

Southeast Texas Area 67 Correctional Facilities Committee (SETA CFC) Meeting Minutes August 21, 2013

OPENING

- The monthly Area 67 Correctional Facilities Committee (CFC) was called to order at 7:28 PM by Jim K. on August 21, 2013, at the Delta Club in Houston, Texas with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

25 Present

- Six first-time visitors: David N., Gene H., Juan, Larry L., Lucy C. and Manuel O.
- Additionally, Candy B., Chris D., Cole D., Deborah D., David K., Dori C., Elizabeth S., Jim K., Herman F., Larry L., Laura Z., Marcial G., Mariano T., Ola, Richard D., Roland R., Roy E., Tom D., Victor R.

Secretary's Report:

- The July 2013 SETA CFC Minutes were distributed, followed by general discussion.
- Corrections were made to a notation in the Treasurer's Report, to Deborah's section under General Sharing, and to the allocation of books to Ft. Bend Cty for Harold P. in the Literature Report.

Richard motioned to accept the July 2013 Minutes as amended. Deborah seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

- Chris presented the monthly Treasurer's Report as of 31 July 2013 with a Ledger Balance of \$7,509.55
- The Report also showed a Blue Can Balance of \$4,536.03 available for August's book purchases.

Richard motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as stated. Deborah seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL SHARING

(Group, District and Facilities Reps)

- Elizabeth (Secretary) - Hasn't gone into prison yet, but is awaiting approval to take the message into Dempsey/Henley every 2nd and 4th Thurs. with Deborah. Also working on coordinating the Hospitality Suite for the upcoming SETA conference.
- Dori (IT Chair) - Attends meetings at the Walls, 2nd & 4th Sun. Is also awaiting approval for meetings at Dempsey/Henley on Thurs. She's coordinating Registration at the upcoming conference. Is also creating a Prison Meeting database.
- Tom - Ellis (Bldg) every Thurs @ 4:30-5:30PM. Ramsey (Trustee) every Wed. 6-7PM. Three times a year attends GRAD program.
- David N. - First time visitor, but wants to get involved.
- Juan - District 66 Spanish Group and first-timer - Takes meetings to 701 San Jacinto every Thurs. @ 7PM (4th & 5th floors).
 - Manuel - Takes meetings to 701 San Jacinto every Thurs. 7PM (4th & 5th floors).
- Mariano - 701 San Jacinto every Tues. @ 6-7:30PM. Estelle 1st Mon. @ 6PM.
- David K. - Said that due to some training with the folks from Capital Management, Harold P. lost his volunteer position at Ft. Bend Count, and David was having problems at S. Texas ISF.

- Larry - First time to SETA meeting, and is looking forward to becoming an approved volunteer. He will be attending the upcoming training.
- Victor - Takes meetings to Baker St. every Tues. @ 7:30 PM. Holliday every Sun. @ 3PM. Both are Spanish-speaking meetings.
- Cole - Showed up last Friday at Heights to go to a prison meeting, but had on shorts. But he has actively collected \$40 in Blue Can donations from his home group.
- Roy - Luther 1st Wed. @ 7:30PM. Ferguson 2nd Friday @ 6PM. Walls 3rd Frid. @ 6PM. Ellis 4th Frid. @ 6PM. Darrington every other Sunday @ 6PM.
- Deborah - Gateway was previously not allowing women to go to meetings, and they were only receiving 2 women to a meeting. But the word came down that the women were allowed to go to meetings, and last week, they had 46 women... they need more help. She attends meetings at the Walls 1st, 2nd and 4th Sun. @ 1PM and every Friday @ 6PM. Dempsey 1st & 2nd Thur @ 7:30PM. Montgomery Cty Jail Tues. @ 10AM. Ellis 4th Fri. @ 6PM.
- Chris (Treasurer) - Joe Keegan every Tues. @ 7PM. Some of those guys want to come in and sit around and talk, but they're getting better about focusing.
- Richard (Intergroup CFC Liaison) - Luther 1st Wed. @ 7-8PM. Wynn (Bldg) 2nd Thur. @ 6-8PM. Walls 3rd Frid. @ 6-8PM. Ellis (Trustee) 4th Frid. @ 6-8PM.
- Roland - Luther 2nd Wed. @ 7:30PM. Darrington every other Sunday @ 6PM. Plane State 4th Wed. @ 7PM.
- Gene - Travels for a living, but maintains contact with several guys using JPay, the online website that gives letter-writing access to Texas State prisoners. Fran scans and emails letters that she receives for Gene, and he answers from the road using JPay.
- Lucy - Wanted to check out what we did for service work, and she thinks correspondence is a good fit for her.
- Herman - Wynne 2nd Thur. @ 6-8PM. Darrington every other Sunday @ 6PM. Holliday 1st Sun. @ 3PM. Luther 1st Wed. @ 7PM. The Walls 3rd Frid. @ 7PM. Ellis 4th Frid. @ 6PM.
- Laura - Holliday 1st Sun. Recently met the BTG coordinator for Katy, TX, which could really be helpful in the current organization efforts between SETA and Intergroup CFCs. Is also helping with both the Hospitality Suite and Hosting at the upcoming conference.
- Jim (Chair) - Harris Cty Jail every Tues. @ 6PM. Wynne 2nd Thur. @ 6-8PM. Holliday 1st Sun. @ 3PM. Luther 1st Wed. @ 7PM. The Walls 3rd Frid. @ 7PM. Ellis 4th Frid. @ 6PM.
- Ola - Darrington every other Sun. @ 6PM. Dayton 4th Wed. @ 7PM.

OLD BUSINESS

Huntsville Workshop

- Jim sent an email to our delegate Patrick to let him know that there were fewer local attendees than we had hoped for
- 42 Attendees, most of whom drove up from Houston
- But we do consider it a success with the warden from the "Ham" in attendance
 - Also we had serious discussion of the future of conference calling for prison meeting participation

Eastham Unit

- Chuck M. has spoken with the Warden Bell at Eastham, and he has turned in a list of Approved Volunteers who are interested in getting this meeting started

Goree Unit

- Warden Strong has indicated he will interview any volunteer before that individual will gain access to his prison
- There will be no Special Volunteers to Goree Unit
 - Herman spoke to Madelaine Ortiz and alerted her to this situation, and she expressed concern, but warden rules the prison, so there's likely little she can do to change his rules

Wynne Unit

- There was some discussion of the recently recognized AA Group that officially formed and meets under the tree. Tom D. said that he was aware of the situation and had planned to check it out and see what kind of organization, if any, was there.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Correspondence/Pre-Release Report (Jim, in Fran's absence)

- 18 Correspondence Letters
- 9 Requests for Literature
- 1 Other Letter
- 2 Pre-Release
- 1 Group
- **Total Letters 30** (with 31 requests)

There was some discussion during the meeting about protocol for handing out our phone numbers to prisoners, and whether that was okay or not. The Pre-release Pamphlet does not have a Phone # on it, which is one of the reasons for the birth of Bridging the Gap. All our books are stamped with Intergroup's phone number. Perhaps prisoners can use Intergroup as a go-between.

Blue Can (Jim, in Fran's absence)

- Collected \$2,089.22 for the month of July 2013
- Paul has a Big Blue Can and several small cans ready for the upcoming conference

SETA CFC Conference (Roy)

- 65-75 folks have pre-registered so far
- Sept. 7th is the last Planning Meeting, 10AM at 5645 Hillcroft, District 66
- Please help get the word out that Training Orientation is at **9AM**, not noon, as in past years
- We lost out on the speaker setup from last year, so we're trying to get Anthony to help
- We still need help with folders, and we'll need space for volunteers to work the Registration

Chair Report (Jim)

- Found out of a possible need for a meeting at Mykawa Road; the old Municiple Prison Farm or Pea Farm, belonging to the City of Houston
- It's a huge building with a female population
- Jim went by there and left some AA Literature

Literature Report (Herman)

Charles G	Ellis GRAD	\$298.60
Deborah S.	Dempsey/Hennley	\$678.00
Ed M.	Lynchner	\$390.00
Catherine N.	Hennley	\$568.00
Roy E.	SETA Conference	\$322.00
Vickie W.	WHOA	\$267.00
Victor R.	Harris Cty	\$420.00

Total 7 Orders 7 Individual Units \$2943.60

Richard motioned to accept the Literature Report. Tom seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that books which are signed or written in by anyone other than the inmate in possession of said book, are confiscated by prison officials during any kind of a prison search. This nixes the idea of we volunteers writing a thought or signing our names next to our sobriety birthdates on any book for sentimental value.

Intergroup CFC Liaison (Richard)

- 22 Attendees/5 New
- \$5016.16 White Can for the month
- \$21,364.25 YTD
- Spent \$3,916.83 on Book Order for the month
- Round Up was a great success with a total of \$3827.75 coming in. \$340 in Raffles and \$530 in Ticket Sales
- Daniel G. and Meme A. were elected as the new Web Coordinators for Intergroup CFC
- It was decided to kick off the Annual Grapevine drive at the upcoming SETA Conference

IT/Web Report (Dori)

- In process of creating Prison Meeting database
- Envisioning it to include Volunteers, Date/Time and spaced across 4 tabs
- Is having problems with consistency of some people giving her the time they arrive at a unit versus others giving her the time the meeting actually starts
- She wants the true meeting times and a primary contact for each meeting
- Would like to have spreadsheet ready to show at next Assembly in October

New Business

CFC Workshop @ October Assembly

- Would like to have a PowerPoint presentation to assist with CFC Workshop at Assembly

Houston Intergroup Office

- Pay minimal rent by passing the basket during our meetings, and share the office with Intergroup CFC
- Intergroup is really only looking for an offer

Collected \$23 for Delta Club

Upcoming Events

- SETA Conference Planning Mtg, Sept. 7th @ 10AM, 5645 Hillcroft, District 66
- SETA CFC Conference, Sept. 13-15, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 9090 SW Frwy, Houston
- Spirit of the Pines Retreat, Oct. 4-6, Camp Olympia, Trinity, TX
 - Walls Anniversary, Oct. 5th, Huntsville, TX
 - SETA Assy & SETA CFC Workshop, Oct. 5-6, Sheraton North Houston, 15700 JFK Blvd
 - Southwest Regional Forum 2013, Oct. 11-13, Biltmore Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK

Herman motioned to close the meeting. Dori seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Those in attendance closed the meeting with the AA Responsibility Statement.

Next meeting scheduled for Sat., Sept. 18th, 2013, 7:30 PM at Delta Club, 6400 Westpark Dr.