

**CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
January 18, 2025**

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held using a hybrid format on January 18, 2025, with some members attending virtually and others attending in-person at the Petaluma Community Center. Drew B. opened the meeting at 12:30 pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Pia W. from District 90, Craig O. from District 04 read Tradition 1 in English and Adrian P. from District 17 read Concept 1 in Spanish. We welcomed twelve (12) new GSRs, eighteen (18) new DCMs, and thirteen (13) new DCMCs. There were eight (8) past Delegates present: Barbara M. (P41), Bob D. (P36 Area 28), David N. (P59 Delegate, past Trustee), Diane O. (P35), Jennifer B. (P71), Joann L. (P67), Ken M. (P61) and Teddy B-W. (P69). The December 2024 financial report and ACM minutes were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments* and *Comentarios*. **Attendance:** @ 100 in person; 68 online. **Birthdays:** 132/10.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**DELEGATE – CHITRA S.:** Our theme for this panel is Working Together and Developing Trust. To practice trust, I will focus on these seven elements: boundaries, reliability, accountability, vault, integrity, non-judgment, and generosity. My first step is through communication. As Delegate, I will share the information I receive from General Service and ensure it gets to everyone in this room. From there, it's up to you to pass it along so that information flows to the A.A. groups. I sent DCMCs and committee chairs the Agenda Topics Timeline and a flyer for the International Convention. Please let your groups know that hotel rooms are still available. We currently have the list of preliminary agenda topics and a final list of topics is forthcoming. Also, make sure to get a copy of our newly revised Service Manual.

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE – CLAUDIA N.:** As I reflect on our primary purpose, I am filled with gratitude. Carrying the message is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship provides and everyone here plays an integral part in our service structure. It is normal for us to be apprehensive when starting a new position but I'm reminded of Suzanne M.'s words: "Oh honey, you can't break A.A." For the next two years, I will support the Delegate and also chair the Area's PICPC Committee. The Trustees' CPC Committee launched the Military Veteran Interview Project. To learn more, contact [militaryoutreach@aa.org](mailto:militaryoutreach@aa.org).

**CHAIR – DREW B.:** Today I'm reminded of one of A.A.'s most helpful but often overlooked sayings: "Easy Does It". For many of us starting new commitments is a reminder to relax, stay humble, and not worry. Just like it helps the newcomer in their early days, "Easy Does It" helps us in our new General Service roles. Mistakes will inevitably happen but I'm going to do my best to relax and enjoy this new adventure. Join me. Last week, I visited G.S.O. and learned that the updated Spanish Service Manual should be completed by month's end. Today, we have a presentation of new business and two items of old business.

**TREASURER – DAN B.:** Claudia and I have had several pass-it-ons and I'm learning a lot. I've processed reimbursements, matched transactions in QuickBooks, and deposited Group Contributions. We're working through an integration issue between Square and QuickBooks, but our funds are secure. For 2024, we came ahead by about \$7,000. Per a Panel 67 Area Motion, I'll send the minimum \$3,500 contribution to GSO for Delegate expenses. I've also started processing reimbursements via Zelle, which avoids lost checks and provides free bank-to-bank transfers.

**ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – MATT E.:** I'm still getting a feel for how all the moving parts come together for our hybrid Area events. I'm grateful to our Hybrid Team and our past Assembly Coordinator for their support. I've signed a contract for the Fall Assembly venue and attended the first meeting of the Pre-Conference Assembly planning committee in District 03 Santa Cruz. They've secured a great hotel discount with the Santa Cruz Courtyard Marriott—please book your rooms as soon as possible.

**REGISTRAR – SARAH B.:** I'm learning about our area's Airtable registration database and updating GSR and district officer information. I've also created an assembly-style registration form to launch soon. With a resolved access issue, I'll start registration with GSO. Please remember that the *Comments* and *Comentarios* paper mailings don't continue from panels 73 to 75; you must re-request if you want it in the mail.

**RECORDING SECRETARY – JACKIE B.:** I have emailed the Motions Book to area officers and district/committee chairs. If you'd like access and don't hold these roles, let me know—I can provide it via flash drive or email. Thank you to those who emailed their ACM reports in advance. If you haven't yet, please submit it ASAP. Finally, I'd like to honor our Panel 45 Delegate, Jim M., who recently passed away.

**LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – JOSE L.:** The Grapevine and La Viña apps are now available internationally. International members can now access these platforms, expanding A.A.'s reach and fostering a sense of global fellowship and unity. The subscription for the print La Viña magazine has increased to \$18 per year and the price of Grapevine books has increased by \$1. The YouTube channel has a new playlist of diverse audio stories and a playlist for Deaf members.

#### **DISTRICT REPORTS**

**DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – ELENA B.:** Our first district meeting is next week but we've already held our first Sub-district meeting and GSR school, where we discussed a proposed agenda item regarding a national public information piece with consistent messaging and QR codes. Our Travel Reimbursement Guidelines ad hoc committee has created draft guidelines. The Salinas GSRs will join our hybrid district meetings as District 02 does not have a DCMC.

#### **DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – VACANT**

**DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – RYAN A.:** ACYPAA is just around the corner, and after that, our district will host the Pre-Conference Assembly. This month we welcomed six new GSRs. We passed a motion to send money to Area and GSO and discussed our proposed 2025 budget, which will be voted on next month. An Agenda Topics workshop is being organized for early March.

**DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – JON R.:** Our district passed a housekeeping motion to help fund ASL translation at the 52nd ACYPAA. The visiting area officer summarized what GSRs can expect from the upcoming agenda topics season. The newly formed Accessibility Committee meets the third Wednesday of the month at 6 PM; Intergroup will host the Oldtimers meeting on 2/8 in Willow Glen; and our joint agenda topics workshop with District 40 will be in March. For more info, visit [district04cnca.org](http://district04cnca.org).

**DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – PAM S.:** All district officer positions are filled, along with some DCM and liaison positions. We're building on what we learned last panel while exploring new ideas. This month, we'll introduce the Agenda Topic process and work to engage

as many voices as possible. Our Alternate DCMC attends Intergroup meetings and collaborates with District 04's Alternate DCMC to plan the Agenda Topic Workshop in March. Our Treasurer now has online access to the bank account, and the Recording Secretary has set up shared folders for easier communication. Registration of new GSRs is underway, and we're seeking additional tech members to support our hybrid meetings.

**DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – JONATHAN L.:** We have a full agenda for our first district meeting on Tuesday. A GSR or DCM will be selected to attend PRAASA. Volunteers are sought for the Post-Conference Assembly planning committee with District 06. PENYPAA has a new liaison to our district, and we will vote on a motion to support their bid for the 2026 ACYPAA. Discussion of the budget surplus continues. Other topics of discussion include hosting a Founder's Day event and service scholarships to the International AA Convention.

**DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – DAVID S.:** It was my first time leading a General Service meeting. Our area officer was a great support, and the meeting went well. We filled the last of our liaison positions and elected a Post-Conference Assembly Co-Chair and four DCMs. Our Agenda Topics Workshop will be on March 15 and we hope to see you there.

**DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – BRIDGET L.:** Our first district meeting is next week. We will hold elections for the remaining open service positions. The proposed 2025 budget will be discussed, as well as a motion to create a virtual sub-district. We may combine two existing sub-districts to keep the total number of sub-districts at five. We are excited to co-host an Agenda Topics Workshop with District 70.

**DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – CHASE C.:** We ended Panel 73 with a farewell potluck last month. An area guest presented on the General Service App. Elections were held and all the positions were filled except PI/CPC and some of the sub-district DCMs. The most important positions, Coffee and Archives, were filled. The 55th Anniversary of the Tri-Valley Service Center will take place tonight in Livermore.

**DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – CHUCK B.:** We welcomed 22 new GSRs and alternates at our January district committee meeting. Officer pass-it-ons were completed, and everyone jumped into their roles. With the help of the visiting area officer, we elected four new DCMs and two alternates. The ad hoc committee on accessibilities presented its final report and GSRs were asked to gather group feedback. We postponed the discussion on making PRAASA scholarships a permanent pre-approved budgeted expense. We concluded with a review of the GSR calendar, including our Agenda Topics Workshop in February and upcoming assembly dates.

**DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – BILLIE JO C.:** Our district is hosting a Plain Language Big Book Workshop on February 16 at 1 pm in Benicia. Thanks to our visiting officer for attending our first meeting. It was a bit of a slow start - we only had a few GSRs, but I plan on pumping it up and getting some energy going ad hoc

**DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – DEBRA M.:** Nothing to report.

**DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – FRANK T.:** Our first district meeting is on Monday. PICPC activities include presentations to Dominican College Nurses; outreach to human resource personnel and construction companies and providing literature to law offices. During an officers' dinner, we defined our district's purposes: to help GSRs in their service, provide service opportunities, act as a hub between service entities, serve as a link in the communications chain, and preserve A.A. traditions. We revised the district agenda to create more engagement. We welcomed new H&I

and BTG committee chairs. Our officers were trained on Google Suite and we started preparing for agenda topics. We plan to address Group Safety each month using District 04's excellent safety resources.

**DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – DUNCAN L.:** We held our first business meeting, where we learned of the passing of Brouck H., husband of past delegate Nancy H. We approved the 2025 budget, elected an Alternate DCMC and Intergroup Liaison, discussed upcoming events, and heard a presentation by our visiting area officer on the spirit of rotation. A housekeeping motion was passed to purchase revised service manuals for sub-district meetings and GSR School. An ad hoc committee is exploring budget considerations for PRAASA scholarships. We are planning an inter-district workshop with Districts 09, 90, and 13 in Kelseyville, exploring PI opportunities in Napa Valley, and collaborating with Intergroup on a pre-assembly event for the Fall Assembly.

**DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – MAUREEN G.:** Our Agenda Topics Workshop is on 2/15 in Santa Rosa; interpretation will be provided. The program includes "What the Delegate Needs to Know", conference theme panels, and mock sharing sessions. During our district meeting, two PRAASA scholarships were awarded. Sonoma County Intergroup is discussing whether non-conference-approved literature should be sold at the Central Office Bookstore. Roz S. was unanimously elected as Alternate DCMC. The remaining open positions include Archives Chair and I&T Chair. Most sub-districts are represented, though an additional DCM and some alternate DCMs would be ideal.

**DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – CHRIS W.:** We are actively developing our Panel 75 service structure and have prepared the annual budget. As we engage with Agenda Topics, our GSRs will gather group consciences. H&I continues its vital work, bringing meetings to a fire camp, jail, and three recovery programs. Intergroup is planning events for 2025, including Founders Day Softball, Soberfest, and Unity Day. The district currently supports 63 meetings on the schedule. The 19th Annual Inter-district General Service Workshop will be held in Lake County next weekend.

**DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – ALEX P.:** District 14 is well poised with a nearly full panel of officers. Nearly all Pass-It-Ons are completed. The Coastal Intergroup's events calendar is bringing fun and unity to our area, starting with a masquerade ball tonight. PICPC effort continues inland with another high school presentation this month. Our first district meeting agenda includes budget approval, a PRAASA scholarship, and a motion to clarify our guidelines to better support our GSRs.

**DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – JANINE L.:** Our hybrid district meeting was well attended, with participants from Humboldt and Del Norte counties. A visiting Area officer presented on accessibilities committees, and we elected an Accessibility Committee Chair. The district passed two motions: 1) To send the DCMC to PRAASA, and 2) to send another officer to PRAASA. We are seeking a Recording Secretary and a DCM for one sub-district. PICPC is being revitalized with a new chair. Our February meeting will be held on Zoom. Planning is underway for an Agenda Topics Workshop and Unity Day. To address recruitment challenges, the DCMC will attend the monthly Speaker Meeting.

**DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – ROSALBA P.:** We held our business meeting last Wednesday and are organizing our new agenda, focusing on motivating groups without GSRs to participate. Some chair positions remain vacant, but progress is being made. Our new Bridging the Gap (BTG) Chair has already held their first committee meeting, which is a great start.

**DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – ERIC R.:** We thank the visiting Area officer for sharing area updates and motivating everyone. During our business meeting, we introduced ourselves and discussed trip plans for those attending PRAASA. Updates on the progress of the Foro Hispano were shared, including the finalized event date. Our committees presented their work plans for this panel and district members are encouraged to support these efforts. Additionally, the PI Committee conducted three public presentations in Sunnyvale.

**DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – ALMA L.:** Our district held its first planning meeting. Open positions include PICPC Chair, Intergroup Liaison, and District 10 Liaison. To support our GSRs, we will hold orientations before our business meetings. A visiting Area officer gave a presentation about PRAASA, including tips on discussing GSR funding with groups. Some members are hesitant to attend PRAASA due to concerns about traveling to Alaska. To prepare for the Pre-Conference Assembly, we plan to attend District 12's Agenda Topic Workshop, which will help us practice presenting group consciences effectively.

**DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – ADAN M.:** Last month, my colleagues elected me to be of service. It has been 28 years since I first came to General Service, though I stepped away for some time. Now, we are starting fresh, and I look forward to continuing to learn and grow with all of you. At our next area meeting, I will provide more information about what is happening in our district, and I hope to collaborate closely with my colleagues.

**DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – MISAIEL M.:** At the last district meeting, we approved a motion to hold a Safety Workshop on February 10 at 7 pm at the district headquarters. We visited two groups to inform and motivate them to participate in General Service and the Seventh Tradition. We filled the positions of I&T coordinator and EBYPAA liaison. Members are encouraged to fill the following open positions: technology coordinator, H&I liaison, and events coordinator. We continue to increase our efforts to work with all the area committees so that communication flows as it should and fulfills its purpose.

#### **AREA STANDING & SUB-COMMITTEES, SHARING SESSIONS, AND LIAISON REPORTS**

**ACCESSIBILITIES – ENRIQUE E.:** Six new district chairs and several visitors attended our first committee meeting. We introduced ourselves and asked the districts for topics they might like to discuss and learn more about in the coming months. Next month, our co-chair, Mollie, will present on how to motivate district members to get an Accessibilities Committee started, and what access resources are available. All members are welcome to share on accessibility-related topics, including safety and other areas of interest.

**ARCHIVES – ELVIA P.:** At our business meeting today, we: 1) Made an effort to fill the remaining open positions; 2) read a brief history about GSO opening its Archives Room in 1975; and 3) heard a short history of CNCA 06, which originated as an area committee in 1979 and consisted of eight members, seven of whom were former Area Delegates.

**BRIDGING THE GAP – LYNN K.:** We had a small showing of new district chairs. We passed out district kits and did a Q&A. Our tech guy Gavin let the chairs know he will be available to set up Airtable or Google Sheets as needed. For the rest of the panel, we will meet on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 pm on Zoom.

**COMMENTS/COMMENTARIOS – MAUREEN G.:** District 12 is in the process of receiving a pass-it-on from District 08 to begin producing the area newsletter next month.

**FINANCE – JEFF D.:** We started with introductions. Our Area Treasurer shared his opinion of the committee's most pressing responsibilities and what is expected of us. I was given the honor of being elected Finance Committee Chair. We discussed the Area's current financial position and the effectiveness of our Budget vs Actual Report for measuring progress. Finally, we talked about how to streamline and modernize data entry in our QuickBooks software.

**INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION (I&T) – JOSE L.:** This month, with new members of the committee, we translated the *Comments* and *Comentarios* along with 21 additional documents. We ensured that we had enough interpreters for sharing sessions and meetings of the standing committees and sub-committees. Today, we guided the new committee members through the ACM set-up. The I&T Committee will have its first meeting and elections on January 22. We look forward to having a wonderfully dedicated team to lead this crucial service and to ensure inclusivity and unity within CNCA.

**PI/CPC – CLAUDIA N.:** We had a productive meeting this morning with over half of our districts represented—great participation! We elected our committee Recording Secretary, who stepped up and even took notes for the rest of the meeting. We introduced ourselves and discussed our vision for the committee. Next month, Rob and Natalie from District 10 will present on the topic of starting a PICPC Committee.

**TECHNOLOGY – MEG B.:** Discussions to create an Area Tech Committee first began in 2018. The committee was officially formed in 2020 to address the urgent need for an online presence. Hybrid functionality was introduced to the Area and registration improved with Airtable. Though initial efforts to implement generic emails and cloud storage didn't come to fruition, a firm foundation was laid last panel with the writing of committee guidelines, and development of a budget. We hosted a workshop on hybrid events and rolled out text-to-vote at the Election Assembly. Today, we are eight members strong, focused on serving the Area's tech needs. At our first meeting, we assigned roles, reviewed pass-it-ons, and began planning the next steps.

**WEBSITE – MANISHA G. (READ BY JACQUELINE P.):** Thanks to our Visiting Area Officer for running an efficient Third Legacy election. All positions were filled except for an "At Large" member. All members expressed enthusiasm and willingness to tend to and improve the CNCA06.org site. The committee is aware that the CNCA06 phone format version needs to be fixed; it seems that will be our first order of business. The committee spent some time reflecting on issues and wishes for the CNCA06 website. If you have any suggestions or feedback for the committee, please email them to the Web Chair Manisha at [webchair@cnca06.org](mailto:webchair@cnca06.org)

**DCM SHARING SESSION – NICOLE C:** This month, we began with introductions, brainstorming topics, and a two-minute silent reflection, followed by sharing hopes for the coming panel. Key topics included: Challenges and support for GSRs; Structuring topics like the 12 Concepts; Increasing engagement and participation; Addressing safety concerns; Strengthening the service structure; and Organizing GSR schools. Next month, Nicole C. will present on agenda topics.

**SPANISH LINGUISTIC SHARING SESSION – LUIS J.:** We discussed the responsibilities of GSRs and the importance of the Seventh Tradition, focusing on how funds are used. The discussion emphasized the critical role of the GSR in serving as the link between the group and the General Service structure. It was noted that if a group does not have GSR, it becomes isolated from A.A. as a whole. The importance of service sponsorship was also highlighted.

**LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA SHARING SESSION - JOSE L.:** During our sharing session, the key topics discussed were: 1) Concerns from new La Viña representatives about

delayed subscriptions; 2) The need for accessible materials for alcoholics with hearing difficulties; 3) Encouragement from the La Viña Anniversary liaison to register for the upcoming conference; and 4) A query about the existence of a subscriber list for groups using the Grapevine. Next session, we will discuss how to make online tools more attractive and user-friendly for our members.

**H & I – JAMES C.:** No report.

**YPAA (YOUNG PEOPLE IN A.A.) – EVAN J.:** All California Young People in A.A. (ACYPAA) conference will be February 6 - 9. We will hold lots of panels, meetings, concerts, drag shows, energy drinks, volleyball, and a mechanical shark! We need more volunteers! We have a cool pre-conference event on February 6 from 9 - 11 pm with exclusive use of the boardwalk arcade, laser tag, and other fun games!

**CENTRAL OFFICES AND INTERGROUPS – DON Z.:** No report.

**NCCAA (NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF A.A.) – CHASE C.:** The 76th Spring Conference will be held March 7 – 9 for those not attending PRAASA. The conference will include a *Plain Language Big Book* workshop, where we'll explore its history, hear from sponsors using it, and learn about its value as a resource in jails and institutions. The conference will also offer plenty of fellowship opportunities.

**HISPANIC WOMEN'S WORKSHOP –** No report:

**LA VIÑA ANNIVERSARY – JUAN CARLOS:** I attended the planning meeting in Las Vegas, where the Anniversary Committee shared updates. The event will take place on July 25 – 27, 2025, and the price is \$30, which consists of \$18 for registration and \$12 for event support. A poster with a QR code for more information is available. An invitation was made to the Spanish districts 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 to participate, but all are welcome.

**FORO HISPANO – ALEX:** The 7th Foro Hispano will be in District 16 Spanish Central. We are working on the flyer, preparing reports, and finalizing the last forum's finance report.

## **AREA BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF PANEL 75 FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Area Chair Drew B. conducted a certification of the Panel 75 Finance Committee members: Dan B. (Area Treasurer), Jeff D. (Chair), Rodrigo Z. (Member-at-Large), Deb A. (Member-at-Large), and Denise G. (Member-at-Large). **There were no objections. <<< Finance Committee approved.>>>**

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

- Panel 73 Motion Book Demonstration – *Presented by Sarah B. Area Registrar.*

Presentation: Sarah B. gave a presentation on the motions book, providing an overview of the Panel 73 Motions Book, a comprehensive document containing Area motions from December 1970 to December 2024, organized into three sections: discussions and reports, a motion index, and a chronological list of motions, with features such as a live table of contents and linked motion numbers for easier navigation. Questions: **Q:** How do we read the abbreviations for the motions? **A:** The motion number starts with the year (e.g., "25" for 2025), followed by the month for ACMs (e.g., "01" for January), a hyphen, and the order it was acted on. For assemblies, months are replaced with terms like pre-, post-, summer, and fall (or their Spanish equivalents). **Q:** Do we

need any special software to read it? **A:** It's a PDF, so any software that reads PDFs will work.

### **PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS:**

- "That CNCA allow Intergroups and Central Offices to sell Conference-approved literature by A.A.W.S., as well as A.A. Grapevine/La Viña magazines and books, at Area Assemblies, with the following provisions: 1) Literature must be available in both English and Spanish; 2) The sale of sobriety medallions, t-shirts and other types of merchandise will be prohibited; and 3) the Intergroup / Central will have sole financial responsibility for literature sales." – *Presented by Matt E. Assembly Coordinator and Jackie B. Area Recording Secretary.*

**Presentation:** The intention is to enhance access to A.A. literature for a wide audience at assemblies while fostering stronger communication between general service and local intergroups. Planning committees for assemblies would have the option, but not the obligation, to invite their local English and Spanish central offices to set up a literature sales table, subject to available space. **Questions:** **Q:** Will the intergroup or central office staff the table and handle the books? **A:** Yes, similar to how local YPAA committees handle soda sales, the invited intergroup or central office will manage their stock, expenses, and sales independently. The host assembly committee would only provide space for the table. **Q:** Is the intent for this to be a money-making opportunity for general service? **A:** No. Like soda sales, this is a service to attendees. The intergroup or central office will retain all proceeds and handle all costs independently. **Q:** Will the intergroup or central office running the table always be local to the assembly venue? **A:** That would be up to the host committee. **Q:** Is there currently a policy preventing book sales at assemblies? **A:** There is a policy against merchandise sales, such as t-shirts or medallions, primarily due to venue contract restrictions. This motion would clarify that selling conference-approved literature and Grapevine products is allowed. **Q:** Would intergroups need special permits to sell books? **A:** Most intergroups already have seller's permits, but venue contracts may occasionally restrict or ask for a percentage of sales. The assembly coordinator will review the contract details to ensure compliance. **Vote by simple majority to keep at ACM or forward to Assembly. Majority in favor of ACM. <<Motion will become New Business at the Area Committee meeting on February 22, 2025. >>**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- "That CNCA contribute \$300 to ACYPAA 52 Host Committee to assist with the funding of American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters" – *Presented by the ACYPAA 52 Host Committee*

**Discussion:** **Group consciences** - none. **Personal opinions** - This makes sense, we have some cash. // The 7th Tradition says groups should be self-supporting; this would be an outside contribution. // Our district contributed \$20, so the Area should contribute \$300. // The Area accepts intergroup contributions, so how would this be an outside contribution? We are all AA. // If we are in good financial standing, we should support this and even contribute more as a way to support accessibilities. // Our district also voted to contribute, so I imagine my district would also support the Area doing so. // I looked in the motions book, and in the 1970s, we contributed to YPAA, so it wouldn't set a precedent. // Our group contributed because this is a way to carry the message. // One difference between accepting intergroup contributions to the Area and this motion is that these funds are earmarked for a specific purpose. // The Area has also supplied letters of support, and this kind of follows through in the spirit of that support. // I have a dream we not only support ASL for ACYPAA but at the Area level as well. // My district helped fund a local YPAA event for a dance, so we have a precedent in my district. **Vote by 2/3 substantial unanimity: Yes: 44, No: 4, Abstained: 4. No minority opinion was heard. <<<Motion**



**Passed.>>>**

- “That the ACM, Area Standing Committees, and Area Subcommittees that meet in the same month as CNCA’s assemblies are conducted online only during those months. – *Presented by David S. and Russ A., CNCA Finance Committee members from P73*

Discussion: **Group consciences** - none. **Personal opinions** - At first, I liked the idea but learning that some committees meet only in person at ACM changed my view. // Finance, officers, and Spanish groups could meet online or skip entirely. // I’m in favor but think the motion should say “only online” instead of “online only” for clarity. // As a member of one of the three groups, I’m fine meeting online only, but I’d like input from others. // Finance agreed last panel that if an in-person meeting was needed, a committee meeting could be held at the assembly; otherwise, the committee would meet online. // We’re already following this motion informally since officer visits were canceled during the assembly months last panel. // Alternative electronic contributions would be needed, especially for Spanish members who contribute in cash. // My sub-district prefers in-person meetings because some members can’t join online. // In-person meetings for the DCMC sharing session provide a lot of value. // Moving a third of ACMs online feels like a big jump; we should try it for one or two first. // We would also be saving the officers’ mileage. // We are weighing the possibility of saving \$7,000 a year versus losing the face-to-face connection that we have at the ACM. Which one is more significant? // I am for this, but I want to hear from those who might be negatively impacted. **Q&A:** [The Chair permitted attendees to ask questions and presenters of the motion to provide answers.] - **Q:** Which groups meet in person only? **A:** The Finance Committee, Officers meeting, and Linguistic Sharing Sessions meet in person only. **Q:** Would committees meet on the same day and time if this motion passed? **A:** Yes, committees could continue meeting virtually on the same day and time. **Q:** How much is the rent per month for ACM space? **A:** Rent ranges between \$1,300 and \$1,800 per month, depending on the number of rooms rented. **Q:** If the motion passes, how would it impact the schedule? **A:** The ACM in April, May, August, and November would move online, and CNCA would not rent space during those months. **Q:** Would this motion impact CNCA’s annual contract with the venue? **A:** No. We confirmed with the venue that the contract would not be endangered. A 30-day notice is required to cancel. **Q:** Would the Finance Committee face challenges by meeting online? **A:** No major challenges, but there would be an effort to enhance electronic contribution options, especially for Spanish-speaking members who currently contribute in cash. **Q:** Was the Hybrid [team] consulted about the logistics of implementing this? **A:** While it was confirmed that the necessary Zoom capabilities exist, detailed logistics were not yet discussed. **Q:** Would this save districts money as well? **A:** Yes, districts would save on travel reimbursements for members attending ACMs in person. **Q:** Who might be negatively impacted by this motion? **A:** Members of committees that traditionally meet in person and those who rely on in-person discussions might face challenges. **The chair took a sense of the room and determined to continue discussing. <<Motion will remain Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting on February 22, 2025.>>**

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS:**

- Creating Area Guidelines

CNIA has guidelines and I encourage people to review them to see what they think. / Our district had really old guidelines going back to 2014. We now have better guidelines. / It is very helpful to have a place to see how things should happen and to have the committee guidelines in the motions book where we can read them. / It’s unclear how the business functions. We heard past delegates say we are more flexible without guidelines, so the question is, “Do we need an orientation process?” / Shout out to the motions book. / I assumed we had guidelines so I was taken aback. / Guidelines don’t have to be strict, they can be loose. / We don’t have guidelines in

my district, and it's been difficult when there is a difference of opinion and we have nothing to tell us how something is supposed to go. Guidelines define how things are being done. << **Discussion will continue next month.** >>

- Area Officer Visits

Our officers go above and beyond; I'd like them to visit if they wish, but it's okay if they can't as they already do so much. // Our district values officer visits; they help us reflect on our needs and provide valuable conversations and presentations. I hope they continue. // Officer visits help GSRs get to know area officers as delegate candidates, improving informed voting. // **Q:** Why was it suspended before? [Chitra clarified that at the start of the panel, funds in the checking account were lower than in previous years, and suspending officer visits was a cost-saving measure.] // Suspending officer visits has historically helped stabilize finances during tight budgets, as proposed by Bob K., a past treasurer. // Requiring officers to attend in person excludes remote district members; we should make officer positions accessible to all CNCA members, including those who attend online. // As a new GSR, I appreciated officer visits for providing information not available at the district level. // An officer's accessibility presentation led to a vacant district position being filled. << **Discussion will continue next month.** >>

### **WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?**

Please email flyers for the Zoom chat to the Assembly Coordinator by the Friday evening before the ACM to ensure they are included. // I love this because it's like the first day of school. You're all doing great. // The February issue of the Grapevine features a story from R.K. in Benicia, our past delegate Bob K. // There is a service manual study on Wednesdays at 6 pm PDT. Zoom ID: 996 628 347; Password: warranties / Jim and Brouck, who recently passed away, inspired me when I was new to General Service. Please remember that your service may inspire the next generation of members. / The Finance Committee appreciates your group contributions. Please remind Treasurers to include your Group Service Number (GSN) when sending checks. *The meeting was closed at 3:31 by Drew B. with the Responsibility Declaration.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie B.

CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 75