

DISTRICT 51 MEETING MINUTES SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2016

Meeting started at 11:15am. Amy opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Attendees: Amy (DCM), Steven (Alt DCM), Connie (Sec), Gordon (GSR – Free Coffee Ask It Basket), Tom K (SETA Intergroup Liaison), Ron (Alt Delegate), Christene (GSR – Bellaire 12&12), Randy H

1. Treasurer's Report: Lee out of town, but submitted the following written report.
“Lee had the address changed again at the end of April, but Friday, May 27, was told that he missed the deadline, so Coach should have received the statement for April. The balance as of April 30 is: \$2886.64. This includes payment of the check to the Delta Club for \$60.00 which finally cleared. There have been no deposits since the last meeting. Deposits made on or around April 29 will be reflected in the May statement (will be received in early June). The check made to the DCM for \$93 (reimbursement for hotel during April Assembly) will be reflected in the May statement. The revised budget for District 51 which reflects the changes from the last meeting was sent as a separate document.”
Lee is on an extended road trip and will not be back in town until July 1. Therefore he will miss the June meeting.

* Amy noted that a motion is not necessary to accept the Treasurer's or Secretary's reports. Ron concurred. If changes are necessary, the reports can be amended. Otherwise, they stand approved as read.

2. Secretary's Report: We reviewed April minutes. There were no corrections. Minutes stand approved as read. Minutes from November 2015 to March 2016 have been submitted to SETA webmaster.

3. GSR Reports:

Open Door (Steven) – Group Conscience meeting has been moved to the First Saturday @ 11am. Birthday was today. Four celebrants w/ 3, 5, 9, and 17 years. A visitor celebrated 22 years.

Bellaire 12&12 (Christene) – Birthday had nine celebrants, ranging 3-33 years.

The Free Coffee Ask It Basket (Gordon) – No formal set group conscience meeting. Regular meeting format is loose enough that some issues are addressed in meetings, though GC meetings are called as needed w/ 2 weeks advance notice for items needing a vote. New birthday meeting format takes place on last Wednesday of the month @ 8pm. Celebrant answers Ask-It-Basket questions. Christene was the first lucky winner.

We've Just Begun – Currently, no GSR.

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Caring & Sharing – GSR absent.

Caring & Sharing Addendum: Connie said that most positions are filled. Group voted to make all Steering Committee position terms 2 years. Memorial celebration tonight in conjunction w/ 8pm Speaker meeting. According to the Birthday board, the 8pm Birthday meeting celebrated a total of 306 years last night. Planning event for July 4th.

Emergency Room Women & Big Book Women groups – Currently, no GSR.
Consider a visit from the District.

4. District Reports:

SETA Liaison to Intergroup (Tom) – There was discussion at the Trustees' meeting about divesting the Intergroup service committees. If your group has an Intergroup Delegate, please ensure they attend the next Delegate meeting on the Third Thursday in June at 8pm.

5. Tradition 5 – Connie; Concept 5 – Tom
Next month: Tradition 6 – Gordon; Concept 6 – Steven

Passed the Basket.

6. Old Business

Workshop – Amy and Steven discussed and concluded that there may not be a lot of support for the topic of spirituality and that the workshop should be more focused on drawing people into service. Steven suggested something that Connie is working on for C&S. It is an orientation workshop focusing on excerpts of the Service Manual, various AA pamphlets and Guidelines to relay to the group the importance of participation in the Steering Committee and AA service structure while introducing them to AA material to increase their general knowledge and our efficiency as a group with a more informed group conscience.

Tom suggested a workshop on unity. How much unity do we really have?

Ron read from the Service Manual that the DCM's duty is to "organize workshops and/or sharing sessions on service activities."

Randy said that "How to" workshops seem to draw the most participation.

Ron said that plays do very well. Consider the play, "Adventures in Chairing". A "how-to" on chairing a meeting. Ron suggested an "ask it basket" within the workshop or as a workshop. Christene was nominated to be the play director and accepted. Include an "ask it basket" after the play while attendees eat and pass out pieces of paper before the play. Ron motions to have the workshop on Saturday, July 23rd and move the July district meeting to the same day. Steven seconded motion. All in favor.

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Point of Information – Randy asked when we hold elections. Amy said in September or October of this year. Randy mentioned that the length of sobriety for a DCM is recommended to be five years. Ron read that the length of sobriety is suggested. We will need to consider members for positions for the upcoming elections.

Group Participation – Discussion on getting more group participation within district. Consider having the district meeting at different clubs/groups to encourage attendance. Randy suggested forming a “Rescue Committee” from groups in this district that would be interested in recruiting people to go and take an AA meeting to the Gulf Coast Club. Amy suggested an “ask it basket meeting”. Gordon is “game”. It would need to be a commitment for at least 90 days. We would need to approach the Board and ask for a once a week meeting. Gordon and Amy will do this. Consider starting in July or August, perhaps a 7pm time frame.

7. New Business

Delegate Visit for Report Out – Scheduled for August 27th, 2016 at Delta Club. Consider ways to bring members of your groups to hear the Delegate's Report.

Invitable Event Page: Amy said that on Facebook you can create a secret group and have an event page to invite people to. No one can see who you invite or who is attending so no names are associated with event. Amy will create a “District 51 person” to be able to create the event to avoid anonymity breaks.

Changes to Travel Guidelines and Policies & Procedures Manual: Lee sent a final corrected budget. The Secretary needs to make the approved changes to the Travel Guidelines and to update the District's Policies and Procedures Manual to reflect those changes. Examples were shown. Steven made the motion for the Secretary to make those changes. Christene seconded. All in favor. The secretary will bring the changes to the next meeting for review.

Gordon and Amy will go to the Gulf Coast Board to seek permission for a weekly Tuesday 7pm “Ask it Basket” meeting, possibly beginning in August. Who is committed to show up? Ron, Gordon, Christene, Tom, Steven, Amy, Connie.

Plan a visit to Genesis Group's group conscience meeting on 3rd Sunday to ask about holding a future District meeting there.

Consider other groups to visit. We need someone to go to the 12 O'clock High group and ask them about having a GSR. Steven and Connie volunteered.

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8. Announcements

- ~ State Convention – June 24-26, 2016 in Austin, Texas.
- ~ Delegate Report Out w/ District 52 & 40 at new Twin Cities Facility on July 30th.
- ~ Delegate Report Out w/ District 20 at The Council on Recovery on August 6th.
- ~ SWRAASA – October 21-23, 2016 in Rogers, Arkansas.
- ~ Gratitude Traditions Dinner – November 13th
- ~ Area Literature Book Club meets first Saturday at Intergroup at 4-5:30pm. The book is “Experience, Strength and Hope”, discussing the last four stories of part two.
- ~ Service Manual Meeting every 4th Tuesday of the month at First Universalist Unitarian Church. May 24th at 7pm.
- ~ Tonight at Delta, C&S is celebrating Memorial Day. Potluck @ 7pm, 8pm Speaker meeting w/ music afterwards.
- ~ Monday is Bellaire's Memorial Day event w/ Randy H as the speaker.

9. Closed w/ the Responsibility Statement at 1:05pm.