## SOUTHEAST TEXAS AREA (SETA) 67 CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE (CFC) MONTHLY MEETING P.O. BOX 925241, HOUSTON, TX 77292-5241

<u>CALL TO ORDER (Llame Pedir)</u>. On Wednesday, September 18, 2019, the SETA CFC met at District 66, 5645 Hillcroft, Suite 410. Roy E, SETA CFC Chair, began the meeting at 7:40 PM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Fifteen members attended.

<u>SECRETARY'S REPORT (Revision Minuto)</u>. Larry L circulated a copy of the August 21, 2019, meeting minutes. After the group read the minutes on their own, it was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes as written.

**TREASURER'S REPORT (Informes de Tesorero)**. Diane M reported the following financial summary through August 31, 2019:

Description	Amount
Blue Can Balance Carried forward	\$ 7,649.68
Blue Can donations for August, 2019	\$ 4,364.81
Blue Can donations YTD	\$ 45,707.40
Non-AA Social Fund Balance	\$ 905.12
Expenses	
Book Purchases	\$ 5,336.16
Book Purchases YTD	\$ 39,613.66
Blue Can balance available for book purchases	\$ 15,743.00

It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Introductions and Updates. Roy E invited newcomers to introduce themselves and asked for any volunteer announcements or updates. Paul K said he will go to Jester on Thursday, the next day. Roy reported that Gary B had told him that Clyde M is asking for volunteers to start a new meeting for veterans at 9:00 AM on Friday at the Fort Bend County Jail in Richmond. Manny S said he supported the idea of a meeting for veterans but he was concerned that the meeting be a real AA meeting and not just about veteran's benefits and such which would be appropriate for after the meeting. He also mentioned that volunteers there needed to be off paper for two years. Frank B said he would be meeting the next day in Rosharon by Pearland at the Terrel Unit about a new meeting there. There's a group at Brazoria County also. He also said that District 82 does not have a lot of volunteers.

Chair Report (Coordinador Informe). Roy E reported that he went to the Area 27 conference at Angola Prison in Louisiana. About 175 volunteers attended, including one of our Trustees and several judges, and about 25 inmates were allowed to attend. There will be a TDCJ training orientation on Saturday, September 28, at InterGroup. There is finally a person at corrections desk at GSO. Brenda Brown has been appointed to the Corrections Desk as GSO in New York. Unfortunately, no one from New York will be able to attend our National Corrections Conference due to a schedule conflict with the annual Trustee Board meeting, which is usually the last week of October but this year will be at the beginning of November. Paul K asked where one can find the schedule of TDCJ Training Orientations and was told locally, the Crosswalk Center has training every other month; the Carol Vance Unit has a training every month; and he can check the TDCJ Volunteer Services Website or our own SETA CFC Website for a list of all trainings.

**Co-CHAIR REPORT (***Coordinador Informe***)**. Roland R reported that he had contacted TDCJ and our training orientation is scheduled for 11 AM – 3 PM on Saturday, September 28 at InterGroup. He requested that everyone show up at 10 AM to fill out the paperwork.

**BLUE CAN (***Contenedor Azul***).** Frank B. reported that he brought Blue Cans if anyone needed. He went to the Dickenson Bayou Group which will start passing the Blue Can.

**IT Report**. Joel G was not present so there was no formal IT report. Roy reported that he had posted our Treasurer's Reports and minutes for the past two months, but there seems to be a delay apparently due to revising the Website.

Correspondence (*Correspondencia*)/ Pre-Release. Vadim B reported that that he had printed more blue cards to advertise our correspondence program. We received 39 letters. Female were 14, 9 for correspondence, 4 for literature, and 1 for pre-release. Male were 25, 12 for correspondence, 11 for literature, 1 for pre-release, and 1 for "other"; 13 requests for literature. From the total, 14 were for ongoing/continuing correspondence. Volunteer count is 56 female English; 1 female Spanish; 33 male English; 5 male Spanish; for a total of 95 volunteers currently.

**National Corrections Conference** (*Informe de la Conferencia Nacional Annual*). Roy E reported that there are currently about 172 registrations and 130 banquets. So we're doing well financially and have paid the hotel our minimum up-front charge. The room bloc has been met but the conference rate should continue as long as we need. Our own Tammy Z will be the Sunday speaker, for which thanks very much.

**Spanish Liaison** (*Enlace español*). Luis P reported that we have 5 registrations from the Spanish groups and he is continuing to meet with the Spanish Districts. He has been meeting almost weekly with the various Spanish CFC committees. There is a committee for the Spanish hospitality room, for which \$1,500 is budgeted by the Districts. Spanish volunteers have been going regularly to the Darrington Unit, and the number of Spanish speaking inmates attending has been increasing. He asked whether they can buy the Spanish literature from the Spanish InterGroup, since there are only small number of Spanish selections from the English InterGroup. Paul K asked whether SETA CFC can pay for the Spanish literature and Luis said he was thinking they could purchase Spanish literature from the Spanish InterGroup. There was general agreement to help support the Spanish InterGroup and this would be a New Business discussion next month.

**GRAPEVINE** (*La Viña*). Jackson S was not present so there was no formal Grapevine report. Larry L told the group that there were back issues of the Grapevine and *La Viña* available after the meeting and he had more that he would bring to the next meeting. Roy E asked whether we might allow some volunteers to order the regular Grapevine packets directly from InterGroup rather than needing to attend our monthly meeting to pick them up. While it may be a little more expensive it would make it easier for them to pick up Grapevines and LaViñs if they cannot attend the monthly meeting.

<u>LITERATURE REPORT (Literatura Informe)</u> Richard D reported the following not present but Manny S accepted everyone's book orders, summarized as follows:

Volunteer	Unit	Amount	
Paul K	Jester	\$	882.00
Henry D	Plane State	\$	237.50
Louis E	Joe Keegan	\$	593.25
Roy E	Estelle	\$	820.80
Patty W	Eastham	\$	352.80
Roland R for Olga	Plane State	\$	345.00
Larry L	Harris County Jail	\$	847.30
[Could not hear]	Darrington	\$	384.95
Bill C	Ft. Bend County Jail	\$	268.40
Total		\$	4,732.00

It was moved, seconded, and passed to spend the money.

**OLD BUSINESS (***Viejo Negocio***).** Roy E reported that meetings at the Carol Vance unit were not working out because the Chaplaincy was using outside people to conduct meetings so they were not technically AA. Jester 1 needs volunteers so anyone from that area would be welcome.

NEW BUSINESS (*Nuevo Negocio*). Roy E reported Jester 1 needs volunteers and they meet thursday evening. Intergroup has asked Houston CFC to move out because Intergroup facilities should only be used for AA Groups and committees as per Intergroup board and conscious of Groups involved with Intergroup. This means that InterGroup would be open as a location for SETA CFC to meet in which it always has been. There was concern for members driving from different parts of town. Bill C reminded the group again about there being a new meeting for Veterans at Fort Bend County Jail. He is leading it and it's a real AA meeting, which addressed the concerns mentioned by Manny S earlier. Manny added that it's necessary for volunteers to go to the jail to complete the required paperwork. Vadim B reminded everyone to inform inmates that if they request a sponsor, one will be found for them but sponsors will be chosen at random. He also asked volunteers to remind their inmate correspondents that they can receive only one book per letter request. He suggested increasing the maximum to requesting up to two books. It was moved and passed to do so. It was noted that some GSO approved literature is not on our CFC order form. Roy invited everyone to email if they wanted to discuss specific topics under New Business.

## **Upcoming Events.**

- The next SETA CFC meeting will be at the Area Assembly, October 5, 4:30 PM, at the Sheraton Hotel at Intercontinental Airport and not on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday.
- The next planning meeting for the National Corrections Conference planning will be at 6 PM following the SETA CFC meeting.
- The Regional Forum will be the second weekend of October.
- The Annual SETA Conference will be January 24-26, 2020, in Galveston

ADJOURNMENT (Aplazar). We collected \$32.00 in the basket, and the meeting closed at 8:40 PM.