

**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, September 16, 2020, the SETA CFC met at InterGroup, 4140 Directors Row, Suite D. Roy E, SETA CFC Chair, began the meeting at 7:30 PM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Eighteen members attended, including one first-time visitor from the Serenity Group.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Revision Minuto). The group read the August 19, 2020, meeting minutes on their own. 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 monthly Treasurer's Report through September 14, 2020, summarized as follows:

Description	Amount
Income/Available Funds	
Balance Carried forward as of August 15, 2020	\$ 6,087.64
Blue Can donations	\$ 3,129.68
Blue Can donations YTD	\$ 30,203.44
Non-AA Social Fund Balance	\$ 600.00
Conference Fund	\$ 1,000.00
General Fund	\$ 1,986.00
Expenses	
Book Purchases	\$ 859.25
Book Purchases YTD	\$ 17,628.81
Lodging	\$ 0.00
PO Box	\$ 0.00
Postage (for InterGroup mailouts)	\$ 72.20
Printing	\$ 0.00
Room Rental	\$ 0.00
Supplies (checks ordered from the bank)	\$ 27.70
Ending Check Book Balance	\$ 20,320.15
Blue Can funds available for Book Purchases	\$ 18,662.27

Diane added that she had just written a check for about \$2,000 to InterGroup, so the actual amount available to spend was more like \$16,000. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

INTRODUCTIONS AND UPDATES. Tom W from Serenity Group introduced himself and was welcomed. Larry L asked for clarification about whether the Committee is or is not encouraging groups to continue to sending in donations, since we have a substantial amount available but cannot spend much on literature since we are not able to go into units due to the pandemic. Roy E answered that we are not discouraging groups from continuing to donate and there has been a lot of confusion about this among groups. There was some discussion about different rumors going around. Roy noted we have indeed taken a hit on donations, but we still send some books in and respond to inmate requests even though we are not taking meetings inside. However, the pandemic will eventually be over and we will be able to start taking in meetings and literature again, so it's important to keep donations coming in.

CHAIR REPORT (COORDINADOR INFORME). Roy E thanked the group for letting him serve as CFC chair, as it's been a good experience even though the COVID pandemic clearly caused unexpected challenges for his second year. Someone in TDCJ Volunteer Services had told him that they are getting close to deciding to let visitors back in, but not volunteers. He reminded the group that Mike C, from San Antonio, was conducting a series of Zoom Step Study meetings that he was recording, deleting the video images, creating a CD of each and sending them to the TDCJ Chaplaincy Office. TDCJ is then duplicating them to distribute to all TDCJ units. Roy understood that the recordings are indeed getting distributed. The next meeting would be largely for our Area 67 participants, and be the following night, Thursday, at 7:00 PM, on Step 10. Several people had already agreed and if anyone would like to participate, they should let him know. Roy will participate in a project of the Trustees' Correction Committee to update a workbook and kit for doing corrections service. There have been several Zoom meetings with current and past CFC Chairs and now the work is getting to the practical stage. Some corrections are minor but they will probably add content about remote/virtual meetings and maintaining anonymity in the Internet age. They have started several small ad hoc committees and hope to have the product ready for the annual Trustees meeting in November.

CO-CHAIR REPORT (COORDINADOR INFORME). Roland R reported that he had called Huntsville and the TDCJ informed him that only previously approved volunteers could renew their approval online and not have to go to an in-person training. Approved volunteers could get re-approved at 18 months rather than waiting a full two years. Individuals who were not yet approved volunteers would still have to wait for an in-person training orientation. However, it was suggested that individuals not-yet approved could

nevertheless download and complete the application forms while still waiting for the next in-person training. Also, from their business meeting, about 1,900 inmates had positive COVID-19 tests, about 500 had been moved to “program units” (definition was not clear), and about 20 positive cases at half-way houses.

BLUE CAN (CONTENEDOR AZUL). Frank B reported that he had cans but there was not much Blue Can business to report. In context of our earlier discussion about not encouraging or discouraging groups to donate, he said that he makes sure a Blue Can is available at one of his own meetings, where he is GSR.

IT REPORT. Joel G was not present, so there was no formal IT Chair report. Roy E reported that there is one Zoom meeting in Texas, at the BAMABI unit. He added that he was thinking that it would perhaps be appropriate to use some CFC funds to purchase a Zoom account. Someone noted that there are different prices for different levels of Zoom account. Roland R observed that national meetings through the General Services Office often make Zoom meetings available at no charge and ask for voluntary donations to help defray those costs. If a Zoom business level account has better security, that might encourage TDCJ to be more open to allowing Zoom meetings. It was suggested to investigate this option.

CORRESPONDENCE (CORRESPONDENCIA) / PRE-RELEASE. Vadim B reported on the following correspondence:

	Literature	Correspondence	Pre-Release	Other	Total
Female	5	6	1	1	13
Male	4	2			6
Total	9	8	1	1	19

Volunteers: Female English = 56; Female Spanish = 1; Male English = 43; Male Spanish = 5; Total = 105

Vadim explained that the “other” request was for a Grapevine Order form; the Pre-release request was for Tyler, so he forwarded it to District 65. Four correspondence requests were for ongoing correspondence. Vadim had sent out a general announcement requesting volunteers to take his position after this year. He asked whether there is a required amount of sobriety time to serve and Roy said no, not to serve on the Committee. Frank B asked for clarification about what happens when people respond to the post cards that Vadim had distributed. Vadim noted that we currently have more volunteers than actual inmate correspondents. Larry L asked whether any requests came from Harris County Jail, considering that they had no meetings since February, and Vadim said yes. Roy E noted that he had received a request from GSO about an inmate who will be released soon, so he asked Vadim to keep an eye out for the request and forward it to Roy as soon as possible.

SPANISH LIAISON (ENLACE ESPAÑOL). Luis P reported that District 66 is returning to normal in terms of regular meetings. The Spanish CFCs have been meeting every second Thursday of the month. They are planning to have a CFC workshop on Sunday, November 22, from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. This will be the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Two speakers are already lined up, Manny S and Elias. The location will be District 65 in Pasadena. Roy said we are working on a new PowerPoint Workshop presentation. Luis said there is also a Spanish AA Riding Club, and anyone interested is welcome to join.

GRAPEVINE / LA VIÑA. Jackson S was not present so there was no formal Grapevine report. Roy E said he and Rocco M in Beaumont had been taking some Grapevines into several units. Larry L said he still had a box of back issues at home and would bring them to the next meeting.

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

Volunteer	Unit	Amount
Bahia	BAMBI	\$ 212.10
Roy E	Darrington	\$ 312.00
Total		\$ 524.10

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

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT. Tammy Z was not present but Richard D, Conference Chair for 2021, reported that we have secured the Double Tree Hotel for September 17-19, 2021.

OLD BUSINESS (VIEJO NEGOCIO). Roy also reminded the group that the TDCJ Step Meeting via Zoom will be on Step 10 tomorrow/Thursday night at 7:00 PM, and he needs anyone who wants to participate to let him know. Paul K will lead the meeting and page portions were assigned to various people. Luis P was asked to do a portion in Spanish.

NEW BUSINESS (NUEVO NEGOCIO). Roy E reminded the group that, last month, we had voted for Roland R to be our next Chair and for Tony W to be Alt-Chair. Next month we will nominate people for the other positions and then vote for them in November. The Area Assembly will be on Zoom October 3-4, 2020. They will be electing Committee Chairs. The Northeast Texas CFC Conference will be on Saturday, October 24, 2020, via Zoom. An in-person workshop is scheduled at the Old Town Spring Group (24307 Aldine Westfield Road) on November 7, 2020, from 1:00-4:00 PM. He suggested that Vadim B might come and make a presentation on correspondence. He reminded the group that the Spanish workshop will be on November 22 in Pasadena. 59th SETA State Convention will be in person, January 15-17, 2021. Our next regular CFC meeting will be at InterGroup on October 21, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT (APLAZAR). The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM with the Lord’s Prayer.