

Minutes of the San Diego County CoDA Business Meeting June 19, 2021

Present: Diane, Gary, Michelle, Sonya, Marlene, Sharleene, Csilla, Erin, Laurine, Mika, Isis, Aaron, Nathan, Nancy, Catherine, Tina, Joe, David, Buck,

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 Sixth Service Concept. Sharleene read the Sixth Tradition.

Officer/Chair Reports:

Diane, Community Rep: Diane welcomed Michelle back and thanked Laurine for filling in for her at the last meeting. She thanked Sonya for transcribing the minutes for the last meeting. She welcomed Erin as our new Treasurer. She also reminded the group that there are still four open positions, Recording Secretary, Alternative Community Rep, Workshop, Panels & Seminars, and Outreach. All are posted on the website and in the most recent newsletter. She encouraged everyone to pass these open items along to their individual meetings.

Alternate Community Rep: Open

Michelle, Parliamentarian: Michelle thanked Laurine for filling in for her and to Sonya for the minutes. She 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.

Marlene, Regional Representative: Marlene reported that prior to the SoCal Conference, the most recent SoCal business meeting was held. An item for discussion at that meeting was the concept of hybrid meetings which is being studied by other regions than just San Diego. SoCal is recommending that hybrid meetings register as new meetings for the purposes of 7th tradition tracking at the SoCal and CoDA world levels. While this is a recommendation, each meeting is free to choose whether or not to change their registration status. Marlene also informed the group that the 2021 CSC (CoDA Service Conference) survey which details all possible motions to be brought forward at the CSC, is being created and will be ready for distribution to all CoDA meetings in Southern California by July 7. Voting will be open to members of all CoDA groups until July 25. The link to the survey will be on the SoCal webpage. An email will go out to notify everyone when the link is live. There might be a discussion session zoom that week as well. This vote is to be considered a mass group conscious. SoCal is hoping for a higher turn-out than last year.

Laurene, Alt. Reg. Rep: No report.

Erin/Gary, Treasurer: Erin reported that she has reconciled the bank statements through April and is working on May and as of April we have a total of \$21,365.00. She will continue to work

with Gary in the transition process. Gary asked if there is a donation site for 7th Tradition. Erin responded that at this time there is not a Venmo or Paypal set up to collect virtual 7th Tradition. Marlene thanked Gary for his support of Erin during the transition. Sharleene reminded the group that our budget is approved in the fall and that CoDA World has advised that running a negative balance for the upcoming budget due to lasting effects from COVID will be acceptable and even advisable this year. If any meetings contributed 7th Tradition to SoCal level and haven't received acknowledgement, please let the SoCal Treasurer know, as a few have fallen through the cracks. Laurine reminded the group that the 2021 budget was never approved.

Secretary: Open

Csilla & Isis, Newsletter & Meeting List: Csilla reported that she feels the newsletter will be better distributed at mid-month to incorporate Community Meeting information, the speakers meeting, as well as activities. The new newsletter has been submitted to Joe to post on the website. She will try to send the next newsletter out to this group before our meeting so can discuss as a group as well as to Joe for posting. Isis has reviewed all of the current meetings and has incorporated as many changes as she is aware of as well as their statuses, ie; in-person, zoom, or hybrid. She would like to review with GSR's at this meeting each month. She shared the information for the meetings that she was aware had changed. She asked GSRs on the call for any changes they are aware of to their meetings. No changes were indicated. She attached the current list in the chat for the group's review. A question was asked of Joe whether both Isis and Csilla can be indicated for contact on the website and Joe indicated that he will make that change.

Workshops, Panels, and Seminars: Open

Sonya, Public Information Mail: Sonya reported that all mail has been collected weekly and that the most recent statements were scanned and sent to Erin. Sonya asked that she and Erin connect in person to hand off the current statements and 7th tradition.

Gary, Public Information Phones: Gary reported that there were 8 calls this month to the info line asking for meeting information, meeting descriptions (what is a meeting like), Gary's opinion on whether CoDA is for them. Many callers seem to have been referred by therapists and counsellors. One call was asking for numbers to contact folks about her workshop which Gary declined to share and explained our policy.

Mika, Hospitals and Institutions: Mika will start making in-person contacts with the institutions and hospitals. Gary asked if Frank had informed her about the background check required for access to Las Colinas. She will reach out to Las Colinas to find out the process and if they are interested in having CoDA return to their programming. Marlene informed the group that Las Colinas is already taking applications for groups to return.

Sharleene, Literature: Sharleene reported

\$0.00 in sales, \$110.00 in petty cash, \$2104.20 in inventory.

Sharleene is out of some of the booklets and is running low on blue books. She will be placing an order and will reach out to Erin about the financial end of the order placement process.

Outreach: Open

Tina, Activities: Tina reported that there was one activity at Lake Murray, a walk and potluck. She will work to improve her wayfinding information as some folks were unable to find it. There will be a hike at San Elijo lagoon this month and she will include a map of where to meet on the upcoming flyer. Gary inquired what date the hike will take place and it will be on July 10 from 9-11am. It is included in the newsletter and a flyer will be sent.

Joe, Webmaster: Joe is working to update the website contacts. He asked that all web requests be sent to the to the webmaster email to keep track of all of them. It is also easier to add items to the web from email rather than text. Joe also informed the group that he has a few years of recordings from speaker's meetings and Super Seminar Saturdays and wondered if they can be posted on the web. Gary commented that all speakers would have to give permission for use of their images on the web. He also asked if Joe is able to send an invoice for services. Joe confirmed that he will send it to Erin for payment. Joe also asked when to switch over from the existing meeting list to the list Isis is compiling. Isis confirmed that she has included virtual and hybrid meetings on her list. Marlene asked if a working google type doc can be used to constantly update the meeting list.

Laurine, ad hoc committee: No report.

Michelle, Email ad hoc: No report.

Group conscious vote to extend the first part of meeting to allow 8 minutes for GSR Reports.

Vote: 5 yes, 3 no, 4 abstain. Motion passes.

GSR Reports:

Mika reported that her meeting is trying to determine whether they will remain virtual and separately in person.

Nathan reported that the Monthly Speakers Meeting is working with the church to understand what options are. July's meeting (on July 4 virtually) will contain a vote on how to proceed. They will have access to the church's WIFI but aren't sure how to proceed on the technical front. They would appreciate any help from a more technically savvy group.

Sharleene's meeting has activated a phone tree to contact all members to decide whether to return to in person or remain virtual or become hybrid.

Aaron shared that the online men's meeting is also in discussion on whether to go in-person but many members are not in San Diego. Another meeting he attends is looking for a location as their previous location has closed permanently.

Break was called at 11:04 am

The meeting resumed at 11:14am. It was determined that we have 23 meetings. Roll call was taken and quorum was met by 8 voting members.

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

Approval of the minutes: May minutes should reflect spelling corrections for Sharleene & Laurine's names. Michelle made a motion to approve the May minutes and Gary seconded the motion.

Voting: 11 yes, 0 no, 3 abstain. The motion passed.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Open Positions: Diane listed the currently open positions of Alternative Community Representative, Recording Secretary, Workshops, Panels and Seminars, and Outreach. No one expressed interest in taking on any of the open positions at this time. Diane asked if all could go back to their groups and let them know which positions are open. The May newsletter has a great description of all the open positions. There are descriptions of the positions on the website. Joe asked for some clarifications on who is in various positions and will update accordingly.

Informal Activities in the Newsletter: Csilla asked if activities not organized by our Activities Chair, Tina but organized by individual meetings can or should be listed in the newsletter. There is a meeting that has a standing beach walk and should it be included as an informal activity. Tina commented that she would like to see this type of activity included. Gary mentioned that often there is no one at that activity and would feel bad if people showed up and no one was there. Sharleene shared that often people were unable to find the group as we don't have signage. There would need to be a contact name/number included in the listing. Sonya asked if we would be opening this to any group that is organizing an activity or just this activity in discussion. Sonya clarified her question; would we be soliciting this type of information from the groups. Marlene shared that she has attended the activity in question but felt it prudent to let folks know that the activity may or not be attended.

Gary moved to extend the discussion a further 2 minutes, Tina seconded the motion.

Vote: 10 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. The motion passed.

Nancy recommended using a yellow and a blue balloon to identify groups when meeting in public. She also stated that the newsletter should be clear on which activities are sponsored and endorsed by the community or which are informal fellowship to ensure the traditions are followed. CoDA.org lists all activities without screening. Further discussion will be taken off-line informally.

Hybrid vs. In-Person Meetings: Diane is asking for feedback for a meeting situation. There is a meeting in San Diego that is contemplating returning to in-person but the members were told they had to attend an on-line meeting to vote. Some members are not tech savvy or not interested in the zoom option and are not comfortable with that option. The group ended up splitting in to two. The online meeting wants to claim the name and number as they have been paying the rent and wish to become a hybrid meeting. A large number of members who could have voted felt excluded by this online only process. Diane asked for discussion on this type of situation as it is likely we will see it more and more as we transition to this new phase. Sharleene shared that there is a meeting that is utilizing their phone list and calling all members to attend a meeting or to indicate their preference via phone, in order to take a group conscious that is inclusive of all. This will be an ongoing process and there will be lots of trial and error. Aaron shared that this is a big change and that the group conscious process is very important. All of our meetings have big decisions to make. We should be making sure as many people as possible are being heard. Mika commented that the phone call idea is great. Her group is likely to split into two. Gary shared that many wish to go back to in person and that will go forward

and the phone tree will be used to communicate the final group conscious decision to all. In this case the Zoom meeting will likely also continue and form as a new meeting. Many have enjoyed San Diego meetings due to the amount of recovery to be had.

Gary made a motion to extend the discussion a further two minutes. Marlene seconded the motion.

Vote: 8 yes, 2 no, 1 abstain. The motion passed.

Diane added that who the meeting number belongs to seems to be the point of contention. There are no ground rules on this but it became quite contentious in this particular group. She is hoping that we can come to some guidance that can be shared via the minutes and newsletter. Gary shared that it is important that we remember that first we are CoDA and that our decisions should be made as such. Our primary aim is to reach the Codependent that still suffers and that ego and the ownership of the meeting is much less important. It is quite easy to assign numbers and names to new meetings.

Meeting List Added to Chat: Isis shared the most updated meeting list with the group via the chat and sent it to Joe for upload to the website. This will be updated monthly. Nancy asked if there was a way at CoDA.org to list your meeting as a Zoom meeting. Aaron shared that you are able to register as either in-person or Zoom. He tried to get it changed to a Zoom and was unable without re-registering as a new meeting. His workaround was utilizing the comments section to indicate that the meeting was currently Zoom even though it is registered as an in-person meeting. Sharleene loves the meeting list and didn't feel it should be converted to a Google doc as previously mentioned. Gary commented that discussion of using Google doc or other file sharing program had taken place previously and was decided against as it was too easy for anyone to make changes to the document.

Gary moved to extend the conversation a further two minutes. Csilla seconded the motion.

Vote: 10 yes, 1 no, 3 abstain. The motion passed.

Marlene clarified to the group that editing rights must be given in a Google doc and it is easy to control who has viewing and editing access. Joe asked Isis to please add the date to each version of the meeting list. Isis will only be issuing a monthly update but is happy to add the date.

Michelle moved to adjourn the meeting. Isis seconded the motion.

Vote: 12 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am, followed by the Serenity Prayer.