

DCM SHARING SESSION JANUARY 22, 2022

DCM Sharing Sessions Minutes January 22, 2022

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:

Index: DCM = District Committee Member, DCMC = District Committee Member Chair, CNCA = California Northern Coastal Area, GSO = General Service Office,
GSC = General Service Conference,
GSR = General Service Representative A.A. = Alcoholics Anonymous

Past Presentations are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/dcmsharingdocs>

Presentation By: Billy N. (Past GSR, Panel 49 Delegate, Trustee)

Presentation Topic – “The Platform We Are on Today/The Importance of The District”

The presenter was a surprise arrival at the DCM Sharing Session on the 22nd of January 2022. Due to pushing back returning to an in person Area Committee Meeting there were no presenter scheduled ahead of time. One thing for sure is that in A.A. everything tends to work out just the way it is intended. They began with sharing a four-quality mathematical equation reflective of Concept IX in the Service Manual, the platform we are on today and the importance of the District and challenges up ahead for Districts. They concluded with posing the following questions: How many committee workbooks at the General Service Office talked about using digital technology to reach treatment centers and correctional facilities? How many Intergroup websites had readily accessible digital meetings for the homebound and others to attend without having to find Online Intergroup? How many committees had online accessibility? How many correctional facilities in the United States/Canada Jan 1, 2020, were in a condition of lockdown? What about the person in hospice in January of the year 2020 that just wanted to go to their last A.A. meeting to check in with the society that gave them their life back and put their family back together?

Here is a condensed portion of what happened: In considering Concept Nine, there are four qualities talked about there: Tolerance, Responsibility, Flexibility, and Vision. There is a simple mathematical equation to remember to keep in mind.

$Tolerance + Flexibility + Vision = Responsibility$
 $Intolerance + Inflexibility + Lack of Vision = Irresponsibility$

They then shared what is important at Area level and that they are not a fan of “Delegate’s only” luncheons. What is important is the GSRs and the DCMs. They expressed the concern that worshipping people who have done stuff in the past becomes more important than what is needed not only today but also what is needed for the future of AA.

The greatest challenge to any person in a leadership role in

A.A. is to honor the past, yet look to the future; there is no tougher assignment in A.A. than to honor our great past but not become so rooted in dogma that it becomes institutionalized and we don’t change. The erosion and disempowerment of the District. That the District has fallen aside between the Groups and the Areas. Maybe it is because over the last 20-25 years we have centralized all authority and power to the dais in the Assembly room at the Assembly. They concluded with this thought: “The greatest thing about this online platform and the agenda items and advisory actions from last year is we are really going to have to decide if we really mean what is stated in “The A.A. Group” pamphlet

-- the difference between a Group and a Meeting. My belief stands the same on Friday night in Atlanta at the International Convention: If Bill and Bob were looking down, they had tears in their eyes when they saw the vast groups of people that attended the convention, and what two people started a long time ago.”

Topic for Next Month:

Presented by Bren of District 07: How do we connect with Groups before the Pre-Conference Assembly?

Respectfully Submitted,

Chase C. | DCM Sharing Session Recording Secretary