

November 2, 2023, business Meeting for MSCA Area 09 / District 12

-Meeting called to order & opened with the Serenity Prayer

GSR Preamble read by Dolly

New GSRs & their service sponsors:

GSR: Patty, Service Sponsor: (not named, but announced Patty has one)

Visitors:

We had no visitors this month.

-Traditions presentation by : Rodrigo

Tradition 11

Short form:

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

Long form:

Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

Principal: Attraction

-Concepts presentation by: David C.

Concept 11

Short form:

The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

Principal: Respect

Minutes Approval- Secretary- Dominick

-Dominick had said the minutes had been sent out for last month's Business Meeting & had asked if there were any corrections that were needed, none were suggested. Jim S. made a motion to adopt the minutes and Rodrigo seconded, none were opposed, and the minutes were adopted.

Board Reports

DCMC: Bob (BobMontgomery@att.net)

-Bob acknowledged this was the last Business Meeting for panel 72 & had thanked everyone for taking part in General Service

-He mentioned how the program is formed by those that show up and our attendance was exemplary of the commitment for District 12; said it was an honor and a privilege to serve as the DCMC and was grateful for all

-Bob discussed the November and December Area Service Committee Meetings and how those feed into the Area Service Assembly in January

-Bob talked about some of the motions such as the Literature Committee Guidelines, and the creation of standing committees in Area 09 for an LGBTQ Committee and Women's Spanish Speaking Committee, and a motion to not have Area Service Committees and Foros in the same calendar month

-Bob mentioned how the November ASC is made for asking questions to those who have made the motions to inquire about their rationale, while the December ASC is for folks to have time to express their opinions about the motions.

-He encouraged people to Zoom into one or both of the ASCs so they are eligible to vote on the motions at the Area Assembly Meeting in January

-Bob also talked about the Servathon on November 18 that will be in San Pedro & held on the USS Iowa; there will be a BBQ and live entertainment, plus speakers

-Bob said the District 12 Meeting will not be a traditional Business Meeting & how it will be a potluck at the Canyon Club on Saturday December 2

Alt DCMC: Tara - (TaraFarry@iclud.com)

-Tara had thanked Bob for his service & the District 12 body for electing her the new DCMC for the next panel

-Tara had also talked about the following upcoming events:

*Traditions Day Workshop (In-person)

Date & Time: Saturday November 4, 2pm to 4pm

Location:

Canyon Club

20456 Laguna Canyon Road – Laguna Beach, CA

Hosted by District 12; will be food, Bob as the speaker, & a play about the 12 Traditions

*12 Concepts Workshop (Virtual)

Date & Time: Sunday November 5, 3pm to 4pm

Zoom Info: ID- 928 8170 4093, Password- 642408

Facilitated by Francine W., District 9 PI Chair; Come prepared with the current edition of the AA Service Manual

*Gratitude Dinner (In-person)

Date & Time: Saturday November 11, 5pm to 8:30pm

Location:

Palm Springs Air Museum

745 N. Gene Autry Trail – Palm Springs, CA

For online ticket sales visit: www.aainthedesert.org

*Area Service Committee (Hybrid)

Date & Time: Sunday November 12, 9am to 3pm

In-person Location:

Thousand Palms Community Center

31189 Robert Road, Thousand Palms, CA

Zoom Info: ID- 878 6956 9698, Passcode- ASC

*MSCA Area 09 Service Workshop (Virtual)

Date & Time: Thursday November 16, 7pm to 8pm

Zoom Info: ID- 873 6607 8505, Passcode- Area09p72

*MidSo Cal Area 09 Servathon 2023 (In-person)

Date & Time: Saturday November 18, 4pm to 8pm

Location:

USS Iowa Battleship

250 S Harbor Boulevard – San Pedro, CA

live entertainment, food, Spanish and English speakers, and raffle

*12 Concepts Workshop (Virtual)

Date & Time: Sunday November 19, 3pm to 4pm

Zoom Info: ID- 928 8170 4093, Password- 642408

Facilitated by Francine W., District 9 PI Chair; Come prepared with the current edition of the AA Service Manual

*District 12 Holiday Party (In-person)

Date & Time: Saturday December 2, 2pm to 4pm

Location:

Canyon Club

20456 Laguna Canyon Road – Laguna Beach, CA

Please bring a potluck dish

- For more information or to print flyers for these events, visit the Mid-Southern California Area 09 website at <https://msca09aa.org/>

Treasurer: Mike (mike.palencia@ameritech.net)

-Mike had thanked everyone for serving & said he had learned a lot by attending PRAASA & Area Meetings

-Mike stated we are right where we should be with the budget & that we had done a good job of spending the surplus funds in a substantive way by carry the message of AA

-Mike mentioned how AA wants to be a good business partner & pay their vendors on time & promptly; he encouraged GSRs to let their treasures to go ahead & make contributions, they don't need to wait until the end of the quarter to send in funds, this helps with cash flow

-Mike reported the following numbers:

Checking opening \$10,188.04

Expenses \$684.53

Income \$493.36

Checking closing \$9,996.87

Savings reserve \$3,602.00

All in total \$13,598.87

Secretary: Dominick (mscadistrict12@gmail.com)

-Dominick had thanked everyone for giving him the opportunity to serve as the secretary for the District & for helping him stay sober by participating in his sobriety

-He had also talked about how the emails for the District, such as meeting reminders, announcements, meeting minutes, etc., are going out via Mail Chimp & for those that are not getting them to reach out to him, plus he said folks could reach out to the incoming secretary Lisa as we are transitioning to the new board

Registrar: Lenore (d12registrar)gmail.com):

-Lenore had Thanked everyone for the chance to be of service

-She had also reminded people to sign in using the sign in sheets

Old Business

*Transferring banking information

-Bob explained how we need to have a motion to accept the incoming board members for the new panel, this is needed for banking purposes to have the new board members switched onto the bank accounts/ information

-Jim S. motioned to have the new board members accepted & Patty seconded, all were in favor

*Thanks

-Bob had thanked Heidi for doing a great job with the Secretary Workshop; said it was very helpful since he has been to plenty of meetings where service positions at the group level were not well understood

New Business

*District Inventory

-Discussion based on the inventory questions that had been sent out with the November Business Meeting reminder had been held (not all questions were covered at the meeting)

1. What is the basic purpose of the District Committee?

-Lily had mentioned that within our local area to make sure we have representation to Central Office & bring forward thoughts/ ideas from our groups

-Tom had mentioned how that putting on parties between other fellowships is part of the answer

-Walt had mentioned how the GSR preamble covers what we do & Bob had confirmed this was accurate

2. What additional activities can we engage in, to carry the message?

-Jim S. talked about feedback he had gotten about the Groups & Sponsorship Workshops; said that having more workshops would be helpful in carrying the message

-Lenore had mentioned how working with other districts to have cross-district events would be a good way for the different districts to learn from one another & build fellowship amongst the districts; Bob said he talks with other districts & that getting involvement in other districts is difficult

-Rodrigo talked about having game night, Family Feud or Jeopardy style games that are recovery based (from literature); someone also mentioned how even having a BINGO night could be a good event

-Jim S. had talked about how the Groups & Sponsorship workshops had been based on the brochures & that that going through other brochures from General Service could provide ideas for other workshops

3. Considering the number of alcoholics in our district, are we reaching enough people?

-Many GSRs had said we are not reaching enough alcoholics

-David C. had posed the question about how many alcoholics we actually have in the district since there is no real way to know this number; Bob mentioned how we have the largest Area in AA

-Some agreed that removing the first part of this question would make more sense

-Heidi had talked about how Bridging the Gap has been big contribution in reaching more alcoholics, the cards are being passed out at meetings & that has been good to see taking place; she commended that committee for this work

-Walt had talked about how in the sub-district breakouts about dark meetings, we had looked at meetings that previously had GSRs & that perhaps focusing on meetings that have never had a GSR by looking at the meeting directory could be a good way to get more meetings involved in General Service

-Tom had brought up the idea of reaching out more to Zoom meetings using the meeting directory to get them involved in General Service

-Jason had talked about creating a single page document about what GSR is, what we do, & why it is important; he said the document could be dropped off at meetings & include contact information for the district board members

-Jeff had asked about why the District 12 meetings are not on Zoom; Bob had talked about how they were, but there had been a group conscience to have them exclusively in-person, but Bob said this is something that could be revisited to have the meetings be hybrid; Bob also talked

about how the Area meetings that are hybrid have the funds to be able to pay for equipment & professionals to take care of the technical part

4. What has the District done lately to bring the AA message to the attention of professionals who can be helpful in reaching those who are in need of A.A.?

-Bob mentioned how we do not have active chair for the Cooperation with Professional Community

-Brian had talked about the recent things done are the Treatment Committee going to treatment centers & how Danny has been going to high schools as part of the Public Information Committee; also talked about how in January we will have elections for the various committees & that there are 16 districts in the Area to assist with carrying the message & encouraged that folks will fill the committee chairs in District 12

6. Do new G.S.R.'s stick with us, or does our turnover and missed meetings seem excessive?

-Many agreed that we do not have a high turn over of GSRs & that many stick with the commitment

-Bob said we have a strong group of people that attend the Business Meeting each month

7. How effective are we in communicating with all our groups?

-Bob mentioned how Keith puts the meeting minutes on the bulletin board at the San Juan Club

Bob discussed how thinking about this question is most important in January when the agenda items come out for the General Service Conference so the thoughts of members in our district can get passed on to the delegate; he said our new delegate will likely be very involved in getting opinions from folks in the Area

9. Has enough effort been made to explain to all, the value and purpose of a G.S.R.?

-Was mentioned how there have already been some good suggestions in the discussion in previous questions

-A GSR had mentioned how they create an interpretive dance about the meeting minutes & presents them that way to their group

-Hannah had talked about how she expresses to her group about how exciting it is to be at the Business Meeting & talks about the great snacks to get them interested

10. Do all G.S.R.'s have adequate opportunity to serve on committees?

-Bob discussed how we do not have committee chairs filled which is a problem & that after coming back from Covid we had been focused on getting the chairs filled that would allow for GSR to function, but said looking back he could have done a better job regarding this issue

-Bob encouraged people to fill the committees in the next panel

11. Are district officers picked with care and consideration?

- Jim s. had mentioned that when a new panel gets installed the question of “can I do this” comes up; he said it works out & we are successful

-Lenore had talked about how she fell into the registrar position & found she was able to get support to make it happen

-Dominick had mentioned how he had explained to his sponsee that we do not stay sober, sponsor, & do service commitments on our own; all of those things are done through the fellowship ; he also discussed that the General Service Office has guides & handbooks for each of the service committees on the GSO website & that having no experience serving on a committee does not need to prevent people from taking a service position

12. Do our groups carry their fair share of supporting the Area and the General Service Office (GSO)?

-Bob mentioned how he viewed this in the context of the 7th Tradition; said we do a good job & that we had sent a big chunk of money to GSO during the pandemic

Committee Reports

*Traditions Day

-Rodreigo had talked about the event coming up on Saturday & gone over some of the details

-He needed someone to volunteer to buy ice cream stuff (bowls, ice cream, toppings, spoons)

-Mike said he would connect with Rodreigo to get the exact details & volunteer to get those items

*Intergroup

-Dolly had talked about how the motion to start creating printed meeting directories passed

-She mentioned how meetings that are on the OC-AA website will be the ones that are being put into the printed directories & encouraged GSRs to make sure the info on the website is correct

-Dolly also said that if you attend other meetings to please look at the OC-AA website to make sure the info is correct for those meetings too

-GSR recap

We did not have a GSR recap this month

Birthdays for the month of October

Ellen with 3 years

David with 6 years

Tom with 6 years

Brian with 11 years

Keith with 14 years

Alison with 17 years

Patty with 22 years

-Check out the websites for the District, Area, OC Central Office (Intergroup), and GSO! (listed below)

-For online contributions to the District: Use Venmo @district12contributions

-Meeting was then closed with the 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.

Helpful Resources:

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE! www.msca09aa.org

NEW AND IMPROVED AREA 09 WEBSITE for information and links: www.msca09aa.org

O.C. Central Office (Intergroup) website for information and directory: www.oc-aa.org

G.S.O. (General Service Office in NY) website for information and links: www.aa.org

MSCA District 12's Mailing Address:

MSCA District 12 PO Box 573 Dana Point, CA 92629 USA