

DCM Sharing Session – CNCA 06 Area Meeting

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July 24, 2021

11:08am Meeting Opened with the Serenity Prayer by Drew Baker

Translation by Manuel. Thank you for your service!

46 DCMs, GSRs and visitors attended. Drew Baker facilitated.

One visitor: Theresa BTG Chair

Presentation: Chase Campbell

Topic Presentation – E,S&H W/Hybrid Meetings

Main Points

- She feels that she is part of something bigger than herself and is grateful to be of service for the still-suffering alcoholic
- She picks up new information by experience and says yes to service even when she doesn't know what she's doing (and she won't tell you she doesn't know)
- PowerPoint: What Will It Take for a Hybrid Meeting? Her Friday hybrid meeting is "pretty ideal"
- Contents: What is a Hybrid Meeting / Set Up / Accessibility
- There are two types of audiences – a virtual audience and an in-person audience – hybrid is "not new" – we don't have to be on one place to have collaboration.
- Image: What her hybrid meeting does. Podium, camera, laptops, dependable and reliable network (Plan A, B & C), net cam facing audience with a high-quality microphone connected to laptop. Large screen, sound system connected to laptop
- Image of ideal set-up: podium, three laptops, HDMI cable, and projector screen
- Images of Primary Purpose Dublin group set-up
- Her commitment is to start the meeting and shut it down. She knows the ins and outs – she uses electrical cords to see what cord goes to which device
- Hybrid accessibility – they have Spanish interpretation and ASK
- The meeting has a Tech Host and Controller to make it effective

Members Share/Questions– (Main points from the sharing session)

- His LGBT group started back to in-person and incorporating a hybrid model in a creaky fashion to keep the people that they've gotten from far-off visitors. It's a small meeting in a small room. He got a microphone/speaker that "works pretty well" with USB port into laptop. What they're trying to do now is to have the person sharing sit near the laptop for its camera. If they're at a distance from computer, the Zoom people can't hear them. A Bluetooth speaker did not work as well. The meeting feels "like a 1950's family sitting around a tiny screen" with five in-person members and 12 Zoom people – they are all hunched around the laptop to see what the Zoom folks are doing.
- Q: Will the meeting be hybrid indefinitely? A: It's really completely in the air and hasn't been discussed at all
- Her Vacaville home group did hybrid meeting once a month, where speaker shares. They cut off the Zoom meeting, and then split into Zoom and in-person Q: How did she come to the decision to stay hybrid? A: She was at business meeting when the hybrid proposal came in. The main thing that (120 members) – the majority was from across the world and the meeting wanted to maintain connectivity and not cut the visitors off.

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- He knows zero about this process – thanked the presenter. Q: Do you have recommended speakers? A: Any speaker needs to be plugged in rather than Bluetooth. No matter how powerful the modem, it's best to be plugged into the source. Her meeting has two stand-up speakers, on the left and right sides of the room
- Great topic – thanked presenter. Simple yet so needed and very exciting. His homegroup is a pure virtual group – Club International. Home groups who went virtual are now faced with cutting off all visitors, which is sad. It would be wonderful if the Area could recommend a hardware package with costs, WiFi suggestions.
- Her home group Candlelight in Antioch attracts 20 people –it's a long-standing meeting. Some are strongly against in-person return and others strongly for in-person. In the past she has struggled financially w/making rent, so all the hardware would be purchased through the group. Q: Do you have a ballpark figure on hardware costs? She would like to bring to her meeting. They don't want to lose people attending the meeting for 20 years...how can we keep both sides happy and together? A: Her homegroup is low-tech hybrid, similar to the 1950's scenario shared previously. The "ideal" scenario in the presentation was for an Area Committee Meeting and entails a lot of equipment. You'd have to do research for equipment and costing for a meeting
- He did a hybrid at his home group, which is a speaker meeting. It seemed easy to control where the speaker is by the mic and the camera is pointed at them. Challenge is discussion meetings.
- She fell in love with the presentation, aesthetically. Ours is a fluid time. She's in a hybrid meeting not announced and the in-person meeting pays the rent. Yesterday they had a lot on Zoom. Have to consider rent and questions like how many can sustain the in-person and service position accountabilities. How does a group feel that they are in the minority? An interesting experience. Worked to have ballpark figure. Thanked presenter.
- She observed at her Zoom meeting, that one treatment facility dials in and shows up in a conference room. Some decided to form small groups – say a couple and thus were together on the screen. She then saw little pods of people. As long as there is a Zoom host, it's possible for people to naturally create multiple in-person groups in the virtual setting, say four to five people in someone's home. They together and have fellowship. Breakfast before meeting, coffee, etc.
- Her home group experience was that after they went virtual, the 120 people from the in-person group dwindled to 30. There never was an official Seventh Tradition collected for 16 months, so the only money left was the Prudent Reserve. When at a business meeting the group held a sharing session, it was split evenly between hybrid and in person. One member spoke up, noting that the cost of the equipment - three laptops, a movie projector, and a microphone - would cost money that the treasury just didn't have. After the question of self-support and prudence got introduced, the second round of the sharing session resulted in coming back in person and the creation of a separate zoom group.
- He will have a trial run hybrid district meeting in August. Members aren't interested in having hybrids and are keeping Zoom and live meetings separate. Looks that they will have to have their own Zoom birthday meetings. One women's meeting has been hybrid for one year.
- Thanked the presenter – and was amazed that created the presentation so quickly. She's in the unofficial hybrid meeting and it was a gift to go to the meeting when ill. Her Zoom

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meeting is now easing into hybrid, but they were at capacity due to the facility's spacing requirements. They had to ask members to leave when newcomers came. Keep an eye on our primary purpose and have a variety of welcoming methods for newcomers.

- Thanked presenter. He's a member of the group and was excited to see presentation. He did a presentation for a District and the big concern was anonymity and perhaps that a Newcome could feel "exposed." At this hybrid meeting, they can go to the side of the room that's not on camera. One of the interesting things he's heard, bringing up birthdays...one young person loved birthdays (in-person) because she got sober online but live, the newcomers come up to the podium and say they were newcomers. That's how she saw that it was important for her to take that next step when we're together in person. Progression - what's next - is coffee! His group takes a break after two speakers and now break is gone; maybe coffee is coming back for the break. They're going to initiate the break once they get the okay from the group. Online, they're going to figure out how to greet newcomers. He hopes we don't lose some of the things we're learning.
- Chase: The set up for the hybrid meeting stays set up. So, in thinking about Area or District, you have to consider the labor of tear down and set up.
- As an old member he has a Tradition Five concern, mainly, how can hybrid meeting carry the message to the community That's the thing that's going to suffer. In coming back to in-person, yes, we will lose those visitors but how can we carry the message inside the geographic area?
- He fears that if Zoom meetings disappear, we might lose many newcomers. Newcomers are showing up virtually, getting sober and staying sober.
- \$1000 is a lot of big books. Some groups don't have the resources. And those sober zoom meetings - there's a lot. We should be thoughtful about how to proceed and consider the Traditions

Call for Volunteer to Present at Next DCM Sharing Session

Next Month's Topic:

The Return - Support Groups in the Return and Connecting GSO Registration, Intergroups - Austin D04 & Vivian B.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Perlmutter, "One Time Only" Recording Secretary fill-in for Chase Campbell