

**Minutes of the San Diego County CoDA Business Meeting
September 18, 2021**

Present: Diane, Erin, Gary, Sonya, Marlene, Sharleene, Laurine, Aaron, Nancy, Tina, David, Elisa, Catherine, Nathan, Monty, Rita

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 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.

Officer/Chair Reports:

Diane, Community Rep: No report

Sonya, Alternate Community Rep: No report

Laurine, Stand-In Parliamentarian: Laurine 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. Laurine also said that anyone having a motion or discussion item is encouraged to write it in the Zoom chat box.

Erin, Treasurer: Erin reported that there is a balance of \$21,186.81 in the bank accounts and a total of \$24,084.19 in total assets. She and Gary are starting preliminary work on the 2022 budget. There is still no debit card to make deposits and she is trying to work that out with Gary's assistance. She has set a goal of setting up electronic 7th Tradition (Paypal and/or Venmo) in future. Erin will send the numbers to Sonya for the minutes. Nancy questioned what is going on with 7th Tradition donations that have been sent. Erin is working to get them deposited as soon as possible as well as getting acknowledgement letters out to the groups that have donated.

Marlene, Regional Representative: Marlene reported attending the SoCal business meeting on Sept 11 and on the CSC outcomes. SoCal will be providing guidance to the region on hybrid meetings. It will be posted on the SoCal website in a few weeks as soon as it is complete. Marlene reminded Erin that the 2022 budget should contain line items for reimbursement for travel expenses to the SoCal meetings for the Regional Rep as well as the Conference Chair although the SoCal meetings will remain virtual for the time being. Marlene shared the following report link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E6B1INeGrE5OcaGaP9kZWpEFipf40nKnU1T3ArpHhNA/edit> as well as its contents that are copied and pasted here as part of our meeting record(the only edits made were to formatting):

**Motions Results - CSC 2021
(Alternate Delegate)
July 26 - July 30
Highlights of the Survey and CSC:**

- 22 motions this year vs 26 motions last year
- Responses: 41, last year 71
- Each motion poses a question, with yes and no options. Last year there was a third option, as 'Other', which provided the option to comment further, which brought some added complexity with all the opinions. This year, the option to Abstain was added, and a comment section was added at the end of the survey only.
- On motion titles, a spelled out version of the acronyms was included, for members to take notice of the different areas they might want to do service at
- Suggestions from members for next year:
 - To provide an estimated time that it takes for a person to answer the survey
- Link to the full Final Report: <https://coda.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-CoDA-Service-Items-Motions-Report-7-27-thru-7-30-2021.pdf>

- CSC 2022 will be in person, in Rapid City, South Dakota, and 2023 in Texas.

VEI Arizona and VEI Georgia - Consolidated into Communications Motion 1

Motion Key on Final Report = 5347

Motion for the first paragraph of the **Preamble to be changed** as "Codependents Anonymous is an **inclusive fellowship** whose common purpose is to develop healthy and loving relationships. We gather together to support each other and share with each other in a journey of self-discovery -learning to love the self." For the purpose of inclusivity and to consolidate the last two sentences to avoid being repetitive.

Yes = 15, No = 25, Abstain = 0, Defeated

Service Structure Committee (SSC), Motion 1

Motion Key on Final Report = 5370

Motion for **Tradition 11 to be changed** as "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television, and all other public forms of communication".

Based on Motion 20023 passed at CSC2020, which defines requirements for changes to foundational documents, a ¾ approval would be necessary for this motion to pass.

Yes = 42, No = 2, Abstain = 0, Passed with ¾ majority

Spanish Outreach Committee (SPO)

Motion Key on Final Report = 5363

Motion to accept a new service item (a report) regarding the need for literature focused on supporting young adults in meetings. The intent was to develop literature with **topics more relevant to younger codependents** to improve the possibility that they will keep coming back.

The committee presented a video.

The motion was withdrawn, presumably to work on a better strategy with one of the committees sponsoring their motion.

Finance Committee

Motion Key on Final Report = 5353

With the goal for of managing and investing CoDA funds for the preservation of capital and buying power, with earning interest income as a secondary focus, **the following CoDA Investment Policy was suggested:**

CoDA funds may be invested in the following financial instruments as indicated:

- 1) 40% of the CSC approved budget shall be held in Savings, Checking or Money Market Accounts (immediately available)
- 2) 60% of the CSC approved budget shall be held in savings, money market or Certificates of Deposit. Treasury Bills or Treasury Notes with staggered maturities no longer than 5 years.
- 3) Any additional funds may be held in safer lower risk investments (uninsured instruments such as state or federal bond funds).
- 4) For insured accounts, no investment in any single institution shall exceed the maximum insured limits.

Annually, the actual allocation will be reviewed and re-balanced to reflect this Policy.

Yes = 38, No = 4, Abstain = 0, Passed with ¾ majority

Minority Opinion: it distracts the fellowship from its primary spiritual aim.

LA Motion - Healing Prayer

Motion to **approve the prayer below as a CoDA endorsed prayer** to be included in CoDA literature.

Higher Power, thank you for pulling up this memory. It's 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 CoDA members were informed that it was unclear whether this motion would be voted on this year, as it seems that a deadline was missed for it to be included.

SoCal CoDA members voted 57.5%=Yes, 27.5%=No, 15%=Abstain

The motion was assigned to the Literature Committee for CSC2022.

Perhaps for next year we will write up the following motions:

1. For a **deadline to be established on changes made to motions**. The cap at the moment is so late that on July 5 changes were still being made, impacting the time we have to put out the survey, and the time members have to vote.
2. For guidance to be shared at CSC (training sessions, perhaps, and a reminder at the CSC?) for delegates to **refrain from big celebrations of the passing of their motions**, out of respect for those who might have voted otherwise, and because it feels aligned with the respect we seek through the group conscience process.

Gary moved within Marlene's report to extend her report time by 5 minutes. Elisa seconded.

Vote: No recording of the vote was indicated other than it passed.

Aaron questioned the preamble change and whether it needs another year before becoming enacted. Marlene answered yes that because it involves a foundational document it will require another year of voting before being enacted. Elisa asked for confirmation that the two changes can be announced now to the individual meetings. Marlene said that according to the existing language, the final decision to enact the changes is currently with the CoDA board and they will announce when those changes can be percolated down to the meetings. Nancy asked about changes to the service concepts that she received from CoDA World as they pertain to this meeting. Marlene shared the link to the complete minutes of that meeting including all motions (shared here: <https://coda.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-CoDA-Service-Items-Motions-Report-7-27-thru-7-30-2021.pdf>) but suggested that the CoDA Board will pass along the changes when approved for the service concepts as well. ▲

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Laurene, Alt. Reg. Rep: No report

Secretary: Open

Csilla & Isis, Newsletter & Meeting List: Not present

Workshops, Panels, and Seminars: Open

Sonya, Public Information Mail: Sonya reported that all mail has been collected weekly and there was no 7th Tradition checks last week and that mail will be forwarded to Erin when there is 7th Tradition to pass along.

Gary, Public Information Phones: Gary reported that there were 10 calls this month to the info line asking for meeting information, meeting descriptions (what is a meeting like). Gary directed the callers to the meeting list on the website so they could find meetings close to them.

Mika, Hospitals and Institutions: Not present

Sharleene, Literature: Sharleene reported: \$192.25 in sales, \$110.00 in petty cash, \$1875.10 in inventory. She sent apologies to Erin for not getting monthly info to her.

Outreach: Open

Tina, Activities: Tina thanked Csilla for posting activities on the newsletter. There was a nice hike on Sept 11 at Batiquitos Canyon. It was easy and slow. There are two coming up in October, they are in the newsletter. Two hybrid walks are scheduled for Oct 9, 10-11am in Balboa Park (meeting at 6th and Laurel) and for Oct Mon, Oct 11 10-11am also in ~~Balboa Park~~ and on Zoom. On both days, the in-person portion is open to extending for lunch or a museum visit. If anyone wants to help Tina organize an activity, she would be grateful. She asked GSRs to ask their meetings what type of activities they want and if anyone wants to help. Aaron asked how the walking and zoom would work. Tina described how it worked during Covid last year. Marlene mentioned a 35 years of CoDA celebration planned for later October. Information can be found on CoDA.org.

Marlene moved to extend Tina's time, Gary seconded.
Vote: 11 yes - no other voting information shared

Sharleene shared that there is a lot going on in the month of October. Check CoDA.org or Eventbrite for details. Oct 2 is the Australian CoDA Convention, Oct 9 is the 2021 International CoDA Convention, Oct 22-24 is the celebration Marlene referenced. She suggested verifying before posting any of these on our newsletter or website. Elisa thanked Tina for the activities and asked for more clarification on the hybrid walk to explain to the local groups.

Laurine, ad hoc committee: Laurine reminded Erin that the insurance needs to be paid by December to avoid additional fees. The most recent bylaw changes have been passed and need to be added to the website as indicated last meeting.

Michelle, Email ad hoc: Not present.

GSR Reports:

Rita (Friday San Marcos Women's Meeting) reported that the location where they meet has given them access to a large screen and that individuals are bringing a microphone so they can be hybrid. She asked if SoCal can receive 7th Tradition payments via Zelle or only via check. Sharleene responded that SoCal is looking into electronic methods but currently they can only accept check or money order. Sharleene reminded the group that everyone that donates to SoCal should follow up with them to make sure the donation is received.

Laurine (Escondido Saturday morning meeting) shared that her meeting is conducting a fellowship activity on October 9th at 8am. They will be serving bagels and coffee for the hour before the meeting begins. Anyone interested can RSVP directly to her.

~~David~~

~~David (Encinitas Seaside Friday meeting) reported that there will be no meeting on October 1 as the church is using the space as a green room for a concert~~

~~Nathan (Sunday Speaker's Meeting Kensington) expressed his thanks and kudos to Gary and Laurine for making the hybrid meeting happen. He reported that it looks very professional and is a great experience from home.~~

~~As it was omitted earlier,~~

Diane read the Intention Statement. Gary read the Ninth Service Concept. Diane read the Ninth Tradition.

Break was called at 11:03 am

The meeting resumed at 11:13am. It was determined that we have 27 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:

~~June-August minutes: Elisa Gary made a motion to approve the June-August minutes and Gary Elisa seconded the motion. _____ Vote: 96 yes, 0 no, 5-3 abstain. The motion passed.~~

~~July minutes: Gary made a motion to approve the July minutes and Csilla seconded the motion. Vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 5 abstain. The motion passed.~~

Old Business:

~~1. Discussion: The 2021 budget was never approved. Should we enact a 2021 budget at this time? Work on the 2022 budget needs to begin. This was addressed in Erin's earlier report.~~

~~1. Isis responded that at this point in the year, it would make more sense to plan and implement a 2022 budget and forego the 2021 budget. Nancy reminded the group that the budget is presented at the October meeting. Gary will pass along this information to Erin.~~

~~1.2 Discussion of electronic 7th Tradition tabled until next. Erin mentioned this in her earlier report. She needs to get her arms around all the financial aspects before moving on to the electronic realm.† meeting~~

~~3. Discussion of signatures needed to update banking: Diane reported that we need 2 signatures and must have the secretary present. This item will hold over until we have a recording secretary. Gary suggested that we wait until next year when we have new officers rather than trying to get it done now only to have to repeat the process next year with new officers. Sharleene questioned if a card is necessary to make deposits. She makes deposits to SoCal coda without being on the account. Erin~~

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will try going into the bank to make the deposits rather than using the ATM. Gary mentioned he is still a signer on the account.

Sharleene moved to add 4 additional minutes of discussion on this item. Marlene seconded. Vote: 9 yes, 1 no, 2 abstain. The motion passed, tabled until next meeting

Nancy commented that if we wait until the next elections, it will be February. Will the bank accept "acting secretary"? Gary responded that it would still take up to 2 months for that to be reflected in the minutes and for the time being bills can be paid online. Diane is willing to go into the bank now and in February if needed. Without a recording secretary, the point is moot.

2. Discussion: Do we want to continue on Zoom, move to hybrid, or in-person meetings and will we continue to pay rent to Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church if we remain on Zoom. Aaron expressed preference to remain on Zoom. Isis agreed. Sharleene contributed that paying \$115.00 is very inexpensive to pay to hold the church space. Elisa is an out of state meeting rep for a meeting in SD County and would, because of that prefer Zoom or hybrid. Tina reminded the group that having available literature at the monthly meeting was very handy. Nancy suggested that due to the current situation, that we revisit this topic in 6 months. Isis moved to continue as we are on Zoom and continue to pay rent to Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church and revisit the issue in 3-6 months. Gary seconded the motion. Vote: 11 yes. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- ~~2.1. Elisa brought up the idea of a shared document for GSRs for notes, etc. to be shared with the group. She shared her existing notes on Evernote via the chat and volunteered to help set it up. Gary mentioned that Sonya had already set up a Google doc for the group to access and suggested Elisa contact her. Aaron would like to see what Elisa has set up. Nathan agreed and thanked Elisa for taking this on. It is helpful for consistency. Elisa will coordinate with Sonya. Discussion: The 2021 budget was never approved. Should we enact a 2021 budget at this time? Isis responded that at this point in the year, it would make more sense to plan and implement a 2022 budget and forego the 2021 budget. Nancy reminded the group that the budget is presented at the October meeting. Gary will pass along this information to Erin. Laurine moved to forego the 2021 budget and begin work on the 2022 budget. Nancy seconded the motion. Vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. The motion passed.~~

3. Sonya reminded the group that a Google Drive has now been set up for this meeting and group. Those that were able to access, and review liked it. Many were not able to access. Sonya asked any that did not receive information on how to access to send her their information. She will add them all to the updated contact list as well as to the drive itself. Joe suggested that the working docs could possibly be added to the website with password protection.

4. Discussion: Can someone hold a chair position and an officer position simultaneously. Gary indicated that the bylaws are not clear on this issue. Diane reminded the group that if a person could hold both positions, they would only be able to cast one vote. Nancy suggested using the title "acting" for one of the two positions rather than the full title. Isis felt that if the group were ok with a person holding both positions, using the title "acting" would minimize the position and the service being given. Isis moved to allow Sonya to take on both the Alternative Community Representative position along with her current Public Info Mail Chairpersonship. Elisa seconded the motion. Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 3 abstain. The motion passed.

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~~Laurine moved to adjourn the meeting. Isis seconded the motion.
Vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. The motion passed unanimously.~~

Aaron moved to adjourn the meeting. Gary seconded.

Vote: yes unanimous. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at ~~12:00~~12:03pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer.