

DISTRICT 51 MEETING MINUTES
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2016

Meeting started at 11:06am. Steven opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Introductions.

Attendees: Amy (DCM), Steven (Alt DCM, GSR– Open Door), Loretta (GSR– Caring & Sharing), Coach (Lit Chair), Lee (Treasurer), Connie (Sec), Ron (Alt Delegate), Christene (GSR – Bellaire 12&12), Sara (GSR – We've Just Begun), Tom K (Intergroup Liaison), Gordon (Free Coffee Ask It Basket), Erin (Free Coffee Ask It Basket),

1. Secretary's Report: We reviewed January minutes. Gordon motioned to accept and Christene 2nd. All in favor. Minutes were approved w/ correction.
2. Treasurer's Report: End of January balance \$2946.64. \$28 deposited from basket. Check was written to Delta Club for rent. Current balance of \$2914.64. Steven motioned to accept report and Coach 2nd. All in favor. Motion passes.
3. GSR Reports:

Caring & Sharing (Loretta) – Birthdays: 6:30am had 5 celebrants. That group spends more time honoring the sobriety and sharing those experiences. 8pm was well attended w/ lots of food and good sobriety. Both were successful and well attended. Conference Inventory and Assembly Proposals were shared and posted for review. Encouraging committee to refer to the SETA website to keep themselves informed of events, committee activities and job descriptions so we can best model how to serve. We are filling positions as they come available. Encouraging members to invite others to Steering Committee.

The Free Coffee Ask It Basket (Gordon/Erin) – We have Group Conscience as needed. Discussed excess money, but tabled for now. Probably having pizza at one of meetings. Group is growing rapidly.

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We've Just Begun (Sara) – Meetings always well attended. Birthday meeting was well attended. About half newcomers and half old-timers.

Open Door (Steven) – Birthday was today. No celebrants showed. Ron reimbursed Steven for convention travel. New Secretary and Intergroup Rep. Greg is the new chair and Ron is the back up. Stocking Big Books and 12&12s to sell to or buy for newcomers. They are converting some of Coach's tapes of Bill Wilson and others to cds for listening library for member check-out. Group decided that the chair should be in charge of length of share in meetings.

Bellaire 12&12 (Christene) – One birthday celebrant w/ 23 years. First Tuesday is Group Conscience. Issues w/ keys worked out. Discussed cross-talk and oversharing. Bill Wilson and AA speaker tapes are available on Youtube and Spotify.

4. Committee and General Reports

Literature Committee (Coach) – Attended the Literature meeting. They discuss AA literature each month.

5. Tradition 2 – Sara Concept 2 – Coach
Next month: Concept 3 – Coach; Tradition 3 – Sara

6. Old Business

Intergroup discussion – Intergroup is in need of contributions. They need contributions like other entities. Part of problem is that most groups don't know what Intergroup is or does. Since alcoholics find our meetings through Intergroup, it is very important to support. National contributions generally are flat. It's a systemic problem w/ groups not participating or not being informed about the services. Can district contribute to Intergroup? That is not standard practice and is prohibited by our policies and procedures manual. Groups are the ultimate authority and decide to whom and how much they contribute. GSRs can ask groups: 1) Does your group have an Intergroup Delegate, each gets two, and 2)

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Ask groups if they contribute. How do we bring in groups that don't participate? Bellaire has a few groups w/ reps. Coach will ask Men's group at Bellaire. Gordon made a motion for GSRs to ask their groups if they want district to contribute to Intergroup. Tom 2nd. Motion abandoned. Steven motions that we approach groups in our clubs that don't participate or contribute and that current GSRs relay this discussion to their groups. Loretta 2nd. All in favor.

Next District Workshop – Seminar on Spirituality. Newcomers can be uncomfortable with the “God” thing. Consider 1 athiest, 1 agnostic, 1 believer for speakers then open for questions. About 2 hours long w/ food. How newcomers can use the program best. According to AA Service Manual (pS32), under DCM duties, “Organizes workshops and/or sharing sessions on *service activities*.” Ask speakers to share on how spirituality turns into service. Consider venues and promotion. There is a pamphlet, “Many Paths to Spirituality”. Referred to Workshop Committee.

Final Agenda Items are out for April Conference. Background material is available, over 800 pages, through the DCMs.

Delegate Visit – Should be done at next district meeting. Steven will confirm w/ Delegate.

Passed the basket.

6. Closed w/ the Responsibility Statement at 12:38pm.