

8TH District General Service Sharing Session Minutes Wednesday November 8, 2001

CALL TO ORDER

Tony N. D.C.M. District 81 opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Chuck G. read the Twelve Traditions. The Attendance Roster was circulated for sign-in (see attached attendance list). Introductions were made.

MINUTES

The minutes of the October 2001 District Meeting were submitted. Changed a typo in the Service Manual area of the minutes. Dana H. made a motion to accept the October 2001 minutes. Bill D. seconded the motion. The October 2001 minutes were accepted as corrected.

TREASURER

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

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

GROUP ISSUES

- ❖ Sheila K. asked if a group member could serve more than one group. If you are the GSR in a group, can you serve in another group? Chuck G. commented that the Service Manual explains that there is one group and one vote. It means that you go to one group conscience and you vote at that group conscience. You don't go around to other group conscience and vote at them. If you want to do service work in four or five different groups that is up to you. You only have one vote and that is in your home group.

SERVICE MANUAL

The Service Manual was read from page S60 to the heading **Trustee At Large** on page S63.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES

- ❖ No Report
- ❖ Archive Committee meets the 2nd 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 3rd 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.

- ❖ The New Trustees elected were: Ann B. / River Oaks Monday Group, Wayne F./ River Oaks Friday Group, Craig L./Post Oak Group, Mark Mc./ Spring Shadows Group, Vito V./ New Pair of Glasses Group. The Intergroup and its Board of Directors has done such a good job of money management there is an abundance—(this is an accumulation over the years starting in the mid 80s). This can be attributed to a well run organization that allows us (The Houston Area A.A. Groups) to look for ways to continue to carry the message of A.A. to those still suffering) remember we give direction to the Houston Intergroup Office through our Group Delegates carrying our Group's Conscience (Voice) to these meetings) and voting on these issues. The price of the Big Book, starting with the New 4th Edition will be reduced to \$6.00 (this reduction was requested by the Delegates at a past meeting). Purchases of 20 or more, the price will be \$5.50 per book. NOTE; Intergroup sells 9, 000 to 10, 000 Big Books per year. (The New 4th Edition should be available next month). At this point there is cash above a "Prudent Reserve" and the board is looking into the best way to bring this in line with A.A. principles. The primary idea at this time is to reduce prices on A.A. literature; this will accomplish the goal of reducing cash flow and will help fill the mission if increasing the availability of of literature to all alcoholics wanting the literature. It is important to remember that only about 15% of the needed cash to run the Intergroup Office has come from A.A. Group donations. The selling of literature has been the main source of cash...the 7th Tradition says "Self

supporting" which means we, the Groups should be doing our part, which would allow this temporary drop in price to continue. Office purchased a new Laser Printer for the Book Store to speed up transactions (you don't have to wait for your receipt as long). Dick reminded everyone that each group is allowed (2) two Delegates to vote on Intergroup issues. Annual fundraiser raised \$2,482.00 (used to buy conference approved literature for the inmates). Corrections Committee meets 3rd Monday of every month at 8:00 PM, at the Intergroup Office. Next drive will be the Southeast Texas Area selling Grapevine subscriptions, and Houston Intergroup will match up to 200 subscriptions for the Prisons. If your group changes time of meetings, location of meetings, discontinues a meeting or starts a new meeting [lease let the Intergroup Office know this. It is important to make sure they have the correct information to list in the meeting schedule and give out on the phone. Have you ever gone to a meeting and no one showed up??? To the New Comer and sometimes the recovering alcoholic from out of town, finding a meeting can be life saving to the alcoholic... Intergroup has a printed form required to record these changes, call the office for information... All information concerning a change must be in writing.

- ❖ The Intergroup Committee meets on the 3rd 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 3rd 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 meeting opened in the usual manner. Three people were in attendance. Jes H. read Tradition Nine. There were no new TFC members and no visitors in attendance. The sign-in sheet was circulated. The TFC still lacks an Alternate Chairman, Treasurer, and a Literature person. Peggy A. still stands as secretary. Memorial Herman Southwest Hospital (Susie Rieson, Director) Gary H. gave a service report. District 32 Old Timers Gratitude and Appreciation Day Display booth on October 27th. Spirit of Houston Conference November 9-10, 2001 needs volunteers for display table.
- ❖ The Treatment Facility Committee meets on the 1st 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
- ❖ Alternate Secretary
- ❖ Archives Liaison
- ❖ CPC Liaison
- ❖ Grapevine Liaison
- ❖ PIC Liaison
- ❖ Randy C. Stood for Pubic Information Committee Liaison and was elected.

OLD BUSINESS

- ❖ Gratitude Dinner Update- Tony N. commented that if the groups are not going to donate to the dinner then the district is going to have to do something. David H. said that the Gratitude Dinner is for group participation not for the District to go purchase food for the dinner. District 81, Santa Fe Group, 33rd St. Group, will have desserts for the dinner. District 82, Needville Group, Beginners Group, Wharton Group, Plantation Group, will have salads for the dinner.
- ❖ District Meeting Schedule- Tandy B. passed around a list of meetings in the district and asked each person at the meeting to update their home group schedule as well as any other meeting schedule changes that they are aware of. Tandy expressed his thanks for all the help in getting this schedule updated in a timely manner.
- ❖ SW Regional Trustee Feedback- Tony N. thanked the GSRs that helped him fill out the questionnaire for the SW Regional Trustee. He has faxed it to her as requested. Chuck G. asked what kind of questions were on it. Tony said the questions asked why or why not your group donates to G.S.O. Why or not does your group support G.S.O. What entities does your group make donations to? What pie chart percentage does your group use? Glenn B. asked for more information about a questionnaire? He was not aware of one. Tony N. commented that he did not receive the questionnaire until after the last District meeting. He said that the Delegate handed out the questionnaire at the Quarterly Assembly. He thought that all the DCMs were given one.

- ❖ Inactive District 10- Tony N. said that the four Districts that surround District 10 plus the people from District 10 that want to get involved would form an Ad-Hoc committee. This committee would develop a plan to absorb District 10 into the surrounding districts.
- ❖ 2002 Hospitality Suite-Jan D. said that she got a phone call asking if the District was registered at the Convention. She said that the room has been reserved. She said that a lot of stuff is stored at Chuck's house and she will pick it up, inventory it and take it to Beaumont.

Assembly Reports

- ❖ SWRAASA Bus- There is an Ad-Hoc committee to rent a bus to take anybody that wants to go to the 2002 SWRAASA. The SWRAASA is October 11-13, 2002 in Fort Worth at the American Airlines Training and Conference Center (www.theconferencecenter.com). For more information or input contact Tony N.
- ❖ Multi-Lingual Committee - David H. commented that a new standing committee has been formed at the Area Level. It is the Multi-Lingual Committee. Its purpose is to help with the multi-language meetings that are going on throughout the Area.
- ❖ Finance Committee Member- The Area Finance Chairman is asking for a volunteer from District 81 and 82 to serve on the committee. Tony N. has volunteered to serve from District 81. The next meeting is December 8, 2001. If you are interested in serving for District 82 contact David H.
- ❖ Hispanic Forum in San Antonio- The Area voted to fund (\$1,000 Max) five (5) people to attend the Hispanic Forum in San Antonio. This action was a result of the formation of the Multi-Lingual Committee at Area.

NEW BUSINESS

- ❖ None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ The Hitchcock Group (new group in the district) meets on Thursday night at 6:30 PM. The location is at the Mercy House, 6701 Hwy 2004, across the road from the High School.
- ❖ Alvin Taylor Street Group 35th Anniversary this Saturday November 10, 2001.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Texas City Group is having Annual AIKathon Meeting on November 22, 2001 (Thanksgiving Day) starting at 8:00 AM. Will hold a Candlelight meeting at 10:00 PM to end the day.
- ❖ Group donations are still needed for the District Hospitality Suite at the 2002 SETA Convention in Beaumont.
- ❖ David H. will give his Regional Forum report at any Group in the District. For more information contact David H.
- ❖ SETA Convention January 11-13, 2002 in Beaumont
- ❖ Beginners Group Celebration January 19, 2002 from 2-7 PM at the Brazosport Area Club in Clute.

CLOSE

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Tandy B.
8th District Secretary