

## **8<sup>TH</sup> District General Service Sharing Session Minutes Wednesday, October 3, 2001**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

David H. D.C.M. District 82 opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Tandy B. read the Twelve Traditions. The Attendance Roster was circulated for sign-in. Introductions were made.

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 2001 District Meeting were submitted. The SETA Quarterly Assembly dates were corrected to read October 13-14, 2001. Bill D. made a motion to accept the September 2001 minutes as corrected. Bill H. seconded the motion. The September 2001 minutes were accepted as corrected.

### **TREASURER**

The October 2001 Treasurer's Report was reviewed. A correction was made to the Group Contributions portion of the report. Bill D. made a motion that the report be accepted as corrected. Tony N. seconded the motions. The October 2001 Treasurer's Report was accepted as corrected.

Group Contributions should be sent to: District Treasurer, 1507 Winnie, Galveston, TX 77550.

### **GROUP ISSUES**

There were no Group issues this month.

### **SERVICE MANUAL**

Tony N. made a motion to forgo the reading of the Service Manual to allow time for reports from those who attended the Southwest Regional Forum on September 28-30, 2001. Bill D. seconded the motion. Motion passed. The several reports that were given were too lengthy to be included in these minutes. However each report included an expression of gratitude for the opportunity to attend the Forum. Dana H. expressed his thanks the all for their reports on the Regional Forum. Detailed reports can be made available to committee members if requested.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **ARCHIVES**

- ❖ No Report
- ❖ Archive Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 PM, Intergroup Office, 4140 Directors Row, Houston. During Assembly months the Archives Committee also meets on Saturday afternoon at the Assembly.

#### **COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

- ❖ No Report
- ❖ Normally, the CPC meets the first Monday each month at Shoney's, 610S @ Kirby, 6:00 eat, 6:30 meeting

#### **CORRECTIONAL FACILITY COMMITTEE**

- ❖ No Report
- ❖ CFC meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, St. Joseph's Hospital, Houston, 7:30 PM.

#### **GRAPEVINE**

- ❖ No Report
- ❖ The Grapevine Committee meets on Saturday afternoon at the Quarterly Area Assembly.

#### **INTERGROUP – Sharon P.**

- ❖ Rochelle B. moved up to Chairperson for the remainder of the term. Leslie was elected to Vice-Chairperson. The Board is looking into possibly having credit card sales available at the bookstore. Cost of goods sold vs gross profit is more in line this month due to the large volume of Big Books sold. Group contributions are \$500 under expected budget. The A.A. Intergroup Office Web-site gets on average, 400-500 hits per day. Volunteers are needed in the Office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. All night watch slots are covered at this time. Correctional Committee meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 8:00 PM, at the Intergroup Office. The Houston A.A. Intergroup Office matches every \$15.00 donation toward the purchase of Grapevine Subscription for the inmates. Jack B. told the history of the Avalon Happy Hour Group, started in 1981. Jerry L. continued his presentation on Service in Alcoholics Anonymous. Service work is about focusing on the Alcoholic that still suffers and the responsibility of the recovering alcoholic to help those who are still suffering. That's why *it is important for us to stay linked up* from, Member to Group, to Intergroup and District, to Area, to the Region and to G.S.O. (World). The question was asked if could the Book Store sell the Big Book at cost? It was noted that at one time the Big Book was sold at below cost when Group contributions were up, but with Group contributions so far down it is necessary for the Intergroup Office to have a mark up to keep sufficient operating funds. (Remember at the last meeting it was noted that Intergroup only receives 14% of the need money for it's

operation from Group donations, 83% comes from the Bookstore sales.) Roy reported that the Big Book and the 12&12 are the two biggest sellers. The budget committee will look into a Big Book price adjustment and report back at the next meeting. *Next Meeting October 18<sup>th</sup> 8:00 PM*

- ❖ The Intergroup Committee meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the even numbered months at 8:00 PM in the Intergroup Office and Book Store at 4141 Directors Row, Suite D & E, Houston. The phone number for questions is 713-686-6300.

#### **PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

- ❖ No Report
- ❖ PI meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month (except during Assembly months) at 7:00 PM in Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive near Richmond Ave. & Beltway 8, Houston 713-850-9425. During Assembly months the meeting is held on Saturday afternoon at the Assembly.

#### **TREATMENT FACILITY COMMITTEE –Jes H.**

- ❖ The TFC still lacks an Alternate Chairman, Treasurer, and a Literature person. Peggy A. still stands as secretary. Sally House\_Peggy A. was not in attendance so no report was given. New Freedom Women's Facility James F. was not in attendance so no report was given. RSAT (Humble, TX) Gary H. said that he hasn't been in touch with them yet, but is going to contact them. SETA Web Site No report was given. CFC Conference September 14-16, 2001 Need volunteers to man the display booth and to recruit volunteers for the BTG program. Memorial Herman Prevention and Recovery (Sandra Wicoff, Director) Gary H. left a message with her and plans to get back in touch with her. District 32 Old Timers Gratitude and Appreciation Day (October 27, 2001) Display booth will be set up. Santa Fe Group 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jes H. reported that the anniversary was very good, although he did not get anyone to sign up for the TF Committee. He also reported that other committees such as CFC and Archives had tables set up at the anniversary. The speakers were also good. Memorial Herman Southwest Hospital John P. reported that it went OK. The next meeting will be at the SETA Quarterly, Marriott Hotel, on October 13, 2001 mid-afternoon.
- ❖ The Treatment Facility Committee meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month (except during Assembly months) at 3:30 PM in the St. Joseph Hospital's Cullen Family Mental Health Building located at 1404 St. Joseph Parkway (formerly Calhoun), Houston. During Assembly months the meeting is held on Saturday afternoon at the Assembly.

### **ELECTIONS**

GSRs, please inform your groups of the positions of service that are open at the district level. Anyone wishing to find out more about them or stand for a position should attend the next district meeting.

- ❖ Alternate DCM 82
- ❖ Archives Liaison
- ❖ CPC Liaison
- ❖ PIC Liaison
- ❖ Violet M stood down from the position of District Alternate Secretary and the position of Grapevine Liaison.
- ❖ No One stood for election to any of the open positions.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- ❖ Gratitude Dinner Update  
David H. asked for reports from the GSRs. Sheila K said that her group would bring about 40 desserts. Glenn B. said that his group would bring 4 salad dishes. Bill D. said that his group will bring some desserts and that several members have volunteered to help at the dinner. Dennis M. said that his group would bring some desserts. David H. asked the GSRs to go back to their groups come up with more rabbit food for the dinner.
- ❖ District Meeting Schedule  
Tandy B. circulated a list of the meetings held in the District and asked for each GSR to check the list for any changes needed to their group-meeting schedule. Return the list to him at the end of the meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- ❖ Southwest Region Trustee Feedback  
Tony N. spoke with the Trustee of the Southwest Region this afternoon and she had some specific questions that she would like to have answers for. (1) She needs the GSRs to go back to their groups that send money to the A.A. entities such as District, Southeast Texas Area, and G.S.O. Ask them why they send there money? (2) For the GSRs that the groups do not send money to A.A. entities, ask them why. The Regional Trustee wants to know this information so that she can go back to New York and say this is what I garnered from down where I live. It is a great concern. Its not just about the Southeast Texas Area, its about everybody. They want to know how come these groups aren't donating.
- ❖ Self-support and Fully Funding of the Area Delegate  
Several people in attendance commented on being fully self-supporting at all levels of A.A. The comments were to numerous to include in these minutes. They ranged from how much is contributed to GSO vs how

much their expenses are, to how responsible are you as a trusted servant in carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the suffering alcoholic. Are we arguing about money or trying to carry the message to that drunk. Who works for whom and who is it that contributes the money to pay for that work. Detailed comments can be made available to committee members if requested.

The Chairman commented that we should have an interesting Assembly in a couple of weeks. Get your folks in the home groups involved. Make reservations at the hotel and stay the night. Join the fun at the end of the day.

❖ District Minutes Posted as Service Material

Tandy B. asked the committee if the District minutes having the heading of "General Service Sharing Session Minutes" identified them as service material for posting on the Area Web Site? After some discussion David H. commented that since they are listed as general service that should be clear enough

❖ Inactive District at Area Level

Tony N. said something that will come up on the floor at the Assembly is the District out there that doesn't have a DCM. One of the things that ya'll said in here was that it is not our business that the District is struggling. Once again saying that it is not our business is apathy. What is going to come up on the floor is to do away with District 10 and divide it up among the surrounding district. You need to be able to vote your conscience on this matter. Some of the DCMs said they are willing to take on that. Some AAs in District 10 are already attending meetings, voting and participating in other Districts.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ❖ There will be a presentation of the Area Delegates report at the Brazosport Area Club, 147 Brazosport Blvd, Clute TX. on October 28, 2001 at 2:00 PM.
- ❖ The Area Gratitude Dinner will be held November 17, 2001 at the University of St. Thomas, Jeraback Center Bldg 30, in Houston. Bring your salads and desserts.
- ❖ Group donations are still needed for the District Hospitality Suite at the 2002 SETA Convention in Beaumont.

### **CLOSE**

Glenn B. made a motion to close the meeting. Bill H. seconded the motion. The meeting was closed in the usual manner.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Tandy B.*

8<sup>th</sup> District Secretary