

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA POST-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY 2024 MINUTES

The Post-Conference Assembly business meeting of CNCA was held at the Willits Community Center in Willits on May 11, 2024, with members attending and participating in person and virtually. Tim D. presented the assembly orientation. Chitra S. opened the meeting at 9:00 followed by the Serenity Prayer. Jennifer A. from District 08 read the A.A. Preamble in American Sign Language; Hector M. from District 13 read the Twelve Traditions, and Blanca from District 17 read the Traditions in Spanish. There were eight past delegates present: Bob D. (P26, Area 28), Diane O. (Panel 35), Woody R. (P50; Area 07) Jim F. (P59; Area 38), Ken M. (P61), Francisco A. (P55), Joann L. (67), and Suzanne S., (P73, Area 30). There were six past Area Officers: Marta (P57), Margrete (P57, 58), Ray W. (P63), Judy W. (P63), Michael Q. (P63, 65), and Magdaleno O. (69). There were two visitors: Claudio (Area 07) and Victor R. (Area 65). **Attendance:** (Registered) 226 in person; 147 online (373 total).

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – ERIC L.: Thank you all for sharing with me your group consciences before I went to New York last month. Your input helped steer the conversations we had at the Conference, and our Area and your groups were heard. Last night I emailed all the DCMCs – they will now send it out to their Districts – a full breakdown of every advisory action at the Conference (things the Conference has requested) and every committee consideration (strong suggestions from each committee). I also sent out financial slides from the General Service Board treasurer that detail how AA is doing financially, and the full General Service Board inventory, prompted in part by the resignation of the previous Chair of the Board last year. Later today, you'll hear a very long report from me about what I saw, felt, experienced, and learned at the Conference this year. Thank you for giving me that opportunity.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – MIGUEL H.: Happy Mother's Day weekend to all of you moms. I look forward to hearing Eric's report from the General Service Conference, and seeing where AA goes from here. I encourage you to consider attending the Pacific Regional Forum, which will be in Las Vegas this year. The website includes a feature that allows you to sign up to get updates via email and text for the Forum, and hotel registration is already available. We started to give job descriptions at the monthly ACM; rotation will be in the air, and you may like to start considering and preparing to make yourself available in all the service opportunities in your district and or Area. Other than that, your delegate and I continue to ensure that we work effectively on your behalf. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

CHAIR—CHITRA S.: With both General Service Conferences behind us, let's take some time to look at our current service positions. How do we feel about what we have learned and how we have served? Are there any changes we would like to make to the position prior to passing it on? Is anything out of date, not as efficient or clear as it could be? How could we improve the service? We can introduce motions, create procedures, clarify job descriptions, and introduce discussion items to brainstorm and cultivate new ideas. Now that we have learned, what can we add or contribute to the process? Concept Four asks us to step up and participate. Let's ask ourselves again: 1) Do I pass on information that I receive in General Service to the members I am supposed to? Do I know how the chain of communication works? 2) Am I familiar with where to find Area Motions? Do I take them to my home group, district, or committee to obtain a group conscience, and 3) Am I practicing using my voice by going to the microphone at Assemblies and Area Committee meetings to share my Group's conscience, or am I just sharing my own opinion? I look forward to hearing all your voices, especially the quiet ones.

TREASURER – CLAUDIA N.: As of today, our checking account has: \$29,287.02, and our prudent reserve (savings account) is \$13,850.34, 1/12 of this year's budget, or approximately 1-month operating expenses. Actual contributions in April were \$18,583., and our budgeted contributions were \$14,392. Actual expenses in April were \$18,056; the budget was \$21,435. Square contributions in April totaled \$5,458 through 119 transactions. While visiting Archives this month I came across a financial report from GSO from 1966. California was the top contributor with contributions totaling 45,688 for that year, with 1,217 groups reported in all of California! Please thank your groups and districts for their generous contributions. There are multiple ways that you can contribute today, including using the seventh tradition buckets located around the venue. You can go online at cnca06.org/contribute/ or use the links that will be posted in the Zoom chat room to contribute to the seventh tradition. We also have a square reader at the finance table in back, so come say hello!

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR - JACKIE B.: Welcome to Willits! I'm incredibly thankful to District 14 Mendocino for hosting this Assembly so wonderfully, making my role much easier. Remember to thank any volunteers you see. CNCA is calling for districts to host our 2025 Assemblies! We've made an easy-to-read overview and the current Assembly Guidelines available; these are in the chat, and I can email them too. Just message me at assemblycoordinator@cnca06.org. Our next event is the Summer Assembly on August 10 at the Campbell Community Center, hosted by D17 Spanish South in Campbell. Please send your workshop topic ideas to chair@cnca06.org. Today we're testing a new accessibility tool during the Delegate's Report. To avoid disrupting the in-person experience, we'll hide captions on the projection screen but maintain Zoom captions for online attendees. For

hard-of-hearing attendees who need captions, scan the QR code to access speech-to-text on your devices. I'll assist with setup. These Assemblies are yours, much like AA meetings, shaped by your participation. Seasoned attendees, please welcome newcomers. If you're online, consider starting a group text with your district members. Always feel free to ask questions or share your thoughts during breaks or at the microphone.

REGISTRAR - DREW B.: Please register! All our Assembly registration is done digitally now. If you are online, there is a link in the chat or the link tree. In person, you can register with your phone. If you need help with this, I or anyone on the registration can help. We register at assemblies to help with planning for the future, which is what I think general service is about in the first place: planning for the future. Our registration table is at the front entrance of the Assembly because, as Registrar, I feel I am the "Area Greeter," which coincidentally is my favorite AA group commitment. We are such a diverse Area, and that diversity of the message of AA is reflected in the way groups relate themselves to others in fellowship, in other words, what they name themselves. Today, I would like to highlight a Willits group that some of you may have gone to last night: the "More Than a Buck with of Recovery Group." Great name, and a reminder of how valuable our recovery here really is.

RECORDING SECRETARY – SARAH B.: It's great to see you all again! Our Area supports a game in which people try to guess the word count for our assembly business meeting minutes for a chance to receive a subscription to the Grapevine. For our last Assembly, we had a record seven guesses from six districts, and the winner was a GSR from District 03 Santa Cruz. Congrats to A.J. R., the GSR for the Santa Cruz Thumpers Big Book Study! The minutes were 6,766 and A.J. guessed 7,012. Please start sending me your guesses for today's meeting now! Since we last met, we held the first known workshop for making business meeting minutes, and it was a resounding success! About thirty people attended on Zoom, with a wide variety of attendees, from curious members to GSRs to district and group recording secretaries. We heard presentations about meeting minutes basics, technology, and how to best capture the spirit of discussion. There were many inquisitive questions and much thoughtful discussion. I created a feedback survey, and the twelve attendees who submitted it indicated 100% agreement that there should be workshops like this in the future, and several positive anecdotes were also shared. I created a Google Drive folder of resources which I'm happy to share via email. Thank you for indulging my nerdy excitement about meeting minutes and trusting me to try something new!

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VINA CHAIR – MATT E.: When I first got sober, I didn't really see myself in the Big Book. I had glimpses of relatability here and there, but I mostly just had criticisms. I thought I could fix it. And it wasn't until I got to the stories in the back that I really started to feel like I belonged. Specifically, a story that was written by a woman who got sober in the early nineties. That story was in my Fourth Edition Big Book because of the Conference process, and because of GSRs like you. Thank you for helping me feel a part of so that I could stick around long enough to see myself in the rest of our literature and experience recovery. I'm so excited to hear more from Eric about the work we're doing as a fellowship to produce new tools for accessing our program. An alcoholic is being born today who will see themselves in our literature 20, 30, 40 years in the future, because of the work you all do. Thank you. The Grapevine and La Viña apps are doing well. Please download and subscribe! Through July 31st, all formats in all languages of the Big Book are 10% off from aa.org - and the 1st Edition facsimile is only \$3.

AREA STANDING & SUB-COMMITTEES

ACCESSIBILITIES – THOM H.: Currently, we are still in need of a recording secretary. The Accessibilities chairs in District 10, District 19 Spanish South South district attended, looking for direction about how to start their own accessibility committee. They discussed their experience at the pre-conference assembly and noted some of the previous issues were addressed, such as seating, accessing the building, and mobility. They are still working on creating a short list of access issues. District 70 is still trying to get involvement from GSRs. District 04 is obtaining information to start its own Accessibilities Committee. We had a lengthy discussion about the design of a banner to display at Area assemblies and events. We were reminded that to help with accessibility issues during the meeting, we should always state our name and use descriptive words when we are talking about the design and layout of items. During What's on Your Mind, people brought up how broad Access is and where it overlaps with other committees. Safety can be both emotional and physical. When creating a new accessibilities committee, go slow. People shared frustration about getting people excited about Accessibilities. Finally, we shared that GSO is looking for members' experiences about both being neurodivergent and working with neurodivergent members from our fellowship. Our next meeting will be at the May ACM at 11:00 am.

ARCHIVES - LESLIE H.: Thank you, District 14, for hosting the assembly in such a beautiful place. Archives is excited to be here with a small preview of some of the material we have at our repository in Walnut Creek. We have our monthly workdays on the second Saturday of each month from 12 to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome, and we're always excited to have new friends join us. We had two Area officers join our workday this month. They got right to work sorting through things, and there were lots of oohs and awes! If any district is having an event and would like help from Archives, please let us know. We would love to see you at Archives and we'll show you around.

BRIDGING THE GAP – JOHN O.: I attended the H&I Conference in Bakersfield last Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The Friday afternoon panel consisted of a BTG Coordinator from LA County. Tiffany J. and Blaine represented a program/service called Contact on Release which services the San Diego area. The two programs overlap. However, the location was used as a border, which kept the two from competing with one another. Later that night, I shared copies of all our CNCA BTG literature in English and Spanish with the BTG Chair, Tiffany. It was mentioned many times during the weekend by panel presenters, and I believe BTG can do much better just by expanding on our networking skills with the H&I team, Corrections, and Treatment Center personnel. Please visit our BTG Table and find out how you can become a member of our exciting 12-step service.

FINANCE—JAVIER L.: I want to introduce our committee members: Claudia N., Treasurer, Russ A., Leslie W., and David S. The finance committee prepares and presents a budget for the upcoming year, advises and assists the elected treasurer of CNCA 06, assists all CNCA officers, chairs, and committee members in adhering to the yearly budget, and provides liaisons to the Area standing and subcommittees. We will begin working with the committees on the budget worksheets. The Area is responsible for providing the assembly. This post-conference assembly cost around \$4700, which is approximately \$16 per person. You will see 7th tradition buckets all around, which is one of the ways to contribute to the area today.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – DAVID H.: We meet via Zoom on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. This year, we have translated approximately 198 documents for Area Officers and Committees, 55 miscellaneous mailings, plus the Comment/Comentarios for the months of January through May. We assist with summaries of agenda topics and translations of PRAASA Steering Committee documents. We have been present with the team for a couple of days of unity, standing committee workshops, and PRAASA 2024. The Interpretation Coordinator contacted all necessary interpreters and confirmed availability for the ACM monthly sharing sessions, standing committees, and panel assemblies. We replaced a transmitter that was damaged.

PUBLIC INFORMATION/COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY – MIGUEL H.: The staff secretary reported the CPC Service Cards are live on the GSO website for CPC Committees to download and use in their local service work. The digital template includes two sections on the card that allow for input of local contact information or a locally developed QR code to be placed on it by local A.A. members performing CPC service. This card can be produced as a poster or flyer, distributed digitally, or added to a presentation. We'll hold a PI/CPC Workshop on July 20, 2024, from 1-3 pm at the Faith Lutheran Church hall at 20080 Redwood Rd, Castro Valley. Anybody is welcome to attend, so please invite everyone. This event will be hybrid and bilingual. Thank you to all the members who stepped in to help and make this possible. We hold a PI/CPC sharing session every 4th Saturday of the month at the Petaluma Community Center from 9-10 am, also hybrid with simultaneous interpretation.

TECHNOLOGY – JACQUELINE P.: The Hybrid Team received many compliments after the hybrid Pre-Conference Assembly for the creative use of split screen, use of multiple cameras, and break-out rooms. Online members reported that these extra details contributed to a feeling of togetherness. We experienced a few technical glitches, and the Hybrid Team dealt with them with expertise, love, grace, humor, and humility. To prep for today, the Hybrid Team performed a virtual walk-through of the Willits Community Center Petaluma Veterans. Most equipment was installed last night to optimize equipment placement for the best possible hybrid experience. For safety, we urge you to use caution as you move to and from the kitchen area as some of our cables are near the doorway. Please thank our Hybrid Team for their service. On-site are Duncan, Edgar, Patrick, and Russ, and online, Noel, Mollie, & Lynes. The Hybrid Team seeks volunteers to serve as remote Zoom alternates for Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings. If you are available, please contact Don L., our Hybrid Event Coordinator at the Hybrid table or 925-354-2018. For our online members, this information is also in the chat. The Committee is on target to create a hybrid Area Workshop - we're looking at Saturday, October 26 after the Area Committee Meeting (ACM). More will be revealed. Committee members continue to discuss how technology in A.A. General Service and our Area can give a voice to the voiceless. We'll explore apps such as Slack or Discord at our Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies and would love to hear your thoughts. The Committee is drafting copy for the currently blank Tech Committee's CNCA06.org website page.

WEBSITE - JAMES B.: The web committee maintains and updates the Area's website, CNCA06.org. Our committee meets on Zoom every third Thursday of the month at 5:15PM. Among other things, we updated and posted the background materials. We will post the final Conference report when that is made available. We configured and added the group conscious form. We have worked through how to post and update the CNCA comments on the site since the Area changed from a PDF format to the lovely email format. If you do not receive the CNCA comments directly in your inbox, you can sign up for either the English or Spanish version using the form on the website. We began testing an update to the interface of the website with the goal of simplifying it. It's been more complex than expected. If terms like Plugin, WordPress theme, DNS, hosting, CSS, HTML, updates, and/or website are exciting or interesting to you, and you would like to contribute to the Area, we have room for you on our committee. You do not have to be a technology guru to join the committee. I was working a landscaping job when I started in technology. If interested, please contact the web chair and or an area officer, they can help get us in contact. Due to a death in the family, much has changed

for me, and I am having difficulty attending the committee meetings. Thank you to Cathy, Jose, and Jeff for their support, time, and effort on the committee and for making sure it keeps running while I have been unavailable.

AREA BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS:

- That CNCA continue to provide hybrid functionality for every Area Committee Meeting and each Assembly. –
Presented by District 15, Humboldt/Del Norte at the Area Committee Meeting on 09/23/23

Discussion: **Group Consciences:** There's been discussion about what committee means and whether it's just the ACM or all the committees. If it doesn't include the committees, why not? // My group is online and in person. What keeps us together is our treasury because we have difficulty with hybrid and only use it once a month for business meetings. For recovery meetings, we function as two different groups. Our online group wants representation to know what's going on and be able to come to these meetings. Our alternate GSR couldn't get here today. // The motion does not include anything except the area committee business meeting because it would become untenable to provide a hybrid for every committee meeting. Some of them already are hybrid. Our district favors this motion. // My group had questions about this motion. They were curious why anyone would be against it. We voted and were unanimously in favor. // Someone from my group said it would make us lazy. I believe it makes us more accessible. // My group was surprised there was a need for the motion and surprised that PRAASA isn't hybrid. We're talking about allowing people who cannot attend in person. Let's do it and keep it. // Our group fully supports this motion. Our district extends to the Oregon border, and we favor this for accessibility. // Hybrid meetings are expensive but are overwhelmingly supported. We should rethink the idea that some things are supposed to be hard. Some people can't attend important meetings for a variety of reasons. Though it's expensive, we are getting good participation because of hybrid functionality and feel it must continue. // We can disseminate information better by meeting hybrid. People can participate even when they have outside factors preventing them from attending. // My fellowship has thirty meetings, all but one are online. The geographic characteristics of these groups vary a lot. Having the online component of hybrid allows people to participate. Can the online part continue, and the physical location relocate in the case of an emergency?

Personal opinions: I'm not in favor of this motion because it obligates our ACM to always be hybrid and there is no flexibility if something happens, and we need to do something different. If we pass this motion how it's written, we are obligated to do a hybrid production every time regardless of if that capacity is required. What if attendance drops off and we set all this up for no one. The intention of the motion is good, but I think it should fail for a better motion. // I agree the intention is good, but the wording could be improved. My group had to rebuild our GSR funds so I couldn't attend in person. We need hybrid functionality; it's a valuable operation we should continue. // Providing hybrid is an accessibility issue. It's not about comfort or convenience. It allows people to participate fully. Not having hybrid prevents people who want to serve but are not able to for various reasons. // I favor this motion because online is the only way I can attend these meetings. We need to be inclusive. It saves people money for transportation to be able to join online. I got sober when we didn't have internet. We need to keep moving forward with technology. // We want to be inclusive and get people involved; it would be exclusive if we stopped being hybrid. Being able to attend online helps with accessibility. // Before we were hybrid, people had reasons they couldn't be here. There will always be reasons why we can't be here. That's why we get alternates. Being hybrid has made it so that we come together less. // When this came up, the lazy word came to mind. But today I can't attend in person, and it would be devastating if I had to miss this because I couldn't Zoom in. // We need this to continue to support our community and fellowship. The General Service Conference and General Service Office are doing this to improve accessibility and increase participation. // The pandemic started in March 2020 right before the pre-conference assembly and the General Service Conference. We had to do an assembly and do it quickly so our delegate could go to the conference in April. If this motion failed, we would not get rid of our hybrid components. We've created a committee and a team to be hybrid. I read this motion as no matter what, we must always be hybrid, even if there's a fire and we can't meet in person, or some other circumstance that hinders us from meeting hybrid. I'm worried about that. // I agree with what people have said about accessibility. We should think about how we struggle with AA as a whole in terms of being inclusive and wrapping our minds around what we are going to do with the online component. What will we be doing in the future? Is there a role for an online area that would still allow people to be in General Service? I don't think we're there yet, so I'm glad we've made the investments for hybrid. // Tradition one and responsibility statement came to mind. The importance of maintaining hybrid is that every alcoholic can be involved in general service. // I'm hard of hearing and watching the screen so that I can see an interpreter. This helps me understand. Closed captioning is important as well as ASL interpreters. // Being hybrid allows people to participate. Not having it is a barrier to access. // We need to have the capability to attend online. I'm a dog sitter, and I need to do that for my income. // We need to pay attention to people's needs and change AA in a way that brings more rather than less. This changes for more. I'm going to care for my husband in his older life, and this allows me to participate. I'm not lazy, this makes me hungry for service. // This is a service to us. I might be there, I might not, but I need to be able to see you there. We need to make ACMs and assemblies hybrid whether this passes or not. // We do hybrid well in this area because we put in a lot of work and thought. Technology is not in a place where hybrid can be done simply or easily. Online only is, but not hybrid, even in corporate settings. I care about accessibility and hybrid a lot. It's not the money that concerns me but are we self-supporting through trusted servants? Providing a service that requires in-person to be available is challenging. The

technology committee is a large committee. // We can all get behind being accessibility. AA is getting older, so we'll need more accessibility. I encourage those online to give generously online because that's how we support the technology. The average in-person contribution is \$3.50, and the average online is \$1. If online groups/GSRs don't contribute, people attending in person are subsidizing the people who need the accessibility to attend online. Let's collectively fund it. // I love hybrid and the accessibility it provides. I want to make sure we don't vote just based on that feeling. This motion is about making this a requirement for the future until another motion overturns it. We should keep the flexibility in place to keep it going or discontinue it in the future. Don't look at this with fear of what future trusted servants might do with hybrid for reasons we don't know yet. It's working fine the way things are, and I don't think we need to formalize it with a motion. // Looking at the wording of the motion and saying the motion forces us to do it if we have a catastrophe. Zoom started because of one. When one comes, there will be a solution. The idea of a catastrophe shouldn't be a reason for voting against something that gets people involved, perhaps even more young people. // I don't understand the comments about a fire. I'm here because of Zoom, and I didn't have to spend money on gas. // If this motion isn't passed, we aren't going to eliminate hybrid. If it does pass, we have the responsibility to always offer it, even if we don't have the means to do it. I'm worried about having that pressure that we must do it. // Can the chair give us the impact of the motion if it passes and fails? // *Impact if the motion passes with a yes vote: Our area will commit to funding and providing service commitments for the hybrid functionality for every Area Committee Meeting and each assembly. Impact if the motion does not pass voting no: Our Area Committee Meetings and assemblies will be either hybrid, in-person only, or virtual-only, depending on the Area's decision at that time.* // The history of this has been interesting and fundamental to my growth. I appreciate the discussions we're having. If we vote no, it doesn't mean we won't have hybrid meetings. If it passes, it means it's documented somewhere that we'll do it. Another motion can overturn it. Voting for this is a way to say that we want it and that it's necessary if possible. // I'm the technology committee chair. Thank you for sharing on this. Tech is a tidal wave that has overtaken A.A. as a whole and we're at the tip of the wave. We voted last year to fund the hybrid team's travel for room and board and mileage. The initial projections for that were \$6,000 to \$8,000 per year. Last year, the committee worked hard to cut costs and limit their services, we spent \$4,700. We're really trying to be prudent. This is a fabulous enterprise where spirituality and money mix. // I'm not clear on the intent of this motion. Our area goes out of our way to make things accessible and inclusive for everybody. Is the intent to give assurance that we'll continue to provide hybrid, or do we just trust the area to continue to provide hybrid? // When considering a motion, we should ask what the need is. Is there a need to continue hybrid? If it passes, the area will commit to providing hybrid accessibility. With accessibility, you must put yourself in someone else's shoes to think about it. If the area thought we didn't need hybrid anymore, an ad hoc committee can be formed to investigate. When discussing the motion to reimburse the hybrid team for travel, people said we put the cart before the horse by not having a policy that we all agree we need this service. This motion would set a policy. // I can't attend in person. I think it's worth the cost. Hybrid allows us to collaborate, and I think we can do it in a sustainable way. We have greater attendance. We can support creativity and innovation. // I was very active in general service for many years and then for various physical reasons, I could no longer make the trip to come here. I'm grateful for the pandemic because when it started, AA moved quickly to open virtual A.A. I spent three days learning how to get online to be able to participate online. My participation has been constant and helpful to my group. This motion started because someone said virtual meetings would end in January because we could start meeting in person again. We can't end this. // I have no dispute about the value of hybrid and the necessity of maintaining it. Our area has already committed the resources and funds to do this. Hearing the impact of a negative vote, I'm against this motion. We need to trust our trusted servants to decide when we can no longer do it. // I'm all over the place listening to this. I'm struck by what the last person said. I support hybrid and accessibility, but the motion will restrict trusted servants from making decisions as circumstances evolve, financially, logistically, or crisis-wise. This implicates future trusted servants. // *The Chair re-read the impact statement and took a sense of the room of who was ready to vote. (94 Y; 27 N).* **Vote by substantial unanimity: 107 in favor; 60 against. Motion failed. Minority opinion was heard.** When the impact statement was read, it made me more in favor than against it. It's based on what the Area feels at the time which can change at any time. Having a solid policy gives us more voice and unity as a group. // We need this to be inclusive of everyone. If hybrid goes away, I won't be involved in general service. There are 111 people online now. Those voices won't be heard if we don't have this assurance. I worry there's a threat that may go away. If circumstances change and we no longer need hybrid, there can be another motion. A.A. must move forward and grow or it's going to die. // I think it's important that we vote to make a commitment to stay hybrid. Nothing in A.A. is concrete. We can always go back by creating a motion if that needs to happen. Right now, we have the technology, so we should approve this. // In my opinion, the wording of the motion is too vague, but we need to commit to being hybrid. The motion isn't perfect, but we shouldn't let perfect get in the way of good. // I got sober during the pandemic when in-person meetings weren't available. Accessibility is important to allow people to participate in Service. The hybrid component makes service possible. // It's clear from the discussion that hybrid is popular. It seemed the group's conscience shifted after hearing the impact statement. It was close, but I think it's because some people changed their vote in the last two minutes. // I voted for this because it shows our commitment to those who can't physically attend. Voting no is a sign we're not committed to them. If I could add an amendment, I would add "if reasonably possible" to the end of the motion. // You don't have to give a reason why you join online. It's important that people don't feel they have to have the right reason to participate that way. Our groups are struggling with factions that want to have hybrid out or hybrid in. The only reason I can see for not doing hybrid is if we can't afford it. This would be good for my district to hear what the Area is doing. There was a vote to reconsider

that was seconded. **Vote by simple majority to reconsider: 104 in favor; 60 against. Motion to reconsider passes.**
<< Motion to remain Old Business at the Summer Assembly on August 10, 2024.>>

NEW BUSINESS:

- That CNCA 06 extend voting participation at the Area Committee meetings and at assemblies to the Chairpersons of Area standing and sub-committees. - *Presented by Carol H, Jacqueline P, John O, Jose L, Thom H – Standing Committee & Subcommittee Chairs CNCA06 Panel 73 at the Area Committee Meeting on 12/16/23*

Discussion: Group consciences: Since committee chairs are attending the area committee meetings and assemblies, are informing people and are informed, they should be bringing the vote. They're doing the work and are in service, let them vote. // I'm the BTG chair for my district. Our committee considers the subcommittee a liaison to general service. The liaison definition is communication or cooperation which facilitates the close working relationship between people or organizations. The committee believes for them to be able to vote, they should have general service experience. // My group thinks chairs already have a disproportionate share of influence on what's on the agenda. It varies by area, and we get to do what we want. My group votes no but loves the chairs. // Most of the district was in favor of this motion. Chairpersons in our district do have a vote.

Personal opinions: In the A.A. Service Manual, on page 19, it states that the composition, and typically voting members, of an assembly include GSRs, DCMs, Area officers, Area committee chairs, and the area delegate. Also, under Concept Four, we have the principle of participation: that the trustees, the directors of our service corporations, and respective executive staff shall always be voting members of the General Service Conference itself. The executive staff is like chairpersons for area committees. // Four of the areas in the Southwestern areas do this, and most of the districts do this. It's consistent with Concept Four as just said. Each category or classification of servants at a given level should have a vote at that level. Because they have knowledge of what's going on, it's good for unity and participation. We want their experience and knowledge at the microphone, and we want them included. It would not be many people, it's not like it would overwhelm the votes. // Committee chairs are not elected by the area; they are elected by the committee. Their voices are being heard by their GSRs at their home groups. This would give them two votes. // Concept Four has a footnote on page 14 which applies to delegates but can be generalized to the area. It says we aren't in constant session, but there are a lot of people focusing on the day-to-day working on the subcommittees. These people have much more working knowledge and their perspectives are valuable for those of us who aren't spending as much time on the day-to-day service. It behooves us to rely on their expertise when making decisions. // As a past subcommittee chair, this is interesting. As trusted servants, we've had votes that weren't considered in the previous motion. We should let them participate with us and be with us. If not, they'll be on the side and not be able to decide on matters that affect the area. // I'm a new GSR. I don't feel confident to vote in some of these. Committee chairs' votes may hold more value than mine because of their experience. I have a voting right simply because I got voted in. // I believe they should have a vote. They're like the DCM, DCMC, or GSR to their committees. To say that they need general service background, they're already in general service. They have valuable input that would make us stronger as an area and have better informed groups and decisions. There aren't many, it's not as if they're going to change the vote. // I thought this motion had an amendment that chairs had to have served as a past DCM or DCMCs. // That amendment is to the next motion, not this one. // There are people here today and people who have been here over the years who know nothing about what goes on at assemblies or area meetings, but they have a vote. That's how we learn. We come here and as we hear others participate; we begin to ourselves. Initially we don't know what we're voting about, but we figure it out. The people in subcommittees know what's going on in A.A. If they don't vote, they're not sharing with us what they've gotten from their service. We make A.A. stronger by having more people participate. **<< Motion to become Old Business at the Summer Assembly on August 10, 2024.>>**

- That CNCA 06 expand area officer eligibility to Chairpersons of Area standing and subcommittees who have served as DCMs and/or DCMCs. - *Presented by Carol H, Jacqueline P, John O, Jose L, Thom H – Standing Committee & Subcommittee Chairs CNCA06 Panel 73 at the Area Committee Meeting on 12/16/23*

Discussion: Group consciences: It seems like you must have a current commitment to be eligible for officer. Is that correct? // Currently, those eligible to be area officers are current DCMs, DCMCs, or Area officers. This would change that to add current committee chairs who have served as DCMCs or DCMs previously.

Personal opinions: I believe the amendment is unnecessary. Having chairpersons being past DCMs or DCMCs makes them more credible, but it changes policy. The current policy is that only current DCMs, DCMCs, or Area Officers are eligible. // I was a chair of the web committee, and I couldn't stand it, and it was frustrating. I had learned more and couldn't participate. It felt like I wasn't getting the right of participation. // I was also a web committee chair and was frustrated I couldn't vote. Have we looked at the fact that there would be more people running for elections? We're debating about how our election assembly is long. // Seven more people could be available. // This doesn't limit whether you're a current DCMC or DCM. It doesn't make it clear how long ago the chairperson was a DCMC or DCM in the past. // A lot of areas, committee chairs participate with votes and are available to be delegates. It doesn't mean they'll be elected; it just means they'll be available to participate. **<< Motion to become Old Business at the Summer Assembly on August 10, 2024.>>**

Delegate Sharing:

Bridget B., the Delegate from Kansas, Area 25, Panel 74, and Suzanne S., Delegate from Eastern Massachusetts, Area 30, Panel 74, shared about General Service in their areas.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Thanks for coming to Willits. You're welcome to take the vase and flowers with you when you go. // Today our contributions were \$1,030 in person and \$653 online (\$1683 total). Thank you so much. // Thanks for registering. There were 226 in-person and 147 online (373 total). // We've grown and accomplished a lot. At the same time, I'm struck by how much is yet to be done. The fellowship and A.A. itself are safe, but sometimes meetings aren't safe for some people. We made progress, but we have a long way to go. I hope I can be around to see more changes happen. // The San Francisco Marin Intergroup made the Delegate aware of alcoholicsanonymous.com. In the Circles and Love of Service pamphlet, it mentions that in 1990, the GSC passed an advisory action stressing the importance of communication and recommended that Delegates establish and maintain contact with Intergroups and Central Offices in their Areas to share Conference information and make sure Intergroup offices have a voice in the fellowship through our service structure. Not all Intergroups are aware of this. If you want to really know what's happening with the still-suffering alcoholic, talk to your Intergroup and Teleservice volunteers. District chairs can do this. Bring them agenda topics and encourage them to contact the Delegate when they're concerned about something. // Thanks to the hybrid team for your service. If anyone wants to support the hybrid team by doing online work, we're always looking for volunteers. // I appreciate the change I've seen in our delegate, Eric. You've connected with us on a deeper level. That's what general service does for us. // Thanks for allowing me to be of service online. It's a wonderful opportunity. Our hybrid team coordinator helped me feel engaged in a deeper way. I invite you to join us. // Thanks to Eric for his honesty and sense of humor. So much has happened in these past two years, and I think A.A. is having a coming of age. // Thank you to the people who made this assembly possible (Suzi: assembly chair; Julie: assembly treasurer; Tim: registration chair; Michael: parking chair and assembly coordinator emeritus; Warren: coffee chair; Diana: greeter; Jenn; decorations; and Carolina made food. Thanks to our interpreters Manuel and Mateo, our Hybrid Team, our Area Chair, and our Delegate. See you in Campbell for the summer assembly!

The meeting was closed at 5:12 by Chitra S. with the Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Babcock
CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 73