

DCM SHARING SESSION—NOVEMBER 27, 2021

11:00 AM – Sharing Session held virtually; opened with the Serenity Prayer by Chairperson, Drew B.,

What happens at a DCM Sharing Session by Drew B.: At the DCM Sharing Session, a District Committee Member suggest a topic and then there is a discussion on the topic with those in attendance.

New to the DCM Sharing Session:

Presentation By: Kris W. of District 07 Alameda North Topic Presentation – “What is a sub-district?”

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DCM = District Committee Member, DCMC = District Committee Member Chair, CNCA = California Northern Coastal Area, GSO = General Service Office, GSC = General Service Conference

The presenter shared a couple of handouts that reflected the topic as narrated during the sharing session: <https://tinyurl.com/dcmsession.docs> . In 1969, each county became a separate District except for Alameda County being split in two. In the current CNCA Motions Book/Index, “CNCA Structure Clarification Committee Report,” section 8811-1, states the adoption of what is now CNCA’s current service structure which provides the DCMC to be the leader of the District Meetings and the cultivation of sub-districts within.

The CNCA History Book by Dean K. was mentioned giving some of the historical background behind the implementation of Districts beginning in the city of San Francisco. In *Dean K.’s CNCA History: A history of the beginning and growth of A.A. within the geographical boundaries of the California Northern Coastal Area* gives a line-by-line historical take of how A.A. withing the Area came into formation.

So what is the point of a Sub-District? They are autonomous units. The responsibility of the DCM is to articulate the con- science of the Sub-District to the District and to the Area.

Chapter Two and Chapter Three of the Service Manual speaks of the DCM. The existence of the DCMC concept is not nationwide and most Districts are led by a DCM. The role of the DCM in this instance is to be the leader of the Sub- District which is an autonomous unit in the A.A. service structure and is considered unanimously at GSO. The structure motion that was passed back in the 80s solidified the DCM/DCMC. It would appear that the Sub-District is above the District in the upside down triangle. A past delegate of CNCA, Diane W., speaks of the Sub- District and the DCMC being the coach of the team and the DCMs being the defensive/offensive coaches. An analogy that makes clear that the structure is not instructing any district to do anything, the Districts are not bound by CNCA. The presenter’s experience of being a DCMC and DCM several times, the duties, and their availability to be a temporary DCM for any District that doesn’t have one. The minimum duties are to hold Sub-district meetings at least once during the panel to visit the Groups within the geographical area. There are Groups that does not want to hear about General Service. Name, rank, and serial number are the introductory statements that are suggested when visiting the

Groups and/or meetings in the Sub-District as the DCM. Noting that as their DCM they are not there to enforce General Service upon the Group. One mistake that was admitted in the session was their, essentially, telling a Group what they need to do. Experience has shown that that attitude doesn’t fly with any alcoholic in recovery or not. Their experience has also shown them that there are Groups whose GSR’s only responsibility is to run the business meeting of the Group. In conclusion, the material presented and shared includes the advisory action that was passed at the 2021 GSC, allowing online Groups the ability to register with GSO with their *preferred* District. This means any online Group can decide to be attached to any District they want to. The question was posed: Will the structure change?

To get a more in-depth experience of the discussion portion of the DCM Sharing Sessions, attend the next session Satur- day, December 18, 2021.

Next Month’s Topic: How do we use our electronic presence? Presenter: TBD. Megan volunteered to assist Closed with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully Submitted by Chase C.

DCM Sharing Session Recording Secretary