

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

CALL TO ORDER (Llame Pedir). On Wednesday, July 15, 2020, the SETA CFC met at InterGroup, 4140 Directors Row, Suite D. Roy E, SETA CFC Chair, began the meeting at 7:35 PM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Ten members attended.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Revision Minuto). The group read the June 17, 2020, meeting minutes. With no corrections offered, it was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Informes de Tesorero). Diane M presented the Treasurer Report through July 13, 2020, summarized as follows:

Description	Amount
Income/Available Funds	
Balance Carried forward as of July 13, 2020	\$ 6,087.64
Blue Can donations	\$ 2,379.77
Blue Can donations YTD	\$ 25,759.20
Non-AA Social Fund Balance	\$ 905.12
District 32	\$ 500.00
Member Donation	\$ 100.00
Conference Fund	\$ 1,000.00
General Fund	\$ 1,491.20
Expenses	
Book Purchases	\$1,612.20
Book Purchases YTD	\$ 15,739.56
Lodging	\$ 0.00
PO Box	\$ 92.00
Postage	\$ 8.93
Printing	\$ 0.00
Room Rental	\$ 150.00
Supplies	\$ 106.06
Ending Check Book Balance	\$ 20,103.55
Blue Can funds available for Book Purchases	\$ 16,107.28

Larry L observed that we were still receiving donations despite the pandemic. Diane said yes but there was obviously less need for the Committee because we are not ordering many books and so have some surplus of funds. There was discussion about the donations from District 32 and an anonymous member not being formally designated for literature purchase, and the group agreed to move those funds to the Non-AA Social Fund, per discussion at last month's meeting. There was additional discussion about how some groups were continuing to donate and some less, and what message we should be communicating since different rumors were circulating. No motion resulted, so it was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report.

INTRODUCTIONS AND UPDATES. Marc C, from West Spring Group, introduced himself as a newcomer.

CHAIR REPORT (COORDINADOR INFORME).

Roy E reported that

- One unit was willing to set up a Zoom meeting for inmates but TDCJ said no, and there would be no meetings till a vaccine would be available. Larry L said that someone from his home group said he is from Tennessee and participates in a Zoom meeting at one of the Tennessee units. Roy said they are also doing small Zoom meetings in Maine and Oregon; and North Carolina was allowing in person meetings in some units.
- The Area Assembly will not take place face-to-face in August but they will probably meet via Zoom. So we will have our regular 3rd Wednesday CFC meeting at InterGroup.
- We are receiving a few more individual book requests, notably from Harris County Jail.
- Some supervisors have complained about some parolees taking screen shots of Zoom meetings, and including face-shots of participants. Roy thought it might help to explain AA anonymity better to supervisors and others. It was noted that this could well be a problem for parolees who are required to attend a certain number of meetings and so provide screenshots as evidence of their attendance. So how to maintain group anonymity and also a record of parolee attendance becomes a real issue for online meetings.
- A few of our CFC members are delivering books to units via the Chaplains, but a question remains about not knowing whether and how books actually get to inmates.

CO-CHAIR REPORT (COORDINADOR INFORME). Roland R reported that we can get recertified online this year even if we did so online last year. In other words, in-person recertification is not necessary. It was observed that the online certification is actually longer and harder than the in-person experience.

BLUE CAN (CONTENEDOR AZUL). Frank B. reported that he has ordered more online and has about 70 cans available for anyone who wants. He also has some software to print more labels as necessary. There was additional discussion about different options for printing can labels. Frank noted that he missed the previous CFC meeting because he had a motorcycle accident last month, but he's recuperating ok and the motorcycle is in the shop.

IT REPORT. Joel G was not present, so there was no formal IT Chair report. Roy E said that all reports have been posted and are up to date.

CORRESPONDENCE (CORRESPONDENCIA) / PRE-RELEASE. Vadim B was not present so one of the Committee members called him. He reported by phone the following correspondence:

	Literature	Correspondence	Pre-Release	Other – NA	Total
Female	6	8	0	1	15
Male	7	4	1	1	13
Total	13	12	1	2	28 (20 ongoing)

Volunteers: Female English = 59; Female Spanish = 1; Male English = 42; Male Spanish = 5; Total = 107

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT. Tammy Z reported that the Annual CFC Conference met on June 27 and discussed three options: (1) Continue with the in-person meeting; (2) have a shorter virtual event; or (3) cancel the 2020 meeting. The Planning Committee decided unanimously to cancel the in-person meeting for 2020, and a majority voted not to have a virtual event either. So the 2020 Annual Conference is canceled. The hotel said there would be no financial penalty if we sign for an in-person conference for 2021.

SPANISH LIAISON (ENLACE ESPAÑOL). Luis P reported that the Spanish districts had met for the first time the previous Thursday at District 65. They decided to have a Spanish workshop in November 2020. One of the Latino volunteers asked whether and how it is now possible to take books inside for inmates. The group replied that for individual inmate requests, new books must be mailed directly from a bookstore or from InterGroup; or a box can be left for the Chaplain if they have requested books. Sending used books is not possible because the prisons are concerned about possible contraband being hidden in them. It was suggested that the Spanish groups might take any used books to a halfway house. Roy mentioned that the prisons are even concerned about writing in books, including personal notes.

GRAPEVINE / LA VIÑA. Jackson S was not present so there was no formal Grapevine report. Larry L told the group that there was a box of Grapevines plus a few La Viñas for anyone to take.

LITERATURE REPORT (LITERATURA INFORME). Richard D reported the following orders:

Volunteer	Unit	Amount
Connie H	Plane State, Henley, Hightower	\$ 596.40
Total		\$ 596.40

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

OLD BUSINESS (VIEJO NEGOCIO). Roy E reminded the group that Luis P said we are trying to schedule a Spanish workshop for November.

NEW BUSINESS (NUEVO NEGOCIO).

Frank B reminded the group that the New Freedom Riders meeting at Surfside Beach has not closed due to the pandemic. It continues to meet on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings at 10 AM.

Regarding the Non-AA Social Fund, Roy reported that there were SETA Guidelines for collecting and spending funds "during conference season". However, it was not clear how the time frame for "conference season" was defined. Tammy Z observed that the context was, for instance, purchasing hospitality room supplies as the need might arise. Tammy noted that we already get funds for workshops and such directly from SETA. Diane suggested that, if the Non-AA Social Fund is in fact limited to conference-related expenses, then perhaps we should create a new account line for donations such as the donations from District 32 and a member who specifically said the funds could be used for anything. Diane responded that setting up a new account would make the situation even more complicated as donations ebb and flow. No final motion or decision was made.

Roy reminded anyone who has or knows a parole officer/supervisor, to discuss our principle of anonymity and asking parolees not to take screen shots of Zoom meetings they attend.

The next SETA Annual Convention will be in January 2021.

ADJOURNMENT (APLAZAR). The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM with the Lord's Prayer.