

12/1/2021 7:30pm intergroup notes:

Begin meeting 7:31pm

Definition of Intergroup: Josh read

12 Traditions: Josh read

**New reps:** Sean M (first time)

**Jaye:** *If this is your last month with us, please invite your replacement to attend the new IGR orientation on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. If you cannot, or have not, you may want to take the time to read through the Procedure Guide (that you can find on our website) as it has very helpful information, such as our policies, discussion and motions process, nominations & elections, and Council roles and duties. Thank you for your service, the link will be posted in chat for all to check out.*

**Visitors:** April

**Milestones:** Jill Nov 5<sup>th</sup> 17 years, Laura Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> 13 years

Corrections/additions to previous minutes? Dave P noted most recent quote for website is lower: 25k\$

**Treasurer:** Alexis: The current balance was \$1347.00, contributions from last month's meeting were \$51.00, we are now at \$1398.00. 7<sup>th</sup> tradition information posted in chat. *Via chat from Alexis Winslow; 7th Tradition Contributions to Venmo: @Alexis-Winslow-1. The last 4-digits of my phone # is 1182-if needed on Venmo. Or mail Check: 375 Oleander Drive, San Jose, CA 95123. Payable to: Alexis Winslow, Treasurer 408-712-1182 [winslowalexis2@gmail.com](mailto:winslowalexis2@gmail.com)*

**Service opportunities still open:** activities chair and outreach coordinator. Jill B via chat: **Activities Chair** *Coordinate and oversee activities sponsored by Intergroup. Act as responsible party for budget and communication of events to Santa Clara County. Also sit on ad-hoc committees for additional special activities as directed by Intergroup Chair. Attend monthly IG meeting to report on upcoming activities, ask for help with communication and build up excitement. Utilize support services through Central Office. Sobriety Requirement: 2 years, Term: 2 years.*

**Outreach Committee Coordinator** *Coordinate the monthly Outreach Committee Workshop, held the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:45pm (prior to the Intergroup meeting) The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to encourage each meeting in Santa Clara County to have an Intergroup Rep. Committee members attend physical meetings (or Zoom meetings) to recruit Intergroup Reps. Attend the monthly Intergroup meeting to give a report on the Outreach service and ask for volunteers to attend meetings and recruit Intergroup Reps. Assist in maintaining the accuracy of the Santa Clara County Meeting Guide by reporting to central office any changes to*

*individual meeting details, or meetings which are no longer in existence. Sobriety Requirement: 2 years, Term: 2 years.*

**Last month meeting:** web content committee presentation. Not the responsibility to do an entirely new website. Request website proposals go to website volunteers. In alignment with bylaws, continue to update website with minimum cost to fellowship. Nothing to report back to groups on this matter. "\$25,000 for the creation of the new website software, to be split among 5 different intergroups, therefore it was supposedly going to be \$5000 for each intergroup.

#### **Committee reports:**

- **Central Service Board: Joe**

Treasury rept is in agenda mailed out. Remind reps/volunteers to please share contribution info at their meetings. Each group uses excess funds to central office supports aa w/ website, literature, etc. many expenses to keep central office operating to help keep outreach to alcoholic who still suffers.

Amber G via chat: Your 7th tradition contributions pay for more than just meeting expenses; each group uses a percentage of excess funds to contribute to Santa Clara County Central Office. Central Office is an essential service for our community; supporting aa members by selling AA books and literature, maintaining the AA San Jose website, AA phone hotline, storing Santa Clara County aa archival documents, and covers expenses incurred by providing these services to our community.

There are many expenses associated with keeping Central Office operating and running. Without these important services, it is difficult to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. When deciding how much to contribute during the 7th tradition collection, we ask you to keep these local support services in mind. Thank you, Central Service Board 12/01/2021.

Austin: Questions regarding prudent reserve and vision. Joe Brown report back, but still in office a brief time. Contributions are up. Reduced expenses tremendously, but still too new to know more to report. Financial review should be in the agenda. Some items are present. Carole input- looking @ agenda, the prudent reserve is at \$91,028 which is 80% of our goal. In same summary in agenda, group contributions for October of '21 vs October '20. Numbers have improved year to year. Austin: prudent reserve level should come down if expenses are coming down? Still not clear. Carole; prudent reserve 6 months of expenses- going back one year. The average is not down yet. Still not a full funded prudent reserve. Lease agreement @ central office for 5 years. 6 months of reserve may not carry that, and that's board business. Defer to the board for that.

Jim M question: president or central office manager announce @ each meeting what total contributions year-to-year. Please start announcing that. Joe says it is in the agenda and up for same period from last year. He read to group.

Carole R via chat- All treasury Reports 2021 – Find details for the IG minutes & financial reports on the website at: <https://aasanjose.org/central-office-financials-and-intergroup-minutes>.

Jaye: Thanks, Carole and Joe!

- **Central office/Toni:** comment on agenda- if you're not receiving email with agenda from central office, please say in the chat. Make sure you get the information. In person meeting guides (paper) are now available at central office. Recently via grapevine, she learned they have a podcast. It's a weekly podcast, with interviews of people sharing their experience strength & hope. Go to-<https://www.aagrapevine.org/podcast>. Lisa question: for the in-person meeting guide, there are some corrections that need to be made. How do we send corrections in. Toni: If adding new meeting or going from hybrid/zoom to in-person, fill in the meeting form [online](#). If it's just a change, send information to [meetings@aasanjose.org](mailto:meetings@aasanjose.org). Report emailed in: Meetings Guides are now available in Central Office. They cost .50 each.
- The YTF Group Contribution report will now be attached to the Statement of Activity Financial report. This is sent to you via email and is on our website on the Financials/Minutes tab.
- The Grapevine has a podcast. It is a weekly podcast which interviews members about their experience strength and hope about various topics. Currently there are 9 episodes available. It can be found on [aagrapevine.org/podcast](http://aagrapevine.org/podcast).
- **IT Coordinator/Phil:** Short report. No issues with website. Up 100%, things going well. One thing posted- outreach committee position, if someone takes the position, info can be posted directly into the website. Makes it a lot easier and efficient. Also shout out to Glen who is helping with tech. We haven't been getting any complaints, and happy to be of service as IT director. Questions?
- **Virtual solutions/Lisa B (in for Joe):** purpose to provide resource at [www.aasanjose.org](http://www.aasanjose.org), autonomous groups make autonomous decisions. Resources provided for in person or online meetings and public health resources. Refer to links on overview tabs on website. Reminder; there's a difference between county and state health orders. Follow stricter guidelines. Link for hybrid meetings resources for going hybrid. Also work with general services rep. AA group inventory for the Covid era- it's a great resource for group inventory. Helps group evaluation how well groups are helping the group primary purpose. Who should best lead? The group should decide, but general service rep is a good starting point. Feel free to post inventory to social media groups. Committee contact [aasjvsc@aasanjose.org](mailto:aasjvsc@aasanjose.org) for info or questions. IGR Lisa BS to Everyone 08:35 PM

<https://covid19.sccgov.org/home>

- **12 step chair / Blake (Allie C sub):** Lots of information. SCC intergroup has 3 service committees devoted to the alcoholic still suffering. The web hotline, the diverter, and the 12-step committee. The positions require a working knowledge of the 12 steps. Multilingual helpful. Discussed diverter shifts and how the term 'diverter' came about in

the 70's. Current open shifts were mentioned. Sign up in chat or come to training workshop. The web hotline is open 8a-8pm and is a chat service. There's no service term for service for this. The 12-step committee, service information and sobriety requirement (6mo). Training is 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday/month. Next workshop 12/18 10am via Zoom. Also, on the calendar at <https://aasanjose.org/>. *Blake B via chat*: CURRENT OPEN DIVERTER SHIFTS: - The 2nd Friday of the month 6-10am starting December 8. - The 4th Sunday 11pm-6am starting December 26. - The 5th Sunday (which happens only four times/year) 9am-Noon. All starting January 30 2022. Please message Carol Bu in the chat or come to the training workshop to sign up. Diverter/Web Hotline/12 Stepper Workshop is (Every 3rd Saturday at 10am). Upcoming: December 18th @ 10am, Meeting ID: 172 445 181, Passcode: 019237. Diverter = 1 year sobriety, Web Hotline = 1 year sobriety & 12 Stepper = 6 months sobriety. Report emailed in: My name is Blake B, an alcoholic and the current 12-Step Chair, presenting on behalf of Ali C, our daytime Diverter Coordinator, Carol B, the nights and weekends Diverter Coordinator, and Katy F, the Web Hotline chair.

Santa Clara County Intergroup has 3 service committees dedicated to responding to the alcoholic still suffering--the Diverter, our after-hours phone hotline as well as the daytime phone hotline; the Web Hotline--answering chat requests from AAsanjose.org; and the 12-Step Committee, introducing the newcomer to AA one on one. All of these service positions require a working knowledge of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. We can especially use anyone with multiple language skills.

First, the Diverter. Diverter volunteers provide after-hours phone coverage as well as the daytime phone hotline. Other AA fellowships may call this service the 24-hour hotline or the AA hotline. We call it the Diverter because in the late 70s-early 80s we had a call-forwarding machine called The Diverter. When our Central Office is closed, incoming calls are diverted (or forwarded) to a person who is on call. Diverter shifts are once a month for an average time of 3-4 hours. You can take your shift wherever you happen to be: at home, on a Zoom meeting, at dinner, or out of town. The service term is at least 1 year, but many serve longer. The Diverter sobriety requirement is 1 year.

Current open diverter shifts are the second Friday of the month from 6-10am starting December 8, the fourth Sunday from 11pm-6am starting December 26, and the fifth Sunday (which happens only four times/year) from 9am-Noon starting January 30 next year. Please raise your hand or message me in the chat or come to the training workshop to sign up.

Next, the Web Hotline. In August 2020 we launched the Web Hotline service. From 8am to 8pm, visitors to aasanjose.org can open the chat bubble and type questions. The pool of Web Hotline volunteers answers these requests using Slack, an application available on a computer and smartphone. Web Hotline volunteers set their own schedules and answer incoming chats if available. There is no service term. The sobriety requirement is 1 year.

Finally, the 12-step committee. To be a 12th Stepper means we try to carry AA's message to alcoholics as it is stated in AA's Step 12. When the phone diverter or the web hotline has a person who wants to speak with someone further, the volunteer will call you with that person's

name and number. You'll call them and get to spend more time with them to build a relationship. We then invite and meet them at a virtual meeting and introduce them to our fellowship. This is a great service position that works around your availability. Once you go to the workshop, your name stays on the 12th Step List. The sobriety requirement is 6 months.

We offer a joint training workshop for all of these service positions on the third Saturday of each month. Your attendance can get you three service positions at the same time. The next workshop will be Saturday, September 18, 10:00 am on Zoom. I have posted the information in the chat; it is also on the calendar of events at [aasanjose.org](http://aasanjose.org).

Take Away: Please let your group know these service opportunities are available, providing an easy way to help another alcoholic, whether it's a newcomer, a person with long sobriety who is struggling, or just someone trying to find the next meeting. Training workshops are offered monthly.

**Carol B:** Has an announcement. Thanks Blake! After 3 years, I will be stepping down as the night/weekend diverter coordinator, and a new coordinator will be stepping in. It will happen January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. Please give Sean the same support as given to Carol. Thanks.

- **Secretary workshop/Cheryl B:** The next Secretary's workshop is this Saturday 12/3 10-11am, we hope to have lots attending. It's best to attend in person, to share info. This position is OPEN, if someone would like the opportunity, please speak up. The commitment is the first Saturday of the month for 1 hour so- once a month. You basically just walk through the binder with people who attend, just lead the workshop. It's great meeting people. She will be present for the handoff, and will do training to help new coordinator.
- **Newsletter/the Coin (Geena Louise).** No answer, topics and deadlines in the chat.

**Old or ongoing business:** Tamlyn spoke about the announcement canceling the proposal for the website. Last month it was announced that web content committee should hand their stuff over to committee of technical experts. Who is that committee? Does that committee exist already? Jaye- yes. Kurt M? There is a member of central service board helping us, Tamlyn had no knowledge that they weren't going to move forward. She is surprised by this information. Phil and tech crew are the people who need to review this info. The template was already bought for the website, that's what we were asking for (the board). Asking for content that was collected, so that the info for IT people to blend with what Phil has already done. Then see what works and what would be a good blend. Then move forward. Tamlyn, it's just that Phil also knew what we were doing. There was support there. So blindsided by this. Going to throw away research.

**New business?** Francine B, more discussion about tech advisory conversations on the website infrastructure. The website needs to reach the newcomer which it is not doing now. Lots of research was done and nothing was stated prior when they met with the central service board. It seems like a delayed reaction. Disturbing. *Carole R-* no prior approval, but the project seems

to have gone off the rails. New committee is just going forward with that project. Not to purchase a website, just a template and work to upgrade what we have. Tech expert assigned and should be deferred to. Blaming not appropriate. Discussions of scope of work, how it went off the path, nothing was clearly communicated, unclear and questions came in with web content. Appoint committee to work with it, nothing will be lost. Will be using foundation from the group.

Tammy (ODAAT): questions about what to report to the group. Nothing to report back to the group.

Stephanie: who is on the new committee tech? Jaye. It might not be next meeting but when they have info to share it will be on the next agenda. Carole- Names: Robert D, Phil, Glen and a couple other project managers who have come forward to volunteer. More being vetted as we speak. Stephanie; Will they be working with the web content? Carole- The tech group will do their scope of work.

- **North county general service/Pris:** District 4 held group conscience last month, items discussed primary purpose of our service. Are groups aware of services that our district performs? SCC district hosted an inventory assembly kickoff. Breakout rooms with Q&A, also Spanish speaking and open fellowships. 2 sessions and an acapella performance. 90 people attended! Next day, provided video conference utilities, and activities. This past month our district was fully engaged with primary focus on inventory. **Report emailed in:** Intergroup Meeting December 2, 2021. District 04 - Santa Clara North County Pris J. DCM/Alt DCMC (RightSized2011@gmail.com)
- District 04 held a Group Conscience this past month. A group conscience is the collective intentions of the group membership. And it's achieved through the sharing of full information, individual points of view, and the practice of A.A.'s principles. Some of the items we discussed were:
  - i. What is the primary purpose of our district?
  - ii. Do our GSR's have adequate opportunity to participate in District meetings?

**AND**

- iii. Are groups aware of the services that our District performs?
- On the evening prior to our Areas Fall Assembly, Santa Clara North County district hosted an Inventory Assembly kickoff:
    - We had 7 panelists from as far away as Maryland share their personal experiences on how the process of inventory creates unity **and** helps us to better carry the message.
    - In addition, we had Break-out rooms for Q&A sessions. updates on the Grapevine podcasts, and Spanish Speaking and Open fellowship.
  - These two sessions were sandwiched by an A Capella Recovery Duo called "The Festering Resentments". They were a lot of fun, and quite hilarious!
  - In all, we had over 90 people attend the Inventory Assembly kickoff

- The next day, not only did our district partake of the inspiring Area Inventory, some of our district members also volunteered and supported the Fall Assembly by providing video conferencing services for:
  - Security
  - As timers
  - Helpers for any general questions
  - Chat Support
  - And any other Video Conferencing related activities

November was a very full, engaging and fun month for District 04!

- **H & I / Lisa:** We carry the message of AA for alcoholics who are still confined. There are lots of meetings going on in different facilities. Some now in person, some online. Lots of service opportunities. Coordinator positions, come chair and more. Sponsorship program at San Quentin; similar program now at Salinas Valley and Soledad. Call main h7i number 408-877-4464 general H&I number for more info. *Via chat from Lisa R- H&I Liaison; meeting rep. Hospitals and Institutions: [www.handinorcal.org](http://www.handinorcal.org) Thank you for your pink can and online contributions. These go to purchase books and literature for alcoholics who are confined. There are many service positions open- please share with others who are interested! 408- 877-4464. Thank you!*
- **Bridging the Gap/Elizabeth:** helps people get from incarceration/treatment centers to aa meetings and navigate zoom. Looking for people to chair in person. This may change with latest variant. Successful connection and able to help people. The program does work.
- **PICPC/Francine:** They have been meeting with several different groups over last month. Various countries, groups, etc. help them better understand how to do outreach. Utilize website and other tools if website outdated. They had an extensive presentation Saturday night as well. Please share at individual meetings that they are looking for literature, and secretaries to help start AA meetings. What groups are in need? Francine can give more info. *Via chat: From Francine B, PI/CPC Liaison & Chair You may contribute to purchases of the Grapevine for the homeless at 9 Abode Services facilities in Santa Clara County by contributing to Venmo at [www.aasanjose.org/picpc](http://www.aasanjose.org/picpc) - thank you for helping us get their needs met!*

**No sober & free or SCCYPAA liaison/report.**

Anything else? **Open forum time.**

**Pris:** out of the country right now, hope to be back Friday. Curious what's happening with meetings in the US. Anything going on? Elizabeth- to be determined. Wait and see currently. Lisa R: add to Elizabeth. In Santa Clara County, no change in recommendations at this point (re:

Covid). We can remind each other of general space and other precautions. Sign in sheets help for possible contact tracing. Keep for 2 weeks then destroyed. Gloria: Spiritual Progress has 4 live meetings on Sundays. They still have strict protocols; you're welcome to join us. Lisa: will put Santa Clara County Covid information in the chat space. Dan P: Pris, there is new travel restrictions coming down.

**Austin:** this is going to be my last intergroup meeting. Thanks for the tolerance. I just want to say that I feel like our intergroup would benefit from taking our inventory. Responsibility and authority: there's no balance. The communication does not flow well. He's just making observations only, but we can do better. It would be nice if there was some representation on this new committee, visually as well as technically (in regards to last discussion/tech). Thanks everyone for your service.

**Joe:** Re: Carol B who is stepping down as our diverter coordinator; Thanks for your many years of service. Carol has worked tirelessly, the hand of AA is there, and she has been making sure of it since before computers. Thanks so much.

**Geoff W:** question, where can we sponsor the grapevine subscriptions? Please put in chat.

**Gail W:** confused with no motion on the floor to revamp the website. Was under the impression that we were supposed to go back to our groups with info and have a group conscious. Now it's all handed off to a new committee. A little surprising. There's hope for continuity. If the problem is there's no motions- can we make a motion? Not sure what the process is. Jaye- at this time, there is a new committee doing the current website. At this moment there is no motion.

**Kurt M:** so for those of you who don't know, there is a memorial for Bruce this Saturday at [Frank Bramhall Park](#) 320 Willow Street. December 4<sup>th</sup>, at 1pm. Bring a chair, cake will be there. Anyone who would like to go is welcome.

**Francine:** the only thing to add to discussion, is that Phil and Josh and all involved in web committee all had access to everything. It's all on the Google drive, so there's nothing to hand over. All reasons they proposed and price negotiations, all on that google drive.

**Close with responsibility statement 8:42pm**