answer Group. The members of the meeting approved his nomination by a group conscience vote. He is privileged to have the opportunity to serve the district.

Marta who has been our acting Treasurer for District 23 for two years defined her responsibilities in the role as Treasurer No one stood for the Treasurer position and it is still available for those interested in this vital service position.

4).Review of April minutes: Minutes approved.

Mara our DCM announced to the group that the full package of agendas and minutes for the Officers and GSR meetings as well as Area Assembly and Area Committee minutes will be emailed as usual to the current GSRs. The new policy, which will cut back on copying expense, while still making sure all GSRs have up to date information, is that instead of making the twenty hard copy sets that we normally bring to each District 23 monthly meeting, we will now bring and have available six to eight hard copies of the current GSR Agenda and the latest 2 months of the Officers and GSR minutes for those current GSRs without email access as well as for new GSRs attending their first District meeting,

For more information email Mara at DCM@CCAADistrict23.com. or the Recorder at gutwrench33@hotmail.com. Or visit Web Site at www.ccaadistrict23.com.

5). Treasurer Marta (see treasurer's report & May DCM report)

treasurer@ccaadistrict23.com.

Marta announced that the balance as of the last GSR meeting was \$875.23 and at present our District 23 financial condition is solvent today on May 7th, 2007 with a balance of \$684 .32. She paid the rent for the upcoming Delegate Day at the Veterans Building on May 12th in the amount of \$50.00. To the best of her knowledge we are also paid up to date for our ad in the Independent newspaper for this month (\$25 per month) but had not yet received an invoice for the month of May

In addition a bulk order for additional literature from GSO approved at the last Officers meeting on May 2nd for \$258.00 since the Registration and DCM are nearly out of literature after having distributed a great deal of literature in response to the demand from GSRs for relevant literature for their commitment and registering their groups with District 23 and GSO in New York. DCM and Registration are now stocked up until the end of the fiscal year next June.

There were also additional requests from PI and CPC for the upcoming Mental Health Fair they were asked to participate in on May 19th at Cottage Hospital on the 6th Floor patio from 10:00 to 2:00. After the event, CPC should be stocked up until December and PI should be ok until the end of June.

6). DCM Report (Mara)-(refer to officer's minutes for May 2nd)
dcm@ccaadistrict23.com.

A) Budget committee presentation:

Mara gave a brief explanation of why we were having the budget committee - how it came about plus answering questions especially for new GSRs at the meeting.

For the last two months a written estimate has been handed out to the GSRs in the form of a Current Monthly Expense Report for Ongoing and Annual Projects within all the Committee Chairs and Officer positions [PI, CPC, Literature, Archives, Special Needs/Accessibilities, Registration, DCM, AA Special Events-in town- (SBPAA, Local Preconference, Delegate Report back day) etc],

This expense list tabulates the ongoing expenditures that have increased in recent years in response to increased AA Service work in the immediate community and to the District 23, not to mention greater involvement of average members and GSRs in events outside our District 23 ie. Area Assemblies, PRAASA, and other AA events around California. There was a lull in District 23 participation in years past, so as a result of this inactivity, monies accumulated dramatically. Over the past 2 years, there have been more demands placed on our budget reserves as Committee Chairs reached out to the professional community (doctors, mental health, PACT, and other public and non profit recovery facilities in the Santa Barbara area) handing out or delivering or adding racks of AA Conference approved information as well as personally explaining what AA does and doesn't do plus more District#23 members communicated and participated in special events that have occurred within AREA 93. This in turn has required increased financial expenditures in those conference approved pamphlets and literature, plus increases in transportation to send GSRs to Area Assemblies, young peoples events, and specialized Committee assemblies to enhance recovery, service and unity within the Fellowship.

We have now used up those thousands of dollars that had accumulated during that period of relative inactivity and now have only the contributions which come in each month to fund all of our projects. Mara explained that all of our funding comes from the 7th Tradition donations which are contributed to District 23 by our District Groups each month and after conversations at past GRS meetings the GSRs had expressed a need to now look more closely at means of an overall picture of our budget to the maximum capability from our current financial status which would help the District to be more efficient in its financial plans to remain solvent and stable from month to month by looking at our yearly goals.

In response to this need to bring into a realistic view of our expenses, an estimate of each month's current operating expenses was distributed to the GSRs at the meeting which lists each Committee's expected expenditures along with District expenses.

The number one major change that became obvious after budget talks and that will take place immediately is our fiscal year for District 23 has been changed to begin in June instead of January as it has been in the past. This came about after looking at our major District #23 service activities and events which we provide, or participate in, looking at when they begin, and what those Service activities entail.

B).Discussion of Budget

Mara walked us through the latest compilation of monthly District expenses compiled by the Budget committee. She let us know that they had revised the earlier estimated average monthly 7th tradition contributions to be closer to \$280/month. The earlier estimate included 2 low months from the beginning of 2005 which probably reflected the fact that the District had been relatively inactive immediately prior to these months.

She also let us know that for this coming fiscal year (6/2007 – 6/2008) some of the committees would not need the full funds that we should budget for them since they are already stocked up.

She informed us that after the last budget committee, the officers had come up with some possible options in regards to mileage reimbursement in order to cut transportation cost without discouraging GSRs from attending these events.

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One example of an option was that we go back to requesting mileage reimbursement from Area 93 for the DCM 's mileage to Area Assemblies as had been done in years past.

A motion was made to resume requesting mileage reimbursement from the Area for the DCM to Area Assemblies. Motion passed.

At this time, the District 23 Guidelines and Policies reads re: mileage reimbursement to GSRs traveling to service events:

Partial gas reimbursement for GSRs attending any service event will be \$.40/mile after the first 25 miles.

After discussion of different options, a motion was made to change the guideline to:

Partial gas reimbursement for GSRs attending any service event will be \$.31/mile after the first 25 miles. Motion passed.

Don H. our District 23 Literature Chair gave a detailed report on his current monthly literature expenditures. The bottom line was that the Literature expense was understated on the estimated monthly expense report.

Mara will adjust the monthly expense report to reflect the changes to the District Guidelines made at this meeting as well as the updated information regarding more accurate estimates for monthly expenses. She will email this out to all GSRs with the hopes that the GSRs will look at the monthly expenses for ongoing and planned projects and give informed feedback as to how to prioritize these projects and expenses since at this time it still seems that the projected monthly expenses exceed the projected monthly 7th contributions we receive. GSRs can come to the Budget meeting or email their feedback to Mara before the meeting.

It is the intention of the Committee to keep our expenditures at a minimum while optimizing our service responsibilities. Brian stated that it is in our interest to do all we can do to not operate on a budget deficit so in the future we will have the funds necessary to carry out all our duties and also have the opportunity to keep our GSRs active within the AA fellowship particularly when PRAASA comes around towards the end of this fiscal year. The Committee Chairs and Officers desire to sustain our current endeavors and also inspire others to get involved in General Service especially in respect to the role of the GSR in providing a link between their Group and Service opportunities at the District level.

Mara mentioned our efforts through the Registration committee to reach out to Secretaries at both registered Groups and unregistered meetings by distributing AA Conference approved pamphlets to inform them of their opportunity to stay in the loop by electing a GSR if they choose to as well as pamphlets re: The Group, The Traditions and Self Support. The registration update forms and registration forms for unregistered groups which are available from the Registrar are a means of keeping lines of communication open between District 23, GSO and individual Groups. If your Group is not registered with GSO and desires to have more information please contact Gil E. at registrar@ccaadistrict23.com

7). Registrar Gil:

registrar@ccaadistrict23.com.

Gil is continuing his work in reaching out to meetings to assist them and explain how they can become a registered AA group with GSO.

There are a number of groups which do not have the necessary information to be aware and informed of how to become an A.A. Registered Group with World services so Gil is trying to get out his updated New A.A. Group Registration packet

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Within it is a letter that informs them they are not currently an AA World Service registered group along with a GSO World Services registration form for them to complete. If a group decides to become a AA registered group, that form can be returned to Gil so he can submit it's information to the AREA who in turn will submit it to GSO. Within a matter of a week or two, the Group will receive a notice of a temporary AA Group ID number confirming the receipt of the Groups registration information. Gil usually contacts the AREA first so it can be recorded immediately since the Area and GSO have two separate computer programs for registering groups. It's because of that reason that it may take 6-8 weeks or longer before a new group may show up and become listed with GSO, but the AREA has been given a list of temp ID #s that can be given out and assigned to New Groups.

Also within the Packet are several AA conference approved Pamphlets and AA information pieces that illustrate fine examples of how a Group can participate with AA as a whole such as the GSR pamphlet "GSR General Service Representative May be the most important job in AA?" in case that new Group decides they would like to elect a GSR immediately to represent them with AA as a whole. The Twelve Traditions Illustrated gives examples and illustrations of the spirit of each one of the Twelve Traditions. The AA Group...Where it all begins How a group functions, How to get started pamphlet , which helps explains all aspects of an AA group and the great importance of a Home Group. The Self Support pamphlet shows how passing the basket and being self supporting as a group helps AA as a whole. This pamphlet shows pie chart examples of how their own individual Groups consciences decides how to take care of it's 7th Tradition and that no other Group or Service entity should interfere in that process allowing that group to come up with a vision which shows them to be self supporting thru their own contributions as be a part of AA as a whole.

The other letter that is sent to groups is the District 23 Registered Update letter for groups that already have been previously registered with GSO.A group may not have been contacted for 3-5 years so their location, secretary, and GSR may have all changed so the Registrar needs your help keeping us informed and in contact with each other. If you have any questions regarding registering your group or updating information visit the District link above, or please email Gil at GiLBWFriend@aol.com Registrar@ccaadistrict23.com or give him a call at 403-0578.

It was explained at the GSR meeting by reading out of our Conference approved literature how the group conscience of the GSO: book study groups which are mediated by one member, leader, dual diagnosis, double trouble (drugs and alcohol) can not be registered according to Traditions since we cannot be allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution (religion). This would include private functions of individual members outside AA eg. (Joe and Charlie) since they do not claim to speak for AA as a whole. It was noted that a meeting at Cottage Hospital in the past that had the hospital's name included in it group's name also had this problem and it was the Group that had to rethink a new group name this meeting as well as a Double Trouble, Alternative Group meeting plus any Groups who use Non Conference Approved A.A. Literature and decide to use the name of that literature as their name of the Group to be registered.

8).Committee Reports

GAP Committee Presentation Policies

5 Minutes For Presentations A Total 8 Minutes For Questions In 2 Minute Increments

A) Special Events –Josh- (absent) (The special events committee can consist of any member of AA who wishes to work with Josh or any of the participating officers.) Josh did not have a report for us because his employer had sent him out of town on short notice. He had, though, called Mara to let her know that we had plenty of supplies for the Delegate Report back Day. Mara let everyone know that the upstairs Conference room at the Veteran's memorial building had been reserved for the Delegate Report Back day by Debbie on Saturday May12th at 10:00 a.m. and that we had received permission to cook in their kitchen.

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Mara encouraged anyone who wanted to participate to show up at 9:00 and a sign up sheet was distributed for bringing in beverages, food, pastries, and other snacks.

In regards to Area Assembly bid which was brought up at the Officers meeting Mara reported that she had spoke with Parks and Recreation but they did not have a suitable site that could accommodate 150 people plus break out rooms for committees. She said she would inquire at La Cumbre Middle School as a potential site in our bid to host the Area 93 Assembly. This appeared to be the best choice at the time because the Area 93 Assembly was held there seven years ago and was a great success.

B). Website- Kelly

webmaster@ccaasisteict23.com

Web Designer Gil E

Kelly and Gil encouraged people to visit the District web site after making some changes to it to make it more user friendly. Gil did mention that our webmaster Kelly said he had experienced some problems on the main page and Gil asked for feedback from the GSRs if there were any significant problems at the site.

Marta the Treasurer stated that she had experienced problems with getting receipts back to groups which contributed to the District 23 but only had there group name with no contact information and asked if their was a way some information can be added to the Treasurers page to be of assistance in that clarification. Gill will try and add next month a update to the Treasurer's page by adding a button where people can get the information they need to included in thier request verification of their groups donation.

One member asked if Gil could reformat the site so pages could be downloaded with Adobe PDF reader since visitors to the site may not have Office Word. Gil would be happy to do this if someone donated this software but at the present time the purchase of such hardware is not advisable since we are trying to be as prudent as possible in our spending. Anyone who wishes to contact Gil E. can go to the District Website WWW.CCAADistrict23.com or directly E-m Registrar@ccaadistrict23.com. Or at GilEBWFriend@aol.com or reach him by phone at (805) 403-0578. Their was a possible solution other than spending the funds that Gill will look into

C). P.I. Audio Visual -Joanne (See Report)

pi@ccaadistrict23.com.

Joanne attended the PACT meeting (Police and Community Team) the day of the GSR meeting and gave out a number of packets and meeting directories to participants. She did mention that it was nice to see the P.I. Chairperson for NA at the meeting to who was also there to inform recent parolees of opportunities for recovery. She also made an announcement regarding the upcoming Mental Health Fair at Cottage Hospital on **Saturday May 19th**. Joanne gave a list of all materials that she would need to supply the Mental Health Fair as well as keep current our literature for P.I. which was included in the \$258 mentioned in the Treasurer's report.

Joanne said that she would not be able to go to the fair because of a previous commitment on that date but hoped that anyone interested could go please attend and that Gil would be definitely be there. Mara our DCM added that Naima our Archives chair volunteered to be at the fair to assist with Public information Services Table.

D).CPC (Cooperation / the Professional Community) Gil E.

cpc@ccaadistrict23.com.

Gil emphasized that every member has the opportunity to be of service by sponsoring their doctor, judge, physical therapist, teacher, lawyer etc. by providing them with a specialized packet of AA Conference approved packets for use with the profession community if they are interested.

He explained that CPC will also be at the Cottage Health Fair and that he has updated the quantity of packets by ordering more CPC literature to hand out either by individual pamphlet pieces or by complete CPC packets to the care providers

E). Archives-Naima (not present)

archives@ccaadistrict23.com.

Naima attended the Officers meeting on May 2nd and stated where she stands in regards to the booklet Passing It On (a brief history of AA in Santa Barbara) and other archives materials and copies. Naima did tell Mara that she would be at Delegate Report Back Day with Debbie J. on May 12th on Saturday with a display

F).Grapevine Committee Chair- (not present) (see handed in report)

grapevine@ccaadistrict23.com.

Mara spoke with Jennifer on Thursday and reported that Jennifer had started assembling New Grapevine Rep Startup packets to send out to Secretaries in registered groups that desire these materials. If you are interested in contacting her about these packets please visit her link at the District 23 website. She also wanted to relay to the GSRs that she is in the process of coordinating and setting a date for a Grapevine Committee to meet with all participating reps and potential reps that wish to take this commitment. She also relayed to Mara that the Alano Club has expressed an interest in having a Grapevine display and most importantly publications of the grapevine for distribution.

On Delegate Report Back Day May 12th at the Vet's building, she will provide a display and Steve G (GSR) would be there to answer any questions and provide any necessary assistance for those interested in our Meeting in Print.

G). Literature Chair- Don H.

Literature@ccaadistrict23.com

Don stated that Mission House wants a new literature rack (stocked) and requested a contact number or name from a fellow Service member which was provided to him. He also stated that he needs your help in restocking existing literature racks in District 23. At the present time he asked if he could get two volunteers to restock once a month at the Hotel do Riviera on W. Carrillo St. and Casa Esperanza detox center on Cacique St. Anyone interested in helping him out can contact him at 685-0413 if they frequent these two locations.

Don also stated that at the last Area Assembly he did offer his service in the Area Audio Visual Committee which is part of the Literature Committee. As a result he inherited all the projection equipment and videos so if your group is interested in making a video presentation he encourages you to contact him in this regard as well. So pass the word.

H). Accessibilities/Special Needs Service Committee-David

accessibility@ccaadistrict23.com.

David expressed his desire to have GSRs pick up the flyers available at the GSR meeting regarding his availability to give rides to those who do not have a way to get to meetings on their own. He also had a list of his own of others members who were willing to transport members with disabilities and injuries that have been preventing them to participate in the fellowship at meeting in the Santa Barbara area from Isla Vista to Carpinteria.

David also encouraged members to visit his web page at the District website to fill out his survey and questionnaire or contact him at 637-4439 if they knew of any members in the district that have special needs and are experiencing difficulty attending meetings due to accessibility problems. David's tenure as a Committee member has ended but he said he is willing to serve until someone accepts his Chair. We thank him very much. He did state that he will not be available thorough the months of June and July.

I). Central Office Liaison: Brian.

centraloffice@ccaadistrict23.com

Brian announced that Central Officer has decided to increase the number of paid office personnel and could no longer rely completely on volunteers who often have responsibilities that conflict with their committed hours of service. At the present time the Central Office is open a total of 45 hours a week.. He also stated that the Central Office's desire to get the word out about its annual 4th of July BBQ which will be held at Manning Park. The Central Office also stated its desire to have individual AA members submit articles for publication in their monthly newsletter: the Messenger. Brian expressed that we could possibly in the future submit articles about General Service and District Committees to the Messenger and that he would inquire into the possibility of having a regular space in the Messenger for our Service Event Calendar. Brian will bring Committee Chair Service reports and David's Accesabilities fliers to the Central Office monthly meeting.

J). Young Peoples Service Liaison – Mandy (filling in for Brian W.)

sbpaa@ccaadistrict23.com

Mandy brought to the attention at the GSR meeting that ICYPAA along with the help of our local SPYBPAA will be hosting an upcoming Swing Dance/Speaker Meeting that will take place at the Alano Club (235 E. Cota St.) on Saturday May 26th This event will start at with the speaker at 8:00-9:00 followed by the dance at 10:00 which will have volunteers offer swing dance lessons to those unfamiliar with this form of dance. The dance will continue till 2:00 a.m.! For more information please contact (Zack (310) 279-8976--ICYPAA) or (Logan at (805) 636-5069 SBYPAA) or visit the SBYPAA Website.

Mandy also wanted to let it be known that the following day (most likely) on Sunday May, 27th SBYPAA will be having open elections for officers positions

K). H & I Liaison-Open

9). Old Business See DCM Report

Stewart April 15th 1 YEAR

Gil E. April 15th 36 YEARS

**We sang Happy Birthday to both of them and thank them for their service.
Congratulations to you both!!**