

Draft Kauai District 6 Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2024

Lihu`e Lutheran Church

1. **Call to order:** Anastasia, DCM, called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM with the Declaration of Unity

a) Attendance: Anastasia DCM; Jim D, Alt DCM; Mathea A, Grapevine Chair, Shoshanah B, District Secretary; Ramon, Alt GSR Sunrise Sobriety, Doug H, GSR Hui `Ohana Virtual; Amy B – GSR, Na Wahine Ku Pono.

Hybrid: Annie C

Total Attendance 8 voting members present.

*Any new items to add to the Agenda? Planning District Elections; Hybrid

b) Reading of **Tradition Eight** and checklist questions by Doug H.

Tradition Eight: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

1. Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
2. When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
3. Do I sometimes try to get some reward—even if not money—for my personal AA efforts?
4. Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
5. Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?
6. In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?
7. Have I paid enough attention to the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions? To the pamphlet AA Tradition—How It Developed?

Discussion followed:

Jim D – there is a new-ish recovery “initiative” called Narcan. There are trainings and a lot of activity being done. It seems like the Recovery Community has been cut out of it. The Harm reduction side of overdosing is being addressed by them. We, in AA, need to figure out how to be a part of this. How do we stay non-professional and yet be involved in the recovery community? They save people from dying but how does that help them recover?

Shoshanah – Narcan is available everywhere liquor is served and sold today. We currently do not have the chair persons to be contacted ie. PI (public information), PCP (cooperation with the professional community) and, therefore, have no “face” in the community. We need to fill all our Standing Chair positions to truly “carry the message” on Kaua`i. Doug H – we need to be cunning, baffling, and powerful. We should cut ourselves in and be a part of it. Doug recalls being a part of the skid row drug addiction community and can relate to loving it. “AA saved my life. When I tried to OD on purpose, it reminds me of the gift of desperation that I received and fuels us in the program.” Anastasia – BB says we don’t have the only way to recovery. Harm Reduction keeps people from dying before they get sober. NA should be involved since it is narcotics. Are they? We do have a lot of members that are doubly addicted. PI and PCP are non-professionals who can help in our community and the workbooks that tell us how to do the work in our communities. She added about drug addicts are just cruising now and not about to die. Maybe they will meet their personal bottoms. “I’ve worked in harm reduction programs before and they are not ready for a sober life yet. Educate the resuscitators about the knowledge of AA. We are welcome to get Narcan training. We’ve had a lot of OD’s on fentanyl being laced with coke and other street drugs”

Ramon – there's so many young people OD'ing. Is NA involved? We are all certified in CPR. We can save your life.

Amy – I don't see harm reduction working. They tell the clients that you can go to AA or NA but.... It is not pushed.

Mathea –It's an important medical advance and has spread through the medical community. This is part of the drug community which we are associated with. Tradition 6 states that it is an outside issue and it is important to discuss.

Doug – doesn't thinking that bringing someone back from certain death is not helping to save a life. Our members will tell an AA potential to go drink again because they are not ready. They may be ready when they are dying.

c) Reading of the **Concept VIII** and questions by Mathea A.

Concept VIII: The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

- Do we understand the relationship between the two corporate service entities (A.A. World Services, Inc., the A.A. Grapevine) and the General Service Board?
- How can the business term "custodial oversight" apply to the trustees' relationship to the two corporate service entities?
- Does my home group subscribe to G.S.O.'s bimonthly newsletter Box 4-5-9? A.A. Grapevine? Do I?

Discussion followed:

Mathea: discussed as she read - The tax number belongs to the service board and those 2 entities (AA World Service and AA Grapevine). The trustees could look at Narcan and see if we can afford it and if we want to do it. The chair app has Box 4-5-9. I subscribe to the grapevine, maybe not my home group.

New Business:

District Elections: DCM- it should be a party to get people want to attend. Jim and I discussed doing it next month. We will be electing the DCM, Alt DCM, Secretary and Treasurer. Shoshanah reminded the group that the Waimea Canyon Groups' 3rd Annual Labor Day Gathering will be held on Monday, Sept 2nd and has been set up to introduce the idea of being in service at the District level to our members. As we have discussed at a prior District brainstorming sessions about how to get "new blood" to our meetings, we will have a God Box for members to put in "what holds them back" from **Letting Us Help You Help Us** at the Labor Day Event. It will be opened in the afternoon when we have Mathea A and Jim D sharing on the topic of Service with the District committee members as the supporting panel who will help answer the God Box responses. The group enthusiastically discussed and agreed on an Elections Party to be held at our September 21st District Meeting next month. Plan: DCM to contact Website to announce it and Shoshanah to write something for Linda B to put in our Sept issue of the GIS Newsletter (August 20th deadline).

Hybrid committee - Shoshanah suggested that we form a Hybrid committee. The committee would provide all the equipment needed (we currently have everything except a laptop) and set up the Hybrid zoom for the Intergroup and District meetings. Currently, I am bringing the equipment from my home (suggesting a locked box to store the equipment on sight) and attending both meetings. It has been very difficult to run the hybrid portion and take the District minutes at the same time. Having the Hybrid Zoom being a service position has many benefits.

Discussion:

- DCM – could be formed by District, and Intergroup would be deciding on their own. Hybrid district... what does that entail? I think hybrid is good when people are sick, on vacation, etc.
- Mathea - Before hybrid we had a website chair. Alt DCM would need to change the structure and guidelines and present to the group to vote on it (alter it, etc). Then vote for the funding. Then we find the chair.

- Doug – whatever happened with the discussion on combining Intergroup and District? Jim reminded us that Intergroup wants to stay with what we have.
- Mathea – Concept 5 lets us rebut a vote. Intergroup and District combining never came to a vote. We can bring it up again
- Jim D – saw an article in the Final Conference Report last year about the hybrid meetings. We have a service structure that is geographically based. We have linguistically based meetings as well (Spanish speaking) which are geographically connected. We don't have a solution at this point in time. He cautions us to proceed carefully when making big investments. We went to PRAASA on line. It was cheap (no hotel, airfare) and they quit doing it on line because they couldn't afford to keep it going with the lower numbers in physical attendance.
- Mathea gave background of Area and Hybrid. Attendance was lower when having hybrid and face to face options. People were on their devices during the assemblies. Area decided not to have hybrid assemblies any more.

Plan: Add the Hybrid Committee as an agenda item for further discussion on the October District meeting. This topic will need to be discussed at Intergroup separately.

2. Secretary's Reports: Shoshanah B, secretary. The Draft of the June 2024 District 6 minutes were distributed via email to the mail distribution list. Printed copies were available at the meeting. The minutes were reviewed.

Jim D entertained the **Motion** to accept the May 2024 minutes as presented / corrected; seconded by Amy B.

Vote taken: All were in favor. No abstentions/ passed unanimously. **Motion** carried.

3. Treasurer's Report: Bob F- is off island and not available for today's meeting. He was unable to attach the Treasurer's Excel Spreadsheet with his email and Mathea A brought physical copies for distribution to the District members present.

District Treasurer's Report for July's Accounting (bank closes at the end of the month):

- There were no Contributions and no expenses in the month of July. See the spreadsheet for details.
- We have a balance of \$4028.22, which includes a \$1200 prudent reserve and an effective operating balance of \$2828.22.
- We have no major expenses projected in August, although we have received no invoice from Area for the Delegate Report travel expenses that we share with Area and DCM expenses for travel to Committee Meetings.

Mathea added: We have monies to send District members to Assemblies.

Discussion:

Jim D – wants to propose (Make a **Motion?**) that we fund newly elected GSR and District officers for Panel 75 to go to the October election assembly if that want/request to go; at least a partial funding (50%) with the home group supporting if possible. There are a few very small home groups that cannot afford to send a GSR (ie Anahola Jaywalkers)

DCM – travel is a line item on our budget.

Mathea - wants to clarify Jim's idea. Suggested including GSR travel for panel 75 to attend the Panel 73 election assembly before they are actually in their panel.

After further discussion, the **Motion was withdrawn** as we already have the guidance in the Structure & Guidelines.

Jim D entertained the **Motion** to accept the Treasurer's report as presented/corrected and was seconded by Doug H.

Vote taken: 8 members accepted. All were in favor. No abstentions/ passed unanimously. **Motion** carried.

4. Alt DCM Report: Jim D: provided written report:

August 17, 2024

The Area Registrar supplied me with a list of Kauai Groups which GSO has on file. It is interesting to see who is listed as contacts for various meetings but underscores our continuing struggle to formalize some of these relationships. Very few meetings list a GSR, as I am sure we all here realize.

I only report this because I feel it emphasizes our need to encourage participation as we near the end of this panel. Next month should be our elections as we have discussed, and I hope all of us are emphasizing this as we share in various meetings.

Jim D

5. Intergroup Report: Ann W (not present): Mathea reported that the Chair is on the East coast for a funeral.

The Intergroup meeting was held on August 3, 2024.

- We discussed the topic "If AA should be listed in the Yellow Pages". The topic was tabled after much discussion as there was no resolution. Plan: Ramon and Tommy will do research and get back to the group.
- We will be sending Bob B (and his wife Marilou) a special card for all the hard work they have done to support Intergroup as our Literature Chair/keeper of the Literature Locker for all those years. Tom R will follow up on a discrepancy that was discovered. It happened years ago that Bob B paid for a large literature order (\$1,150) on his credit card which had bounced. We needed to figure out about that charge from many years ago and cover that debt. It was decided to have Intergroup pay the debt (cleared) and that Tom R will talk with Marilou about the past books. Side note: we realize that their life is very complicated now with medical issues.
- Regarding the new listings on website: Thursdays men's group has a potluck; Friday Hui 'Ohana has a hotdog meeting at 5:30/6:30pm. We are working with Carolyn V, Web Chair, to get our events listed and new meetings and gatherings posted accurately on the website. There is a time lag when a new meeting is listed. Intergroup decided to have a 3 month turn-around probation period before listing it on the website. Shoshanah mentioned helping Carolyn and being part of the discussions. She felt that Activities (or "parties") / Events should be listed under Announcements. She also asked if they discussed listing new meetings under Announcements on the website in the meantime. Mathea suggests that we bring that up at the next Intergroup and District meetings as new business items on the Agenda.

Doug/Jim talked about the DUI classes. Doug is learning how to continue to keep it flowing. Mathea again suggested that Doug stand for the PI Chair since he is doing the work and enjoys it.

6. DCM Report: Anastasia A -

Aloha all,

We had a great turn out for the Delegate report back last month. Tommy and the other members were very pleased. Thank you so much to everyone that showed up and a special thanks to Bob F for all the set-up and break down.

Looking forward, it's time to really encourage people to visit district. Elections are coming up very quickly, and we need people to rotate in. I'm thinking it could be a good idea to turn district elections into a "party" with food to encourage attendance? It could also be a good idea at the home group level too! Get the word out about elections!

First weekend of September we have the area budget assembly, so anyone who's going needs to register for that early.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

Anastasia

Discussion:

If you want to start a new meeting/group contact Sean, the Area Registrar. If your group already has a meeting and you want to add a meeting, use your same home group # for it.

Jim D reminds us that there are different numbers given. Jim met with Sean (Area Registrar) and has the updated numbers. He has 5 pages of columns and groups and numbers. Turns out, Jim has been putting the wrong number on the check from Happy Hour. There are now new numbers. We are doing the best we can.

Budget Assembly registration is being done by snail mail so register early.

7. GSR Reports:

- Anahola Jaywalkers – Kathryn, not present. No report .
- Happy Hour – Jim D reporting: we meet on Wednesdays and Thursdays at Kalapaki. Thinking about adding a Grapevine meeting. We have a Grapevine subscription and an email address (which I don't know) so we are getting it digitally and hope to utilize it digitally. We are working on it.
- Hui 'Ohana/Hui 'Ohana Virtual – Doug H GSR: we subscribe to Grapevine. Strong meetings every day, on line and in person at 7am. New meeting at 5:30pm Fridays for hot dogs and a potluck. Meeting at 6:30pm. Hui 'Ohana will host it's 3rd annual gathering on November 9th. Pizza will be served/ potluck. Virutal meeting: Mathea reporting. We have people from all over the world and a Service team of about 7 people (2 monitor the waiting room, usher people in, assist the secretary).
- Koloa Aloha – Laurel B, GSR: not present. Mathea A reporting - 2 mtgs a week. 10-12 meeting on Friday, mostly women. In person on Sundays at 8:15am. We are growing – 20-22 people attending. It is a Daily Reflections meeting.
- Na Wahine Ku Pono – Amy B, GSR. Na Wahine Ku Pono is going strong on Mondays at 5PM with around 15-20 women average in attendance and our zoom meetings which meet every evening at 5pm averaging 8-25 women on any given evening. We are excited for our women's retreat at Camp Naue November 1-4.
- Saturday Sober Sisters – Annie C, GSR: attendance waxes and wanes but we continue to maintain sobriety for all who still suffer. GSR will attend the Budget assembly in Sept. We celebrated 2 years on Friday. It is a small meeting and going well.
- Sunrise Sobriety – Bob F, GSR: Ramon, alt GSR reporting. 20-25 people in attendance. Grapevine meeting this morning (Saturday). We support the men's and women's retreat thru the T-shirt sales. FYI the pay phone at Po'ipu beach does not work. Will need to use a cell phone for 911 calls. Literature, coffee maker, secretary positions are filled.
- Waimea Canyon Group – Shoshanah B reported: Please spread the word about our 3rd Annual Labor Day Gathering at Salt Pond Beach Park, Main Pavilion on Monday, September 2nd. Sunrise Sobriety will again be supporting the event . We are using this venue to promote Service outside of our home group as Elections are next month and we are heading into Panel 75. Mathea A and Jim D will be the keynote speakers in the afternoon with a G_d box to encourage conversations about "what holds you back from being in Service beyond your home group. Visualizing our most enthusiastic District Members being on the Panel to support and field any questions from the group. Set up at is at 9am. Flyers available today. Grand finale at 3pm will be a Sobriety Countdown with gift giveaways.
- North Shore Aloha – no report
- Anahola Jaywalkers – no report

8. Standing Committee Reports

Archives: *position vacant*

Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC): *position vacant*

Corrections: Garrett S, Chair: Not present - written report as follows:

I talked to Bill (Teresa's husband) and was told that he and Phillip were going into KCCC and conducting AA meetings on a regular, weekly basis; every Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm.

Don't know if and/ or when the next Voluncor training session has been/will be scheduled. To my knowledge, we are still not bringing any meetings to the ladies side. I have not had a chance to relay any information to the Area 17 representative.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC): position vacant

Grapevine: Mathea A, Chair: read the following GRAPEVINE daily quote to us:

Augusts 17, 2024 "The first thing that captured me at my very first meeting was the way AA members talked with one another. There was genuineness, something real there, that I wanted ... I saw they were sober and that they were honest with each other."

"The Real Thing," New York, New York, February 2001, Voices of Long-Term Sobriety

According to our District 6 Budget, the Grapevine Committee has \$100. Mathea wrote a check to GSO for 2 Grapevine subscriptions, totaling \$72 for people who are incarcerated and wanting an AA in print. GSO passes her check to the "hopper" and, whoever asks for next subscription will receive it.

Mynah Bird: *position vacant*. Annie C, GSR is on the Area Committee. She was tasked to interview members and write down their personal AA journeys. Two of those that she interviewed will be sharing their Service Journey in the next issue of the Mynah Bird: Tommy G (Delegate) and Susanah (Alternate Delegate).

PI (Public Information): *position vacant*

Treatment Settings Special Needs: *position vacant*

Website: Web Chairperson, Carolyn V. - not present, no report

9. Old Business:

- On-going vacant Standing Committee Chairs and Member / GSR's participation. See list of vacant positions above. Mathea suggested that Doug stand for the PI chair for this Panel since he is already doing he DUI classes. DCM asked us all to stand. Doug remained standing. He will finish this panel and continue for Panel 75.
- PRAASA 2026 - Hawai'i is hosting. Kunane D is Chair. Need hundreds of people to volunteer.

PRAASA 2025 is in Anchorage. Ask early if you want to attend.

10. New Business:

- **Election Party will be held at our Next District meeting on September 21st.** Food and beverages will be provided. Shoshanah to give GIS Newsletter the info for the September issue. Kaua'i people: bring your selves, your sponsees, your friends and caravan to our party on September 21st . **Let Us Help You Help Us.**

11. GSR/District concerns: none

12. Announcements/What to take back:

- **Sept 21 will bge the District election Party**
- **Sept 2nd Labor day Event**
- Intergroup has voted to have a 3-month probation period for new meetings or changes to meetings to be listed on the Chair App and our meeting schedules.
- September Budget Assembly: September 7-8,2024, hosted by District # 4, Windward O'ahu. Register ASAP via snail mail.
- **October Election Assembly** October 19-22, 2024 District #1, Diamond Head, O'ahu
- **Pacific Regional Forum** 2024, July 12-14, 2024, Westgate Resort & Casino, Las Vegas, NV – Registration is FREE and opened online at www.aa.org on May 13, 2024
- **61st Annual Hawai'i Convention**, October 24-27, 2024 at Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort and Spa. Registration and more information: <https://www.annualhawaiiconvention.com/>

- A.A. International Convention in Vancouver, BC, Canada, July 3-6, 2025, at the Vancouver Convention Center and BC Place Stadium. <https://www.aa.org/international-convention>

13. Meeting Adjourned: Mathea A entertained a **Motion** to close the meeting; seconded by Jim D . No objections or abstentions. Meeting closed at 11:29 h.

Closing with the **Responsibility Pledge:** *I am responsible when anyone anywhere reaches out for help I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that I am responsible.*

Next District Meeting will be held on September 21, 2024 at 9:30 am at the Lihu`e Lutheran Church on German Hill, 4602 Ho`omana Rd, Lihu`e, HI 96766

Respectfully submitted by

Susan H. Barretto

Secretary, District 6

Hawai`i Area 17

Panel 73