

**Minutes of the San Diego County CoDA Business Meeting  
March 20, 2021**

**Present:** Diane, Michelle, Nathan, Csilla, Tina, Sharleen, Marlene, Laureen, Alison, Nancy, Joe, Erin, Rita, Carol, Isis, Mika

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Diane, Community Rep. The CoDA Opening prayer was recited. Diane asked if there was anyone new to the meeting and explained that the meeting has two parts consisting of officer/chair reports, and new business where motions and discussion items are addressed. She also said that any questions can be put in the Zoom chat portion. Introductions were made. Diane read the Intention Statement and the Third Service Concept. Sharleene read the Third Tradition.

**Officer/Chair Reports:**

**Diane, Community Rep:** Diane reported that we still have a few open positions. An agenda and newcomer welcome letter was sent to all members of this meeting. The agenda has a place for notes on the back side.

**Michelle, Parliamentarian:** Michelle explained that the Community Meeting is conducted in accordance with the 12 Traditions, group conscience, and Roberts Rules of Order. Any member in CoDA is welcome to attend this meeting and has a voice. However, only Group Service Reps (GSRs) and most officers and chairpersons can vote. A quorum is reached when 30% of the total number of meetings has a representative at the meeting. Michelle also said that anyone having a motion or discussion item, can write it in the Zoom chat box.

**Alternate Community Rep: Open**

**Treasurer: Open**

**Secretary: Open**

**Marlene, Regional Representative:** Marlene asked the group to help disseminate a motion that was brought to the SoCal Group from the LA CoDA Intergroup earlier in March. The motion is to adopt the following prayer as a CoDA recognized prayer:

*Higher Power, Thank you for pulling up this memory. It is a painful one. Thank you for starting to uncover this part of me. Higher Power, I welcome your healing light to shine on all corners of this memory so that I can love this part of me too.*

SoCal would like to obtain a group conscious vote on whether to present the prayer at the Service Conference in July for possible advancement to CoDA World within in their motion schedule to adopt the proposed prayer as a recognized CoDA prayer. Marlene would like to have results of San Diego level votes at our May 2021 business meeting. The prayer will be emailed out to the San Diego groups.

Sharlene added that SoCal CoDA is now making available a record of contributions from each group in Southern California and the groups can access it to make sure that their contributions are being accepted and recorded at the SoCal level.

Marlene added that there is now a Save The Date flyer available for the SoCal Conference.

**Laurene, Alt. Reg. Rep:** No report.

**Csilla & Isis, Newsletter & Meeting List:** Csilla reported that she is at the rough draft stage of the new newsletter and wondered if she could re-add a section, My CoDA Moment, that was a part of the newsletter in the past. This will be added to new business later in this meeting. She also confirmed that Marlene is the current regional rep and that we currently also have an alternate regional rep. Isis reported that she has received a template for the meeting list and she is going to update the meeting contacts and would appreciate any help on confirming the current contents.

Nancy commented that CoDA World does accept member submissions and that Csilla might want to review it.

**Sonya, Public Information Mail:** Not present

**Gary, Public Information Phones:** Not present

**Mika, Hospitals and Institutions:** Mika reported that she has received the flyers that were available to her from Literature and is putting together a list of crisis houses to begin to make appointments to meet with them next month.

**Sharleene, Literature:** Sharlene reported:

\$146.00 in sales, 110.00 in petty cash, 2170.20 in inventory. 25 flyers were transferred to H&I and onto their budget in the amount of \$10.00.

As sales remain slow, no blue book order was placed and Sharleen will wait until our on-hand quantity is 5 before ordering.

**Outreach:** open

**Tina, Activities:** Tina shared a Save the Date flyer for an upcoming Newcomers event on April 24 to help our program become more user friendly. She envisions a panel of experienced sponsors presenting to the participants.

Additionally, Tina announced a guided meditation for May 1 from 10am-noon.

Joe asked if there was a flyer for the guided meditation and Tina responded no. Joe will post on the website as soon as he receives them.

Sharleen asked for confirmation on the time zone for the meditation. Diane requested that the flyers and save the dates be sent to her as well. Michelle requested that further discussion of this topic be moved to new business.

**Joe, Webmaster:** Joe reported that he included a web service agreement/contract for the group to review. It was included in the chat for this meeting. He will update the 2021 conference links on the website in addition to updating some meeting positions and will send an email blast for conferences and Tina's upcoming activities. Joe also inquired about which phone number should be on the website for Public Information: Phone. Joe also responded to Isis's earlier query about the meeting list and informed her that the website is the most current list of meetings in San Diego. Diane queried if Joe received a flyer that she had sent regarding the open positions. Joe did not recall receiving the flyer.

**Sharleen, Southern California Conference Facilitator:** Sharleen reported that the SoCal Conference hosted by TVCC (Valley communities in Los Angeles County) will take place June

4-6, 2021. It will be a full conference but will be held virtually. Reservations can be made through Eventbrite and there is a suggested donation but no one will be turned away. There will be workshops and speakers throughout the conference. The committee is in touch with CoDA groups on the East Coast, Canada, and the UK.

**Workshops, Panels, and Seminars:** Open

**Michelle, Email ad hoc:**

**Laurine, ad hoc committee:** No report

**GSR Reports:** No reports

**Break** was called at 10:55am

The meeting resumed at 11:00am. It was determined that we have 26 meetings. Roll call was taken and quorum was met by 12 voting members.

The parliamentarian reiterated the procedure for submitting motions and discussion items.

Approval of the minutes: Michelle made a motion to approve the February minutes and seconded the motion. The minutes were proposed with two corrections: tradition 2 was read, not tradition 12 and one correction in Diane's section.

Voting: 6 - yes. The motion does not pass.

**Old Business:**

**By-Law Changes:** Laurine proposed a sentence change to the bylaws that states that the community will establish a prudent reserve based upon the past two years of budget expenses and agreed upon by group consensus and will be placed in the committee savings account. Mika asked if the treasurer gives the budget information to the group. Diane asked if the treasurer can be included in the wording, Michelle pointed out that the treasurer is already included in the wording.

Voting: 11 yes, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions

**New Business**

**Open Positions:** Diane listed the currently open positions of Alternative Community Representative, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Workshops, Panels and Seminars, and Outreach. Joe will be posting the flyer on the website listing all these positions. There were no volunteers for these positions.

**Webmaster Agreement:** Joe had no additional comment to his submitted agreement/contract. Sharlene asked what the fees would be for the position. Joe responded \$160.00 per quarter. This is the same amount he bills SoCal. Michelle asked that groups take the information back to their meetings for comment and discussion. Tina proposed that if we are delaying the vote, we should pay Joe retroactively to the date of the end of his term as an officer. Rita said that she has reviewed the document and is ready to vote today. Marlene agreed with Rita. Nancy queried if Joe is required to attend the meetings or will information be passed along to him. Michelle and Isis both requested time to read the contract. Joe does not request retroactive pay and is volunteering in the position until April 1 which would be the contract date. Sharlene

thanked Joe for all of his service and moved that the committee vote today on the webmaster contract.

Voting: 7 yes, the motion does not pass.

**Ask for Personal Submissions for the Newsletter:** Csilla would like to include a “CoDA Moment” in the newsletter. Is it ok to request personal submissions from our community. Diane asked who would determine the appropriateness of each submission for inclusion in the newsletter. She is concerned that submissions may counteract CoDA approved literature and teachings and that there would need to be additional eyes to review. Sharlene wanted clarification on the submissions being personal in nature and not simply shares of existing material. Csilla agreed. Marlene pointed out that there is a set of guidelines for the speaker’s meetings and the group accepts whatever is presented. Mika agrees to verification of material. Tina feels it is Csilla’s job to vet the submissions and would love to hear the shares. Diane would like there to be guidelines. Marlene will share the guidelines for the speaker’s meetings. Sharleen suggested a maximum word count.

No vote needed.

**Are there guidelines on how meetings transition to in-person or hybrid from strictly on-line?**

Nathan mentioned that now that our county-wide vaccination rate is climbing, is there any community support on how and when to go back to in-person meetings? Is there any structure or guidelines for transitioning or remaining entirely virtual. Sharleen, CoDA.org has information online, SoCal has an ad hoc committee working on this but didn’t have any input at the last SoCal meeting. There is another SoCal meeting in May. Zoom has been putting out information on hybrid meetings.

**Sponsorship Workshop:** Tina will send the flyer to the meeting reps to share with their meetings. She is hoping to have 5 experienced sponsors to speak on the panel. Isis volunteered to work on this with Tina. Tina needs 2 additional helpers. Diane volunteered to help as well.

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition with no Treasurer:** Sharleen wondered is it possible to acknowledge that someone is picking up 7<sup>th</sup> tradition even though we don’t have a treasurer. Nancy wondered who is signing checks and paying bills. Sharleen wondered who is able to transact business. Gary is the only one with signing ability. Michelle wondered if deposits are being made. Diane confirmed that she is not a signer on the bank account. Sharleen just wanted the group to be aware. Mika wondered if this should be brought to the individual groups. Conversation tabled until next month’s meeting.

**Sending information to GSR’s vs. Email Blasts:** Tina wondered what the group thought about one method or the other as best to communicate out the community in general. Joe can include links to flyers in email blast - more than one at a time instead of sending multiple emails. He suggests only one email blast a month. Diane wondered if there is a deadline for submissions. Csilla will have to go out every month, she is targeting early in the month. Diane wondered if the newsletter will include the activities, Csilla confirmed that it will.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am, followed by the Serenity Prayer.