

Greater Houston CoDA
Community Service Committee
Co-Dependents Anonymous, Houston, Texas
Experience, Strength & Hope: **936-900-3613**



Greater Houston CoDA Community Service Committee Meeting

Date: 9/13/15

Meeting Called to Order: Ellen S. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Our 12 Traditions were read by Pete.

Attendees: Ellen S (Chair), Marcela (Treasurer), Pete C. (Parliamentarian), Cara R. (Secretary), Alfonso (Member-at-large), and Michele (Acting Group Service Rep for The Woodlands Group)

Officer Reports

Secretary's Report: August Minutes were approved as distributed, **motion to approve made by Ellen, seconded by Cara. All voted to approve. *August 2015 minutes were approved!***

Treasurer's Reports: Marcela R. present July 2015 and August 2015 Treasurer Reports. **Cara made a motion to approve the reports; second by Michele. All voted to approve. -- *The Treasurer's Reports were approved !***

Committee members continued the discussion of the pros and cons of the Credit Union account verses an account with Wells Fargo. Central to the decision, the credit union account would continue the Committee's historical use of an officer social security number. The Wells Fargo account would utilize the Greater Houston CoDA IRS EIN obtained in July, 2015. **Cara made a motion to bank with Wells Fargo; second Michele. All voted to approve the motion to Wells Fargo. -- *Moving forward, Greater Houston CoDA will bank with Wells Fargo !***

7th Tradition Contributions Update: Kingwood Meeting Group - \$70! CoDA North Meeting Group - \$42.82 and \$16.92! Woodlands Meeting Group - \$180.00! -- ***Thanks to all for supporting the service work of Greater Houston CoDA !***

A New & Exciting Service Initiative: Committee Bylaws adopted in July 2015 assign 10% of all Meeting Groups' 7th tradition contributions and 50% of all outreach activities' net proceeds to Scholarships and Grants. ***Scholarship awards are to create new opportunities for members of our local fellowship to attend local, regional and/or national CoDA workshops and events; Grant awards are to provide startup funds with the formation of new Meeting Groups !***

Old & On-Going Business

Leadership Team Changes: Linda B and Lisa C have resigned from their officer roles. We are grateful for their service work in support of our Committee. -- ***Thank you Linda B and Lisa C!***

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Service Opportunity Announcements: Ellen S announced Committee Service Board opportunities include: Vice Chair, Outreach Subcommittee Chair and Regional Group Representative open for nominations. Michele P volunteered her nomination as our Regional Group Representative. Our Regional Group Representative is a non-voting Board position with responsibility for attending meetings held by the Voting Entity (CoDA Texas) with the Greater Houston CoDA Chair and reporting the discussions and decisions of those meetings. Ellen S seconded Michele's nomination. **All voted in favor Michele's appointment as our Regional Group Representative! -- Congratulations & Thank You, Michele P!**

Local Meeting Group List: The Committee revisited the matter of the Houston area Meeting Groups being made the focus of an investigation – said investigation being without our awareness and/or involvement. Following-up, no information has presented that fully the investigation or validates its claims. **Ellen S proposed that we remove from our Meeting Group List, Meeting Groups self reporting a hiatus/inactivity beyond 90 days. Seconded by Cara R, all voted in agreement. – An updated Local Meeting List, prepared after the Committee's meeting is attached!**

Committee and Meeting Group Contacts: A review of Committee and Houston area Meeting Group Contact(s)/Contact information posted on the CoDA.org and CoDATexas.org websites found several instances of outdated information. Concern was voiced that the role and service work opportunities of Meeting Group Service Reps may not be fully understood. All Meeting Groups are encouraged to visit these CoDA websites and, as needed, update your Meeting Group's Contact(s)/contact information.

Per our Committee's Bylaws, the primary contact person for Greater Houston CoDA is the Chair for communications with other CoDA groups. Ellen proposed that the Committee Secretary also be listed on the CoDA.org and CoDATexas.org websites that there is backup in managing communications. **Marcela R. made the proposal a motion, Alfonso seconded the motion. All voted to approve. The motion passed!**

Communications: Ellen S reported it is her Chair experience that requests for information from CoDA Texas know slow response and often incomplete response. She citing sending several emails, beginning in July, expressing interest in the Assembly's planning process, identification of the CoDA Texas Officer and Delegate positions to be offered at the Business Meeting, etc., to which CoDA Texas officers have sent only minimal response. She reported a like experience this past Spring in response to requests for copies of CoDA Texas Business Meeting Minutes and financial records. Ellen spoke to our area's gap in knowledge about the Regional and World service and business sides of CoDA and her thought that this same gap may exist across our region. **– We continue to proactively encourage all to make a study of the CoDA Fellowship Service Manual, its guideline and service concepts!**

New Business

Scholarship/Grant Advisory Committee: The exciting idea of a scholarship advisory committee was introduced! Now that funds are available, Greater Houston CoDA is ready to begin organizing a scholarship/grant committee! It is thought that 4 volunteers will be needed. ***With service work comes incredible recovery and personal growth opportunities!* - Please consider giving back by volunteering for this amazing service opportunity in support of our local members' opportunity to the CoDA functions! Contact Ellen S: greaterhouston.codachair@gmail.com**

Texas & CoDA World Service:

- Marilyn B serves as the Editor of The CoDA Courier, our region's newsletter. If you are interested to do service assisting with the editing of the regional newsletter or would like to submit a recovery article or experience, ***Marilyn B wants to hear from you!***

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- Jen L serves as a member of CoDA World Communications. She has reached out to us asking that we announce the opportunity for members to do service responding to the public interest calls received at the CoDA World Level.

Service is a huge part of our recovery, please consider volunteering for one of these positions! *Please contact Ellen if you are interested!*

The Greater Houston CoDA BuZZzz: Our Committee introduced greaterhouston.codabuzzzz@gmail.com as a e-communications vehicle to send out event flyers and other announcements between meetings. Most recently, we introduced a circular: ***The Greater Houston CoDA BuZZzz*** to disseminate a reminder for the All City Step Study and our September Committee Meeting. **Ellen made a motion to explore the continued evolution of The Greater Houston CoDA BuZZzz with the view that it might become a newsletter. Cara Seconded the motion. All voted to approve! -- Please let us know if you are interested in participating in the creative development of The Greater Houston CoDA BuZZzz!**

Historical Committee Records: Cara R. announced that some past Meeting Minutes were received via e-mail in August of 2015, to include Minutes from 2005 to 2014. Ellen S asked if the records received included January 2013 and 2014 Meeting Minutes reporting the election of officers in those years. Cara R advised the records received do not include January 2013 or January 2014 Meeting Minutes.

Call for an Acting/Temporary Secretary Volunteer(s): Cara R. shared she is not available to serve as Secretary during the months of October, November, and December. A volunteer(s) is needed during her absence. – ***Please contact Cara R as you are available to lend Secretary service support!***

Group Inventory: Pete C. led the group in a Service Group Inventory, using the inventory at the back of our CoDA Workbook. Questions were read aloud and members answered. There was opportunity for all to express their thoughts and to share experience, strength and hope. **At the close of the inventory, there was a motion by Peter C, seconded by Ellen S, which is the unanimous group conscience decision that our Committee stands by the group conscience that is our Committee's Bylaws and the guidance of the CoDA Fellowship Service Manual. - Thanks Pete for leading this healthy exercise!**

Meeting was adjourned & closing prayer at 4:25 pm.