

Draft Kauai District 6 Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2023
Lihu`e Lutheran Church

1. **Call to order:** Anastasia, DCM, called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM with the Declaration of Unity, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

a) Attendance: Mathea A, Jim D, Anastasia B, Keola O, Crystallyn B, Ann W, Jim B, Shoshanah B. Hybrid: none
8 voting members present.

*Any new items to add to the Agenda? No

b) Reading of **Tradition Nine** and the questions was read by Jim D

Discussion followed:

Anastasia - working at the bottom, literature has been head of it for 2 decades now: not anonymous and no spirit of rotation. Great reminder about patience.

Jim - we had at one point, our own intergroup office. When we couldn't get into our room at first today due to a funeral, he remembered when this wasn't a situation. We don't own anything, we show up, and we make it work. Can be frustrating at times. Only 1 GSR showed up at the assembly. That's where we are at. We have to accept this. I need to be a part of it to stay sober.

Mathea - office was too expensive. We had it for 2 yrs. As far as this room, we need the screen for the hybrid meeting. We could move to another facility. We really tried to find, especially now that we are tied to hybrid, PASS - to add to the agenda: new possible meeting place

Jim- one more point about anonymity... the key word is "when" we take on responsibility, i am responsible for figuring out who will be the next Alt DCM. People don't hang on to their commitments. Look around at the participation here. Same faces. People show up for a while and then they are gone.

c) Reading of **Concept IX** and the questions was read by Mathea A. with discussion. Concept 9 is what we are talking about. When I went to the assembly, 3 of us showed up. Concept 9 is a delightful concept.

Discussion followed:

Anastasia - You showed up and stood up. We give you the position. We are so desperate to fill the positions. Spirit of rotation is to let the position go vacant. It has to do with anonymity and humility. It can become an ego thing. We need to set a positive leadership example.

Jim - had a conversation with a guy who goes out in the community and helps a person who is locked up at home and can't go out. He talks about it as being of service. We don't have an accessibility person in AA on Kauai. Why isn't he doing that for AA if he is so hot in doing that for the community? When you do AA, we admit we are an alcoholic. Denial is at the heart of the problem. It keeps up from participating.

Continuation of the District Inventory Questions/Discussion:

Question 7: How effective are we in communicating with all our groups?

Anastasia - Not really because we don't have GSR's showing up to District meetings and Area Assemblies.

Jim - we have the GIS newsletter. We have the mechanisms to communicate, we don't use them. We used to have a DCM corner to update our members. This is a group deal, we need committees to put this all together. When i was Mynah Bird Chair, i went to Linda (GIS) to learn this stuff.

Keola - asked if Intergroup gets more GSR's to attend than District.

Ann - A few attendees are GSR's because it was "strongly suggested" that they attend both Intergroup AND District, not necessarily as their GSR role.

James - Hui `Ohana GSR. We have strong participation at the group level. We are doing well communicating amongst the 7 meetings.

Keola - our website is doing a great job helping with our Virtual meeting.

Question 8: Do all AA's know about district meetings and have the opportunity to attend?

Anastasia - They all have the opportunity to attend, a lot of people close their ears when i talk about District.

Mathea - thank you for recognizing Robert's Rules of Order.

Keola - Aaron mentions the District meeting on the Virtual Hui `Ohana meeting.

Jim - we need to communicate. The theory of our organization: the groups are on the top. Hui `Ohana has done remarkable stuff for the past 4 years, during the scope of the pandemic. Second annual gathering this October. I love going to PRAASA and it was so nice to be able to attend it online.

Keola - would be willing to visit different meetings on the island to remind them.

Anastasia - we need to show up at meetings and remind them.

Shoshanah - mentioned Districts' efforts to organize events to share the love of service to the members island-wide. Perhaps Valentine's Day: Language of the Heart/Love of Service as a theme?

Question 9: Has enough effort been made to explain to all, the value and purpose of a G.S.R.?

Anastasia - she reminds people that you don't have a voice if you don't have a GSR.

Mathea - relieved that Koloa Aloha got their new GSR to the Assembly. SHe bloomed like a flower at the assembly. She Took the position to heart.

Shoshanah - individual members to carry the message

Anastasia -sometimes we have to volun"told" someone. If we mumble on about District, it goes over their heads. Announce at the end about the District meeting and share what it means to be a GSR. We must talk to people.

Keola - could we list the groups that have a GSR on the website?

Jim - when i look at history, we need to get involved. We need to publicize AA. we don't do enough to publicize. We don't have a PI committee. We need to start a PI committee ourselves and get this done. Activity generates interest. If we lie down in the street together, something will happen. Let's put together a plan to do it and people will see that we are doing something. Hui `ohana gave me a job to do: GSR - to represent them. When he came back from his first assembly and gave them a written report, they were knocked over.

Mathea – never enough effort to explain the value and purpose of a G.S.R.

James - happy to tell his wife that he attended the district meeting today.

2. Secretary's Report: Shoshanah B - the Draft of August 2023 District 6 minutes were distributed to the District members via email. Printed copies were also available. The minutes were reviewed.

Ann asked how the distribution list was created. Explained that the secretary adds people to it as they attend the meetings. Some of the info may be outdated. SB - only one person has asked to be removed from the email list thus far. Ann reported having trouble reaching Jonathan. Mathea - found Jonathan's email in her contacts:

jonathanhdrayton@gmail.com

Mathea A entertained the **Motion** to accept the June 2023 minutes as presented/corrected; seconded by Ann W.

Vote taken: 8 in favor. Passed unanimously. **Motion** carries.

3. Treasurer's Report: Bob F- not present. Bob distributed the August 2023 Treasurer's report via email Jim D entertained the **Motion** to accept the Treasurer's report as presented/corrected; seconded by Mathea.

Vote taken: 8 in favor. No objections or abstentions. Passed unanimously. **Motion** carries.

4. Alt DCM Report: Jim D -

Aloha.

I spent the two weeks after our last District meeting in New Orleans so my activity was limited but I was able to attend the Intergroup meeting via zoom. (Thank you Aaron and Shoshanah!)

I can report that the Meeting Guide App has a fairly accurate listing of all our meetings on Kauai plus two others that Intergroup insists on including.

I returned to Kauai on September 3 so I was able to attend the wonderful Labor Day event at Salt Pond. Thank you to all who worked so diligently to provide a marvelous event!

I also continue to serve as the treasurer for the 2024 RoundUp Committee. We are meeting once a month and it should be a great way to celebrate Founders Day next year.

Thanks to all of you who continue to keep AA a vital part of my life

Jim D

5. Intergroup Report: Ann W -

Last mgt was Sept 2nd with 7 people in attendance. Discussion around upcoming events to be on the website: Thankathon, Jonathan D, chair; Men's retreat; Women's retreat. Thankathon is a little over 2 months out. Salt Pond Labor Event was held 2 days after the Intergroup mtg. A few Intergroup members attended the Budget Assembly. The Intergroup Structures and Guidelines draft was put up for the members to review for 2 months, was voted in and accepted, and the Approved document was forwarded to Aaron, Webmaster, to be posted on the website. They would like everything else that isn't current be taken down.

Matheas - Alternate Intergroup Chair. Budget Assembly Highlights: Mathea voted about 10 times and met with 2 other IGR's from O`ahu and West Hawaii, Kona. Sean C, Treasurer, somehow got a copy of the conference agenda and loaned her the GSC Report which she displayed. From the Grapevine portion, Mathea observed that there are "more pictures of coffee cups and urns than any other picture in this Annual report. Her Intergroup "secret" for the Grapevine: there are 292 copies in all of Hawai'i which is a decrease in subscriptions.

Anastasia received a copy of the General Service Conference Report while at the assembly and can request more for interested District members..

6. DCM Report: Anastasia, DCM -

Budget assembly/Finance committee updates:

We, the finance committee, discussed the prudent reserve (was \$5,000 in arbitrary amounts based on nothing as an Area) and proposed that we use a 20% (for 2.4 months of the year) of the budget of each year to be set aside for the prudent reserve.

Discussion:

- Jim D said that in his recollection, it was not just arbitrary. The bulk of our expenses happen in the first half of the year, it looks like we are in bad shape but we are not. The way AA sets its prudent reserve is that we try to figure out how much it costs to run Area on a month to month basis. The high mark was the first 10 months. It is difficult to predict because the bulk of our expenses are spent on travel. We have the potential to predict how we set it. To me, 20% was arbitrary.

-Anastasia - explains about the 2.4 months. It covers sending the Delegate to GSC. The money exists. If anyone has any creative ideas, i can bring them back to the Finance committee.

-Anastasia - we need feedback on Inventory Questions for the Inventory Assembly by October 12th.

-Mathea suggested that the Chair and Alt Chair get funded to go to PRAASA as well as the Delegate and Alt Delegate. This would help “train” the Chair and Alternate Chair, by sending them as they prepare for stepping up to the Delegate and Alternate Delegate positions. Mathea has gone to PRAASA every year. Group felt that it was not a valid argument.

-Ann reports about attending off-island assemblies and was never involved in service beyond her group until she moved here (over 30 years sober). It takes a lot to orchestrate your life to have a full weekend away. I learned a lot at those assemblies that I would not have learned. “The literature JUST showed UP”. It is not a perk or a reward. If you want to learn a new job, you have to go somewhere to learn it. -

Anastasia: We have 3 unregistered groups on Kaua`i. If any group wants to register, go through Area 17 and not GSO. it will be done correctly and more timely by going through Area 17. When we go through GSO, they are not showing up on our Area group list. She is going down the list and axing off meetings that don't want to be listed as a group..

Jim - critical question. I am responsible for the groups as the Alt DCM? The Primary purpose meeting and Thursday night ACOA meeting are not AA meetings. How does the meeting guide app work because it lists them? It is an outside issue. Not ours. Therein lies the issue. This is an Intergroup question. DCM commented: they are separate issues. Mathea: reminded us of the history of the meeting app guide being given to AA.

Anastasia - “Next year we are going to be graced to HOST a committee meeting in October 2024. Will bring it back for discussion later. Just planting a seed.”

Budget assembly notes

- Inventory Assembly Hilo January 20-21, 2024. Register for the assembly!

Ideally under my term, I would host fewer workshops. I can do one in December.

Something based on service, participation. With food. Mathea reminded us that we had one for Valentine's day at Niumalu and one at our Intergroup facility, an upstairs venue in years past.

7. GSR Reports:

- **Na Wahine Ku Pono** – Amy B, GSR - not present. Mathea reported that it is well-attended with 20-24 people. Doing well as a meeting and a group. Has a GSR and an Alt GSR (neither went to the assembly due to family issues).
- **Koloa Aloha** – Laurel B, GSR - not present. Ann w reporting: still meets twice a week. One in person, one virtual. 15 people in attendance. Primarily women who show up, guys are welcome. Well-functioning, nice group. Some attend both virtually and again live on Sundays. (10-15 in attendance). We have a new treasurer and new coffee maker (who is away or a bit so BYOC).
- **Hui `Ohana** - James B, GSR - Kalei is there everyday and James loves hearing him speak the Hawaiian Language. Someone told me that Hawaiian is the Language of the Heart. Kalei and the group have been helping me with my wife (extended hospital stay). Our treasurer just back from vacation David B.
- **Hui Ohana Virtual** – Keola, Alt GSR - (GSR for virtual meeting). We need info from the treasurer for our business meetings. A big group from the virtual meeting is

coming in October for the second annual Hui `Ohana gathering for the in-person and virtual meeting members and for members island-wide. Potluck is set for October 14th. James reported that he gets the treasurer's report on the last week of each month and volunteered to bring it to the next Intergroup meeting.

- **Sunrise Sobriety** – Bob F, GSR - not present. No report.
- **Waimea Canyon Group** – Shoshanah reported that they had their very successful, 2nd annual Labor Day gathering (since COVID) with about 60 members from around the island in attendance. We had recovery skits followed by speaker-discussion meetings. Mahalo to all who helped set up, clean up, and participated by being present in fellowship and unity. We have a new meeting on Wednesday mornings at Salt Pond Beach Park which needs support. It is an open topic/discussion meeting from 9:30-11am in the pavilion behind the lifeguard tower. It will be listed on the next printing of our schedules.
- **Anahola Jaywalkers** – no report
- **Princeville-Hanalei** – no report
- **Happy Hour** – Crystallyn, GSR - we just added a new Thursday meeting last week (Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions format), and 3 members showed up for it. Wednesdays are a Big Book study and meetings are both held at 5pm at Nawiliwili Park picnic tables. Attendees include people from the court, WIN house, and KCCC). We get to remember where we came from with the sweet smell of pakalolo in the air.

8. Standing Committee Reports

Archives: *position vacant*. No report

Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC): *position vacant*. No report

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC): *position vacant*. No report

Corrections: Garrett S - not present. Ann recalled (9 months ago) Jim said that Kalei has gone in twice now. Pastor Sui communicates with them. Per an email from Garrett, only those trained in the past 5 years. Keola added that there are 5 members currently trained.

Grapevine: Mathea - recommends that no one over 80 years of age not be a Grapevine chair (advancing technology) as it can be too overwhelming for her at times. We have a new Grapevine app. It is losing money hand over fist. It was activated on Sept 1st. It costs breakdown to \$2.77/month. You can get the online GV itself, paper version, podcasts, daily GV sayings, a communication system that is like FB. "This is the right thing to do " according to the feedback from PRAASA. Grapevine is the VOICE of AA and has now shifted to a social media position, reaching the service members in AA who range from about 50-60 years of age down to 35-40 years old. This is an appropriate shift for the Grapevine. Projections for this are that it will save the financial system for GV and GV will persist.

Mynah Bird: *position vacant*. No report

PI (Public Information): *position vacant*.

Mathea - this chair is not responsible for jail, doctors, priests. The Chair does bring lectures to the grammar schools, places signs on the bus, places an advertisement in our local newspaper, and fills library racks. As PI chair, I just did the libraries, gave talks at a couple of schools, and was present and set up a table at community events. Crystal will stand with Mathea's help. Shoshanah was volunt"told" to be her service

sponsor. Crystal has a passion for sobriety, 8+ months of sobriety and attends 7 meetings a week and is transitioning out of WIN house.

DCM read the S & G job description.

Vote to accept 6 in favor. **Crystallyn B is the new PI Chair.**

Treatment Settings Special Needs: *position vacant.* No report

Website: Aaron L - not present. No report.

9. Old Business

- On-going topic: Update District 6 Structures and Guidelines.
Anastasia ;When we acquire a standing committee chair, we look at the structure and guidelines, service position. How to update the S & G's?
Mathea - Intergroup just did it with a committee.
- On-going discussion: revitalize AA and service participation on our island. Topics of interest wanted for workshops and events. Anastasia to plan something. Maybe december.
- Vacant Standing Committee Members - and GSR's. See list of vacant positions above.
- 2024 Round Up is being planned for June 6-9, 2024. See Mike T, Events Chair. AA needs more participation.

10. New Business:

- Registration is open for the 60th annual Hawaii State Convention October 26-29, 2023, at the Waikiki Marriott Hotel. See Area 17.org for more details. Here is the link for registration: <https://www.annualhawaiiiconvention.com/aloha#h.83ebvjdf97zg>
- PRAASA 2024 will be held March 1-3, 2024 at the San Francisco
- November 4, 2023 Committee Meeting 9am-5pm, hosted by District 17, Waianae, O`ahu. Chair: Sarah Anna, DCM17@area17aa.org / 501-703-0498
- Next Area 17 Assembly is set for January 20-21, 2024. GSRs PLEASE REGISTER at <https://area17aa.org/>
- **2024 Inventory Assembly**, hosted by District 6 Hilo/Hamakua, to be held on January 20th and 21st. Breakfast and Registration will be on Saturday, January 20th, 8-9AM.
- Sept 23rd AA/Alanon event | ice cream social, bake sale, Lihue Lutheran church 1-3 pm

11. GSR/District concerns:

- Jim - We need to get notified from the Church that there was a funeral. Anastasia will connect with Noreen. Maybe an email chain with Noreen and Ann and Anastasia (Intergroup chair and DCM, respectively).

- Does anyone know that there is News at the bottom of the meeting guide app.

-Anastasia emailed out the 2023 Conference booklet.

12. Announcements/What to take back

- Thank-A-Thon: Thanksgiving, November 23, 2023
- Next Area 17 Assembly is set for January 20-21, 2024. GSRs PLEASE REGISTER at <https://area17aa.org/> **2024 Inventory Assembly**, hosted by District 6 Hilo/Hamakua, to be held on January 20th and 21st. Breakfast and Registration will be on Saturday, January 20th, 8-9AM.
- November 4, 2023 **Committee Meeting** 9am-5pm, hosted by District 17, Waianae, O`ahu. Chair: Sarah Anna, DCM17@area17aa.org / 501-703-0498
- 2024 Round Up is being planned for June 6-9, 2024. See Mike T, Events Chair.
- Founder's Day: June 10, 2024
- International Convention: July 3-6, 2025, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- New Westside Meeting at Salt Pond Beach Park Pavilion behind the lifeguard station, 9:30-11 am; open topic/discussion meeting
- Intergroup and District are looking for topics for island-wide events/gathering to promote interest and participation in service
- Registration is open for the 60th annual Hawaii State Convention October 26-29, 2023, at the Waikiki Marriott Hotel. See Area 17.org for more details. Here is the link for registration: <https://www.annualhawaiiiconvention.com/aloha#h.83ebvjdf97zq>
- PRAASA 2024 will be held March 1-3, 2024 at the San Francisco
- Sept 23rd AA/Alanon event I ice cream social, bake sale, Lihu`e Lutheran church 1-3 pm
- Hui `Ohana 2nd annual Virtual and In-Person meetings gathering. Potluck to be held on October 14th.
- DCM needs Suggestions for the Finance committee to spend down the money by the end of October. Discussed sending the new PI chair to the assemblies.
- DCM asking for suggestions for Area 17 inventory questions - due by Oct 12th

13. Meeting Adjourned:

Mathea made a **Motion to close the meeting**; seconded by Ann W. No objections or abstentions. Meeting closed at 11:44 AM 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 October 21, 2023 at 9:30 am at the Lihu`e Lutheran Church, Room 8, 4602 Hoomana Rd, Lihu`e, HI 96766

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Barretto aka Shoshanah
District 6 Secretary
Hawai`i Area 17
Panel 73