

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY INTERGROUP COUNCIL: NOVEMBER 2023

OPENING CUSTOMS: The meeting was opened at 7:33 pm

The Serenity Prayer was led by Christopher, 12 Steps read by Christine, 12 Traditions by Ed O, and the Safety Card by Kerri.

The 7th Tradition was observed, with a pay-pal link included in the zoom chat function. Birthdays were announced- over fifty sober years in all!

Approval of previous month's minutes, with correction to motion for a vote of no confidence, FROM "exempting voting members added to the group august 31 (or later) from participating in a vote on this motion", TO "exempting voting members added to the group after august 31 (or later) from any restructuring of the group resulting from approval of this motion".

REPORTS:

Chair: Christopher

Christopher discussed the group inventory taken by members, noting that it went well, and added that there will be a follow-up scheduled to go over patterns of behavior and action items.

Vice Chair: VACANT

Treasurer: Matthew W

Matthew shared that revenues are up \$3,500 for the year.

Office Manager: Kerri F

Kerri itemized office stats for the group.

She announced an event on November 18, 11a-3p, to promote general service opportunities. Great flyer on-line! Take a copy to your groups!

There will be pizza, games, ice cream, as well as information provided regarding diversion and other service positions.

BSM Chair: Ed O

The BSM is set for November 18th, with Katie as guest speaker.

Activities Chair: Kimberlee K

Kimberlee shared that the Halloween event was not well attended, and revenues were down. Other competing events and a last-minute band cancellation may have dampened attendance this year.

Let's get the word out and support our next fund raiser!

Diverter Chair: Lilly P

Lilly offered an informational flyer with contact info for anyone looking to help with diverter coverage. She is working with Kerri at the general service event on November 18, and will present information regarding diversion services for interested participants. Call Lilly at 831 331-0079

Newsletter Chair: Lucie-reports that the GrapeSCCIN is published for the month. Members comment that it is excellent!

Bylaws Chair: Sarah R-no report

Website Chair: Mark B*

Mark is considering putting a version Kerri's newcomer packet online. He continues to have questions for the group to consider regarding whether to publish links to meetings that are not located in or directly related to Santa Cruz.

Safety/Delegate at Large: Magi

Magi reports as chair of Safety Committee.

The next presentation will be in January at the Resource Center for Non-violence, with a focus on awareness. "What IS safety in an AA group or meeting"?

There is an emphasis on providing resources so individual meeting leaders can develop guidelines to present to their groups for discussion, revision, and acceptance.

The Safety Committee continues its effort to recruit new members.

Recording Secretary: Carla

Requested feedback about the idea of "take back to meetings" bullet points being added to the minutes.

Mary says this has been done in the past. She asks how these could be delivered in a timely and relevant way given that the minutes are not distributed until the next council meeting a month later?

Magi suggests a volunteer could capture take "back to meeting" points. (And distribute outside of the minutes?)

GS Liaison: Deb A

-Assembly Fashion Show and AA Speaker Meeting Nov 3 In Del Ray Oaks, flyer online.

-Area Inventory- Del Ray Oaks (and on zoom) November 4th.

-PRASA March 3-4 in San Francisco

H&I Liaison: Veronica

Veronica makes a strong appeal for the H&I can be passed at meetings!

There are secretary positions that need to be filled at Water St Jail and Opal Recovery.

CRUZYPAA Liaison: Gabe (not present) Jesse reports:

Flag Football event in Campbell- flyer available.

There are service positions available.

Please attend business meetings at Harvey West Park on 1st and 3rd Sundays, 1p for more information.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tabled motion:

“A vote of no confidence of the Santa Cruz County intergroup steering committee, binding to restructure the steering committee of Santa Cruz County intergroup.”

(Amended) “exempting voting members added to the group august 31 2023 (or later) from any restructuring of the group resulting from approval of this motion.”

Deb served as parliamentarian for this discussion and vote.

Attendees contributed first as representatives of group inventories taken at meeting level. There was a common thread observing that it was unclear what kind of “restructuring” a “yes” vote would generate. A member noted that the problem seemed a safety issue, and as such would not be directly impacted by a change of officers. Another said his group felt the matter was an internal committee issue, though members expressed a position that all members in AA should feel safe.

Thomas felt calling a vote on the motion would be the most productive path, given the long time frame the matter has been discussed.

Personal opinions and comments were then entertained.

Shares were limited to two minutes, and relevance to motion at hand.

Opinions offered were varied and addressed different aspects of the motion, as well as suggested considerations in moving forward. There were several suggestions that a mechanism needs to be developed to resolve issues more promptly.

A member reviewed the recent decision to add a code of conduct to the meetings, as well as the completion of a group inventory.

Another restated that she does not feel safe in AA.

Two members said they feel the environment of the meeting is unsafe and toxic.

A motion to call for a vote was presented by Thomas, seconded by Magi.

There were 8 “yes” votes”, 20 “no” votes, and 4 abstentions.

The minority was offered an opportunity share their comments, and several did so.

Voters were polled again, no one opted to withdraw or change their vote.

The motion failed.

NEW BUSINESS: none

Area Rep Reports:

Area 1 (Watsonville/La Selva): VACANT

Area 2 (Aptos): VACANT

Area 3 (Greater Soquel): Christine

Christine notes that one of the groups in her area chooses not to have a representative and does not contribute to intergroup.

Area 4 (Soquel Main St): Brenna voted in as new representative by unanimous show of hands after description of the position was read aloud and Brenna offered a brief qualification. Thanks for stepping up to cover this valuable service position. Welcome!

Area 5 (Capitola/Live Oak): Rob Mc

Area 6 (East Santa Cruz): Mary-no report

Area 7 (Downtown Santa Cruz): Dave H- no report- service positions available in the snack bar, and for secretaries.

Galen (snack bar) 650 303-9713

Nicole (secretary spots) 831 252-3047

Area 8 ("Little Red Church" Downtown): VACANT

Area 9 (Westside/Davenport): VACANT

Area 10 (Scotts Valley/Emeline): VACANT

Area 11 (SLV): Chelsie

The meeting was motioned to adjourn, seconded, and closed at 9:07 pm.

Minutes as submitted by Carla
Recording Secretary