

Santa Cruz County Intergroup

# Council Meeting 2023-01-04

---

04 January 2023 / 7:30 PM / ON ZOOM

## ATTENDEES

- Chair - Murias
- Vice Chair - Christopher
- Treasurer - Clint
- Office Manager - Kerri
- BSM Chair - Ed O.
- Activities Chair - Kimberlee
- Diverter Chair - Jack
- Newsletter Chair - Lucie
- Bylaws Chair - Sarah R.
- Website Chair - Grey
- Recording Secretary & Area 9 - John
- H&I Liaison - Fiona
- CRUZYPAA Liaison - Jesse P
- Area 3 - Kimberlee
- Area 4 - Darcy
- Area 5 - Rob
- Area 6 - Mary K
- Area 7 - Dave H
- Area 8 - Erik B

Serenity Prayer

Preamble (read by Kimberlee)

12 Traditions (read by Lily)

Birthdays

Ed O. 34 yearsk

Dave 18 months

Erik 9 years

## Introductions

## Notes

Not hearing any corrections to last month's minutes, the minutes are approved as written.

## Reports

### Chair - Murias

Like to get a feeling for the room on this: something that usually happens every year depending on how Santa Cruz's YPAA involvement in ICYPAA. Normally GS and Intergroup would write a letter in support for their bid for ICYPAA. Wants a feeling from the room (nods, etc.) in regards to support for making this endorsement.

(room was read) awesome, consider that done!

Clarification from Christopher: it is ACYPAA that we are trying to bring to Santa Cruz.

Next month (take this back to your groups; area reps take it to groups that don't have reps) - elections! Every position on the Steering Committee is open. Some are eligible to run again, some are not, but all positions are available. Area reps go up for election in March. There will be a follow-up email w/ take-back-to-your-meeting info that includes the job descriptions. EVERY position is up for grabs, she knows that some positions will be vacant.

Chair of Santa Cruz GS will be running the election (through the 3rd legacy procedures). We will describe how that operates at next month's meeting. Any questions on elections?

**Question from Grey:** how can a person find out if they're qualified? For example my position, I came in on the tail end of someone else's, then I had one term after that. How do I find that out? **Murias:** through the job descriptions.

There has been some big business going through Steering (more on this later): two fairly large motions on Steering which have been tabled currently, we have yet to begin discussion (will be starting shortly). They were on:

- Budget for Intergroup
- Fiscal policies and guidelines for Intergroup

### **Vice Chair - Christopher**

Received some information about reps that are no longer Integroup reps; 2 new reps tonight (Kalon and Eben), let's welcome both of them! If there are any new reps, please DM him your phone number, email, and name of meeting that you are representing.

### **Treasurer - Clint**

Net gain for December \$1349.94 - due to donations up for Nov, expenses down, recovering cost of goods sold in November as sales.

Quickbooks reports are not reconciled yet, so not available for the month of December.

Bank balances and donations are current for December.

Annual tax and filing for non-profit status filed in November.

Any questions about Statement of Activity or Financial Position: please ask.

I will not be available for Treasurer after the end of this month. If anyone is interested in that position, make yourself available.

### **Office Manager - Kerri**

For the month of December, total of 94 callers:

- 48 visitors
- 24 meeting inquiries
- 33 purchases
- 11 walk in donations
- 6 12-step calls
- 1 other resource inquiry
- 2 H&I visitors

- 41 other biz related visitors
- 18 AA informational calls

This list is not complete because we did have a new person who didn't fill it out.

We still have some shifts available

- Fridays,
- Saturdays,

and fill-ins on

- Monday afternoons, and
- Wednesday in the middle of January

If you know someone who could fill in ad-hoc it would be great if you could send them to the central office.

Reminder to those groups whose venues are requesting a certificate of liability, please contact Kerri directly at the Central Office and she can send you a PDF. Feel free to email at [officemanager@aasantacruz.org](mailto:officemanager@aasantacruz.org)

**Question from Murias:** did you have to close at all during the holidays?

**Kerri:** I worked Xmas eve and I was actually busy. We closed the Monday after Xmas, and New Years Day.

### **BSM Chair - Ed O.**

BSM is on track for this coming Saturday (Ivy Z. from Sacramento). They still are requiring us to sign a contact list (spoke to Marilyn yesterday, she said yes, it's still mandatory). Get there by 6:30 at least to sign the list!

**Question from Kimberlee:** will there be a dance after the February...? **Ed O.:** no, there will not be. It's too much money for too little attendance. All the dances really have not been that spectacular.

**Comment from Murias:** updated flier from this Saturday's BSM will be sent out with the follow-up to the meeting.

### Activities Chair - Kimberlee

Secured the German American Center on Plymouth St. for a St. Patrick's Day party. Speaker, dance, will be putting together a committee in the month of January to help put that on. We really need to think in terms of having a fundraiser for our Intergroup because we're going in the hole every month. Contributions have dropped significantly and it's not good. We have Spring Fling. The Halloween party only cost about \$465 (w/ a \$2500 budget). Point is to have fun in sobriety and be self-supporting in our own contributions.

Thought about having a birthday club and bringing that back into the works (donate a couple \$ for each year of sobriety). Trying to figure out the correct language.

Would love to have some volunteers to help out with the St. Patrick's Day event. If anybody wants to help, she will put her information into the chat.

**Question from Ed O.:** when is the date? **Kimberlee:** The date is March 18th - a Saturday night from 5pm-10pm. There will be a speaker, some dancing, some food. Tons of coffee.

### Diverter Chair - Jack

3 openings:

- First tuesday 5pm-7pm
- First wednesday 7am-9am
- 4th wednesday 5pm-7pm

Jack is terming out next month and will not be available to do this going forward. It's a great gig.

**Question from Murias:** when these positions are not filled, are you the one that fills them? **Jack:** yes, that would be me.

### Newsletter Chair - Lucie

We need content for the February issue of the Grape. Everyone's invited to contribute. You can write anything from 1 paragraph to 300 words. Your story, some sobriety-related thing, or if you need a topic . . ."restored to sanity" will be our February topic. We're trying to get lots of voices so

that it's a compelling read. I assume all of you are enrolled to get a monthly link in your email.

**Question from Murias:** what is the deadline? **Lucie:** 21st of January, so if you have some content you want published, let me know.

**Question from John:** how to get in touch? **Lucie:** grapesccin@gmail.com

### **Bylaws Chair – Sarah R.**

Last bylaws meeting was jam-packed with lots of conversations and a yummy meal. Home cooked food every time!

We talked about:

- Going through the bylaws to make sure that personnel policies and procedures are stated clearly; dotting i's and crossing t's, naming documents correctly, and correcting references.
- We discussed whether we wanted to add to the bylaws that we want Intergroup as a body to operate according to AA's spiritual principles as expressed in the 12 steps, 12 traditions, and 12 concepts of service.
  - As a committee, do we think that's a good idea? Do we want to express that in the bylaws, and if so, how?
  - We decided as a committee that it is a good idea.
  - I am putting together a draft for review that will be presented to Steering.
  - It's a slow process, but if anyone has an opinion about that, please feel free to email [bylaws@aaasantacruz.org](mailto:bylaws@aaasantacruz.org); or send a message in the chat.
  - You can even come to a committee meeting and be part of the committee!
- We discussed the information that came out of the ad-hoc finance committee (guidelines and budget)
- We always meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (day before Steering committee), which we do strategically so if there's anything we want to bring to Steering we can do it. We typically meet in one of the members' homes.

**Question from Murias:** are you sure it's not the 2nd Tuesday of the month?

**Sarah:** Nope, it's the 3rd Tuesday.

### **Website Chair - Grey**

Having some technical problems. Something from a group member to read but don't have - but the gist of it is that we have been discussing (in our last meeting, last Thursday) to put an idea out there. Talking about how it is in other places where the office manager and the webmaster/web tech are more in sync together, where they still have a committee, but they don't have an Intergroup chair or chairperson for the website. Somebody wrote something on that to our group; if you'd like to see that, you can email, call, or text me.

We also revisited the idea of having what was already voted on previously (years ago): when a service committee wants their page up there or a link or something . . . we're all in favor of the recent one (General Service) so we didn't really think that we thought maybe it wouldn't need to come to Steering. We thought it shouldn't have to come to that.

If you look at the website, it's a lot easier to navigate than other websites that I've seen - especially AA websites.

**Comment from Murias:** The reason GS needed approval through Steering is because it's not technically part of Intergroup. Website is designated for Intergroup and we needed to get over that hurdle - that's why it was brought to Steering.

### **Delegate at Large - Empty**

### **Recording Secretary - John**

No report

### **General Service Liason - Deb (absent)**

**Comment from Murias:** GS just transferred over their new panel (now in panel 73)

### **H&I Liason - Fiona (absent)**

**Comment from Mary:** will add the Help Wanted to the chat

**CRUZYPAA - Jesse C (absent)**

**Finance Committee Report - Murias**

Report came out in everyone's email today. Clint and I wrote it in conjunction. That was mainly to highlight what the Finance Committee was requested to do by Steering. Was formed by Chair, Treasurer, Office Manager, + another individual from GS named Russ. Russ has 12 years experience with CNCA area and local GS - lots of budgets in AA.

We are just about done and concluded with the work. Met many times and spent a lot of hours. All meetings 60-90 minutes long.

In the report that was sent out, we were charged with putting together the budget + coming up with any policies and procedures for Intergroup that would aid in establishing the budget(s). In that process, we determined one of the biggest things was that, to keep the process going...

There are over 2000 AA members in Santa Cruz, they are all donating to Intergroup. We need to be transparent with that money. We decided that yes, the Finance Committee should continue on, and it should have its place. This is what we were discussing in the Bylaws Meeting - what would be needed to grant us the authority, then policies + procedures giving authorities and responsibilities + dates & deadlines.

Also attached the budget with the report so that it could be seen by all members of the Council. Those 2 documents have been presented to Steering. This is not for approval or a vote, this is just a report.

**Question from Grey:** 1) is the Chairperson on all of those committees? I though the chairperson wasn't supposed to be biased on that. 2) I noticed that we have someone from GS that is on one of the committees. I'm thinking that's taking away from our decision making as an Intergroup. **Murias:** Good question. Any member of AA in Santa Cruz is a member of Intergroup in some fashion, and thus has an interest in how our money is spent. This person is perfect for getting this ball rolling for us.

**Question from Kimberlee:** have not seen before where a Chair appoints themselves to be on a committee. Not sure how that works. Have seen before where Chari can appoint people to a committee for a specialty project,

originally this was for just the budget, but now this thing has morphed into this new committee with new procedures, etc. This is not what we discussed at Bylaws. All of the members have been appointed by you, it doesn't seem like a Group Conscience committee like we normally have, it seems like a Murias committee. **Murias:** I will read the motion exactly as it was presented to the Steering Committee: "to have an ad-hoc finance committee of five members, it is recommended that the treasurer, office manager, and chair be three of the members. It is recommended that the vice-chair be a member, and any vacancies be appointed by either the chair or the treasurer. The responsibilities of the Finance Committee should be to: create financial guidelines for Intergroup, including the following. 1) proposed financial agenda for intergroup, 2) proposed budget for Steering's approval, 3) present approved budget to Council, 4) formulate guidelines and limits for distribution of funds (electronic payment, use of debit card, etc." That motion passed Steering unanimously. **Kimberlee:** I must have missed that meeting. At least the line item about appointing an entire new procedure for expenditures and income because that information is already done by the Office Manager. It's all posted in the job description, it's the Office Manager's job. Too much work is being created for volunteers. **Murias:** question on report? Any deliberation is best to be laid out before Steering.

**Grey:** Given that they're ad-hoc (temporary), in your report, are you saying that you want them to go on longer, like the Finance Committee? **Murias:** the report and guidelines coming from the report is to create an ongoing Finance Committee. Just like committee for activities, website, etc. but set up slightly differently, which is why there was a meeting set up with Bylaws regarding that. **Grey:** That might have to come back to this group later, right? **Murias:** in some fashion, yes it might.

**Sarah R:** just to clarify, was this a recommendation of the entire committee? **Murias:** yes **Sarah R:** not just you? **Murias:** not just me.

## New Business

## Area Representative reports

**Vacant (area 1 Watsonville)**

**Vacant (area 2 Aptos)**

**Kimberlee (area 3)**

Went to the wrong area to find someone to host the March meeting - white church (area 4), they agreed to host the April BSM in their Wednesday group. They will finalize it on Wednesday.

Waiting to hear from the One-Day-at-a-Time book meeting Wed at 7 at the other church in Soquel... They didn't have enough members present to make the decision so I'm attending their business meeting tomorrow night to see if I can get them to host March BSM.

**Darcy (area 4)**

No report

**Rob (area 5) (absent)**

**Mary (area 6 East Santa Cruz)**

No report

**David (area 7)**

Santa Cruz Fellowship schedule to hold 40 meetings this week. Have been asking for Secretaries to volunteer to Secretary those meetings, happy to report there's only 1 needed now @ Sunday 10:30am for Meditation meeting. Contributions to the Fellowship depend on holding those meetings. Also 10 snack bar positions, mostly at 3:00 in the afternoon and 10:00 in the evening. This also generates revenue for SCF. It takes a lot of money to run that fellowship, so any revenue helps.

1 intergroup rep position that is still unfilled - Meditations Sunday at 5pm (they are now online only). They haven't had an Intergroup rep since Covid.

**Comment from Lily:** there is also a Friday 6pm Speaker Discussion meeting open as of yesterday. It is now up and we could use a strong secretary for it if anyone is available.

**Erik (area 8)**

No report

**John (area 9)**

No report

**Vacant (area 10)**

**Tim (area 11) (absent)**

**Take Homes:**

- Elections
- Openings for the central office
- Volunteers needed for Activities Committee
- If you need Cert of Liability, contact Kerri directly
- Open positions for Diverter
- Content for Newsletter by 1/21
- SC Fellowship has open positions

**Discussion Topics**

**John:** Are we going to include the chat along with the minutes? **Murias:** Yes, I just forgot it today.

**Grey:** Still concerned with ad-hoc committees. If some people are against that or want to have it as an agenda topic, in our bylaws it says that you can take any member's ideas and we have to review them. If I put in for a motion, will that be reviewed? **Murias:** Yeah, just contact me.

**Lucie:** Can somebody email me the chat?

**Clint** took us out with the “we” version of the Serenity Prayer

*Meeting closed at 9:39pm*