

Mid-Southern California Area 09 (MSCA)
General Service Representatives
District 1 – Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes from November 19, 2020 (Rough Draft; Rev-)

- 1) Call to Order
7:00 pm Zoom Meeting Opened with moment of silence; Serenity Prayer at __7:01____ pm
- 2) Introduction
Initially (_3_) of us were present on the videoconference, and so we did a quick intro and check in.
Jeff L: AA Birthday (sobriety date is 11/19/11) 9 years today.
- 3) In Attendance – we have the following (_6_) Zoom participants, at _7:05_ pm:
From the Executive BOD, District 1
Alex, DCMC Marie, DCMC Alt. Jeff, Secretary
Jim, Treasurer Charles, Registrar / Finance
Other visiting GSRs and guests
Apryll, GSR

Arriving on Zoom later (3) other AA members:
Erin W, District 3 Liaison Karyn, Secretary Alt. Charley A, GSR
- 4) Scheduled time for Special Guests w/ Invitation to share and make their presentation to the Board
 - a) Cindy (scheduled at 7:05) [no show]
...wanted to discuss her recent Agenda item re.: GSC Motion to address safety issue.
We were going to explain how District 1 meeting functions including how motions are made and other procedures to reduce confusion.
 - b) Website Committee Chair re.: Website Guidelines on posting event flyers
Jim: is the Gratitude Breakfast annual Central Office (C.O.) Fundraiser pdf flyer submitted for posting on the Website or is it simply being made available?
Alex: corresponding with Rob at C.O., Rob did not submit it for the Website.
Jim: C.O. flyers are not automatically approved for posting, per guidelines, furthermore the flyer does not address ANY public health concerns. Even if it were to state that the event “conforms to the So. Bay ALANO Club (SBAC) outside social distancing guidelines” it’s unclear what these are when they’re not written down.
Jeff: the written words “Continental Breakfast” sounds like a step in the right direction, previous years were “pancake breakfasts” but it isn’t clear: are these meals “wrapped in cellophane?”

Alex votes to post it (the flyer itself) on the Website
Marie: these are prepackaged meals and coffee is only available for purchase at the coffee bar. Signs are posted at SBAC clearly stating LA County laws. X X X’s ...etc. are marked off on the parking lot indicating common sense social distances. A person’s right to participation is one’s individual choice.
Jim: (screen sharing) CDC Order and County of LA: “(10) or less participants are allowed in an AA Meeting”.
Alex: §F says there’s “no limit on faith based” gatherings.
 - c) Apryll (scheduled at 7:15)
...wants to discuss safety concerns re.: upcoming Holiday Party on December 10, 2020 and we begin with her presentation at 7:24:

Apryll repeats the arguments she already made a week ago at our regular district Committee Meeting (CM) including her opinion we are in violation of Tradition 4, and so will be affecting “AA as a whole” and risking harm “to other Groups”.

Alex: our vote was made at our last CM for at least 2/3 (amendment of the motion passes) and the event will proceed as approved in hybrid mode.

Apryll: amendment problems – amendment(s) in real time means there is no time for District members to research whether we are complying with or following CDC recommendations or LA County & State mandates. Apryll asks for an appeal or Monkey Vote to reverse the amendment for a Hybrid gathering, in-person portion, because our District Members did not have time to understand and consider the risk involved.

Jeff: (question to) are you (Apryll) against all in-person AA Group meetings or just wanting to ban District group meetings? What are the pros and cons? “I only hear the negatives, what are the positives?” Alex defers answering (by Apryll) to have us hear from other Zoom participants first. *

Alex: points out CDC orders change weekly, sometimes daily. In our service structure (upside down triangle) we are held to a lower standard, supporting our Groups as they conduct themselves at a higher standard.

Karyn: potluck is risky, however in my (health industry) experience, like many in-person gatherings, AA provides essential services also – County guidelines “take precedence” at the local level and the decision to attend an outdoor gathering, or not, is an individual decision”. I choose not to go.

Alex: we will not change the CM consensus at this ECM

Charley A (past District 1 Chair): guidelines are guidelines like spiritual principles. No one among us can claim with certainty we are doing our participation at any gathering or Group with spiritual perfection. 1/3 of the Program is “fellowship” and Zoom is only 2-dimensional. Some of us yearn for the meeting in person and may otherwise suffer or go out.

* Apryll does not answer Jeff’s question directly. She reiterates her opposition / minority opinion.

- 5) Holiday Party Planning Review
Planning team: Marie, Sandra, Richard
[not discussed – we run out of time]
- 6) Planning for General Service Conference (GSC) Review 2021 Panel 71
[brief mention]
Alex: Agenda Items for the GSC and our communications are most important to help GSR’s be involved and to understand voting at the conference.
- 7) Open Discussion (on any questions and comments from the floor)
[brief mention]
Alex: (question) will the Website Committee post the Holiday Party pdf flyer on the Website?
Jim: let’s see it first. [i.e. it’s TBD]

Karyn: we need additional meetings besides the one CM and one ECM a month – there’s not / or never enough time to review the background information and to help lead us to an informed decision or vote.
- 8) Meeting to Adjourn by 8:00pm – _8:02___ pm (Responsibility Pledge) Meeting Adjourned
Respectfully submitted by:
Jeff L, Secretary