

Minutes Utah Area 69 Pre-Conference Assembly
April 1-3, 2011
Aranda's Xtreme Gym
Sunset, Utah * District 1

Welcome Renae H., Chair – Opened with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Anonymity statement. Welcomed newcomers to their first General Service Meeting. Introduced Area Officers and Past Delegates.

12 Concepts: Read by Jason, District 10.

Minutes of the 2010 "Fall Election Assembly," September 24-26, 2010 – Sheryl T., Area Secretary: Approved as read.

Financial Report, Doug R., Area Treasurer: Approved as read.

Formation of Ad hoc Committee, Renae H., Area Chair: The purpose of this committee is to do additional work on the previously approved Forum/PRAASA defrayment motion. The members of this committee are as follows: Chair: Eric S., District 3; Doug, Area Treasurer; Lauana, Area Grapevine Chair; Tony, District 2; Eric M., District 3; Jodi E., Past Delegate.

Roll Call, Sheri P., Area Registrar: : In attendance were: Area Officers 6 – Area Standing Chairs 9 – Past Delegates 4 – District One: 1 DCMC, 3 DCM, 8 GSR, 1 Standing Chair – District Two: 1 DCMC, 4 DCM, 4 GSR, 3 Standing Chairs – District Three: 2 DCM, 2 Alt. DCM, 11 GSR, 2 Alt. GSR – District Four: None in attendance – District Five: None in attendance – District Six: 1 DCM, 3 GSR, 1 Alt. GSR – District Seven: 2 DCM, 1 GSR – District Eight: 1 DCM, 1 GSR – District Nine: 1 GSR – District Ten: 1 DCMC, 5 DCM, 2 Alt. DCM, 18 GSR, 1 Standing Chair – District Eleven: 1 DCMC, 1 DCM, 5 GSR, 1 Alt. GSR, 1 Standing Chair – District Twelve: 1 DCM, 1 Standing Chair – CO Reps.: None in attendance – Interested AAs: 2

Bid for 2013 Pre-Conference Assembly (per Guidelines), Charlie G., Assembly/Agenda Chair – District 10 won the bid.

Upcoming Events

Post-Conference Assembly, Matt, District 11: This event is sneaking up on me fast but, with the help of the outstanding members on the committee, I think we can pull it off fine. We have a pre-registration form available with the flyer on the backside. One of our registrars will be here this weekend so if anyone would like to pre-register they will be able to. AlAnon will be holding a workshop downstairs the Saturday of this event. They are going to provide a speaker for Friday night and will join us for an ice cream social that evening. After meeting with the Elks Lodge and signing the contract, I notice they have not bought any more new chairs. So come early to get one of the 80 new ones with the good cushions. We are happy to have the Area in Davis County for this event and are excited to hear Keith's first conference report. Good luck in New York Keith!

Area Bridge the Gap Workshop, Douglas, District 8: Verbal report given.

Pre-Assembly Workshop, Steve R., District 10: Verbal report given.

Forum Report from District 4: No report given.

University of Utah School on Alcoholism, Wade J., Area CPC Standing Chair: The event is June 19-25. Verbal report given.

Reports from Past Events

February Area Committee Meeting, District 5: No report given.

Delegate Report – Keith M. - “We are Responsible for AA’s Future – Let it Begin with Us.” It is an honor and privilege to serve you as the Panel 61 Delegate from Area 69 Utah. Here we are at the Pre-Conference Assembly, thanks to District 1 for a stellar job this weekend. **Area Update:** It seems like it was just January and I, along with many of the Area Committee, were visiting the Area during the Meet, Greet, Learn, and Listen Tour. That was a busy time, but nothing like our recent activities sharing information about the Final Conference Agenda Items. Since February 12, when GSO posted the Agenda Items on the Dashboard, or, as I like to call it, “The Beginning,” I, along with many Officers and Standing Chairs, have attended four District Workshops and numerous District Committee meetings. Because of scheduling conflicts, Districts 2, 8, and 9 only received the Conference information at the February Committee meeting, either by email or snail mail. Next year I pledge to attend District Committee meetings in those districts. Walter, the best Alternate Delegate ever, has been working with District 12, and I believe they are informed. However, the lack of Spanish translation is a colossal hurdle for future trusted servants to solve. I love numbers! Numbers help me understand the importance of AA in Utah. I estimate that the Area has spent a minimum of 1,035 hours discussing Conference Agenda Items this year, not counting 594

hours of travel time. This is not counting the individual group conscience meetings and many hours of preparation time by GSRs, DCMs, Area Standing Chairs, Area Officers, etc. And let's not forget about PRAASA, where many of the Area Officers, Standing Chairs, DCMs, GSRs, and interested AA members traveled to the beautiful state of Hawaii to learn more about Conference Agenda Items and General Service. **General Service Conference Update:** The Spring 2011 Box 4-5-9 summarizes our annual Service Conference, which will take place May 1-7, 2011 in New York City. The theme of the 61st Conference is "We Are Responsible for AA's Future - Let It Begin With Us." Conference week will be very busy, with presentations followed by discussions. Topics include: AA in a Digital Age, An Informed Group Conscience, and Diversity in AA. A workshop will address "How to Increase Participation in AA – Striving for Self-support in All Our Affairs." A very important aspect of the Conference will be the individual committee recommendations, which may result in Conference Advisory Actions. A few items to be discussed are: 1) The Finance and Budgetary Committee will consider various ways to communicate self-support. 2) The Literature Committee will review a revised draft of "The AA Member-Medication and Other Drugs," as well as a progress report on the development of literature which focuses on spirituality. 3) The draft of the proposed pamphlet, "AA for the Alcoholic with Special Needs" will be reviewed by the Treatment Facilities/Special Needs-Accessibilities Committee. 4) Public Information will put the finishing touches on the questions of the AA Membership Survey and review the G.S.O policy on Actors Portraying AA Members or Potential AA Members in Videos. And many more issues will be discussed. **News from Alcoholics Anonymous World Service (AAW.S.):** 1) the Literature Desk has extended the deadline for "AA and the Armed Services" story submissions until July 15, 2011. 2) Upon recommendation of its Ad Hoc Committee on E-Technology, the Board approved an Overall Project proposal for the sale of AAW.S. literature in digital format. The current schedule shows the first books in digital format (the *Big Book* and *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*) available for sale by late summer. Infrastructure investment is expected to amount to approximately \$400,000 incurred over a two-year period. 3) G.S.O.'s General Manager, Phyllis H., shared that it was gratifying to see the continuing increase in contributions through the end of 2010, with final figures at about \$6,409,000, which is a 1.8% increase over 2009. 4) Online contributions from the last six months have been about \$82,750, which demonstrates the success of this new system for making our individual donations to G.S.O. 5) G.S.O had a net income for 2010 of approximately \$1,302,000, which was 29% over budget. The majority of this came from the very successful 2010 International Convention, which showed revenue of over \$850,000. And lastly, 6) Applications are now being sought for a G.S.O. staff member to serve on a rotational basis through various assignments such as Corrections, Public Information, Treatment, Literature, etc. A minimum of six years sobriety is required. This opening will be available until mid to late summer of 2011. **Personal Note:** We are here today to continue the process of informing me, as your delegate, so I can be your voice and vote during the 61st General Service Conference. I ask for your thoughts and prayers for loving guidance as I trudge along our spiritual path into the 4th dimension. May we all walk in beauty as we pursue our happy, joyous, and free lives in the fellowship of the spirit.

Formation of Guidelines Review Committee, Renae H., Area Chair: The members of the Guidelines Review Committee are as follows: Monte S., Immediate Past Delegate; Walter C., Alternate Delegate; Wendy, GSR, District 10; Dave, GSR, District 3; Matt, DCMC, District 11; Mitch, GSR, District 3; LeAnn, Alt. GSR, District 10; Robert, GSR, District 2; Juan Carlos, DCM, District 12; Tony, DCM, District 2; and Joe A., GSR, District 9.

Standing Committee Roundtable Discussion/Conference Agenda Items

Adjourned for Lunch 12:00pm

Reconvened at 1:15pm

Welcome and Orientation, Renae H., Area Chair

Finance Committee Recommendation, Renae H., Area Chair: The Finance Committee met during the lunch break. Doug reported this to the body and also explained the Area's current financial situation. Doug read the corresponding Area Guideline and the following recommendation: The Finance Committee recommended that the Area's prudent reserve be used for necessary operating expenses, including in-state travel of Area officers and Standing Committee Chairs.

The floor was then opened for comments and questions regarding the recommendation. Mitch from District 3 made a suggestion that a basket be passed around the room to give the body a chance to contribute toward Area expenses. A sense of the meeting was taken and this suggestion passed by a simple majority. The basket was passed and the \$289 collected will be used toward the \$500 seed money for the upcoming Post-Conference Assembly in District 11. After more discussion and many comments were made about the recommendation, the question was called and a vote was taken. The vote passed by majority. One member spoke to the minority opinion. The Area will use prudent reserve funds to cover outstanding Area expenses and to give District 11 an additional \$500 in seed money for the upcoming Post-Conference Assembly.

**Conference Agenda Items - Presentation and Sense of the Meeting
Delegate's Comments – Keith M.**

Adjourned at 5:00pm

P.S. Sheri P. turned in a written copy of her presentation regarding International Conventions and Regional Forums. A copy of Sheri's presentation will be included with the minutes from this event. I also received the following update in writing. The following report was not read at the meeting due to time constraints:

Lauana H., Archives Standing Chair: Aloha! Since we last met, I attended PRAASA. What an inspiring experience! It was a chance to learn more and meet old and new friends. While there, I purchased the CDs of PRAASA for the Area Archives. I turned pictures from PRAASA over to Janet H., our Repository Archivist, plus memorabilia from PRAASA. Today I received a container from Tony to go through and see if any of the items can be used for the Area Archives. Thank you for allowing me to serve you.