

SARA-MANA INTER-GROUP MINUTES

February 18, 2020

Call the Meeting to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by the Chair, Jim C. A quorum of at least ten was achieved.

Moment of Silence Followed by the Serenity Prayer:

12 Traditions:

The 12 Traditions were read by Todd A.

Introductions:

All Reps introduced themselves and their Home Group. New Reps include Mary Ann from Down Home Gratitude Club, Pat M. from Lakewood Ranch Happy Hour and Logan L. from Anonymous Men.

Chair Report:

The Chair deferred his report until later in the meeting

Co-Chair Report:

Matt D. had an excused absence and no report was given.

Secretary Report:

Brian thanked Ross and Jim for helping with the minutes from the last meeting while he had an excused absence. Brian read the minutes from January 21, 2020. Corrections were made. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as corrected.

Treasurer's Report:

Joe A. had no report. All expenses and rent have been paid. There is an ending balance of \$10,108.30 as of January 31, 2020.

7th Tradition:

The 7th Tradition was passed.

Finance Committee Chair Report:

Ross had an excused absence and no report was given.

Helpline:

Chris C. had an excused absence, but he reported there is only one opening for the Helpline and that is on Friday from 12:00 A.M. until 9:00 A.M. If anyone would like to volunteer, they can contact Chris C. at (941) 780-3808

Where & When:

Samantha reported on a lightly edited Accessibilities Checklist that she would like to be distributed. It is attached with these minutes. She would like assistance from Groups to report to her if the Group is handicap accessible.

It was suggested she put this request in the Newsletter. Group members can update her at: waterbirthmw@gmail.com or at (239) 222-1044.

Jim C. questioned the availability of American Sign Language (ASL) for Groups. There was a brief discussion and again the use of the Newsletter was suggested.

Newsletter:

Mike B. thanked those Groups that have participated in the Group of the Months articles. Mike reminded everyone to send in their Anniversaries and any other group news to newsletter@aasrq.com by the seventh (7th) of the month.

Volunteers were requested to pick up the printed Newsletters each month. They are printed at CTI Printing located at Cattlemen and Palmer Blvd. They are usually ready to be picked up the day of the Intergroup Meeting. Lisa volunteered to pick up the Newsletters each month.

Central Office Report:

Chris L. was not present. Doug gave the following report:

The Central Office of Sara-Mana, Inc. is a 501(c)3 corporation registered in the state of Florida. It is run by a Board of Directors; four voting members and one alternate member are appointed by General Service and four voting members and one alternate member are appointed by Sara-Mana Intergroup. The Central Office Manager is also a voting member of the Board.

The Central Office serves all the local District 4 Service Organizations, the local AA Groups and individual AA members.

The Central Office Board meets on the third Thursday of every month. At the last meeting the Board discussed the progress being made on the new QuickBooks Accounting System which is planned to be up and running by January 1, 2020. The Board also reviewed and discussed the 2020 Proposed Budget. The next meeting is December 19, 2019.

The Central Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. They are closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday and most major holidays.

The last Central Office board Meeting was Thursday, February 13, 2020 and the next meeting will be March 12, 2020.

The Annual Fund Raiser began on January 1, 2020 and will continue until April 15, 2020. The goal this year is \$28,000. Currently they have raised over \$9,000.

Book Store sales and contributions are normal for this time of year.

General Service District 4 Report:

Mick G. reported that General Service met on Saturday, February 15, 2020. Attendance is still at 30+ for the Workshop which is hosted by Alan T. the Alternate Chair. This year the Workshop will be reviewing The Traditions. Attendance at the GSR Business Meetings have been at more than 40.

Committees are still looking for volunteers. The General Service Conference Agenda List was received from the Area delegate. The background has been posted on the GSR website, www.dist4gsaa.org. This website is still under construction, but you can visit and browse. Some Areas are password protected.

Current Practices:

Doug had no report this month.

Old Business:

Discussion was held on the Gratitude Dinner and the search for a new, larger venue. Suggestions included a school gymnasium and the Palmetto Convention Center.

Mike S. volunteered to Chair a Committee to investigate new venues.

New Business:

Tracy asked that the Minutes be distributed within fourteen days. It is in the Bylaws.

With no further business to discuss Jim adjourned the meeting at about 8:04 P.M. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian H.

Samantha McCormick Midwife

Sun, Feb 16,
11:04 PM (8
days ago)

to info, me

Fellow AA members in SaraMana:

We need your help! We need to identify the local meetings that are disabled accessible.

We recently started identifying wheelchair accessible meetings on the website/app and in the Where & When, but we can't visit every local meeting place to determine which ones are accessible, so we need input from all of you.

- 1) Please take a look at the attached details regarding what makes a meeting room accessible and if meetings you attend meet the criteria, let us know. It's really that simple.
- 2) We only need "positive" responses - we don't need to know if a meeting is NOT accessible - we just need to know which ones ARE accessible.
- 3) If a meeting is accessible, let us know at info@arcsrq.org or call central office (941) 351-4818.
- 4) Please forward this email to your AA friends in the area, so we can cast as wide a net as possible.
- 5) Attached is a copy of this message in PDF format, if you wish to print it and pass it around the old fashioned way. Also attached is the AA Guidelines on the accessibility for reference/more information.

Let's get this done!

In Love and Service

Samantha M - Where & When chair

Accessibilities Checklist

Starting with the February 2020 Where & When, we are now designating wheelchair accessible meetings with a

symbol. You can help us in this project by forwarding the details of meetings that are disabled accessible.

The basic definition of an accessible meeting location: one that is physically accessible so that anyone may arrive on site, approach the building, and enter the meeting without barriers.

Please evaluate the following criteria for any meetings you attend regarding whether a meeting is wheelchair accessible.

If a meeting meets criteria, please email info@asrq.org or call central office (941-351-4818) so that it can be added to the website/app and Where & When. If such a meeting changes location, please alert us so we can also change the disabled designation (if needed).

PARKING:

- Are an adequate number of accessible parking spaces available? (9 feet wide for car, plus 5-foot wide access aisle)
- Are spaces close to accessible entrances?
- Are accessible spaces marked with identification signs?
- Is a path of travel by wheelchair accessible from the street or parking area?
- Are the sidewalks even and in good repair? Are there curb cut-outs to facilitate access to the sidewalk?

ROUTE OF TRAVEL:

- Is the meeting place accessible to public transportation?
- Is there a clear route of travel that does not require the use of stairs?
- Can any potential obstacles along pathways — including hanging objects — be detected by a person using a cane or other mobility device?
- If the meeting is at night, is the pathway well lit?

ENTRANCE:

- Does the entrance have steps, a threshold, or other physical barriers? If so, is there an accessible alternative entrance with clear signage pointing to access?
- Does the entrance door have adequate width (32") and clearance to accommodate a wheelchair?
- Can the doors be opened by someone in a wheelchair or would he or she need assistance?

INSIDE THE BUILDING:

- Is there level access from the wheelchair accessible entrance to the meeting area?
- If not, are there ramps to enable someone in a wheelchair to reach the meeting? (Lifting someone over steps or stairs is not an acceptable solution for access.)
- If there is an elevator or a lift, is it in good working order? If the elevator or lift is operated by a key, does someone on location have possession of the key or know where the key is kept?
- Are corridors and door widths (32") adequate for passage of a wheelchair?

RESTROOMS:

- Is at least one fully accessible restroom available?
- Are the stall doors operable?
- Is there adequate space for a person in a wheelchair to maneuver within the stall? (44" for forward movement and a five-foot diameter or T-shape of clear space to make turns.)
- Are there grab bars on the walls behind and to the side nearest the toilet?
- Can the faucet be operated without grasping, twisting, or turning?

THE MEETING ROOM:

- Are chairs set up with adequate aisle space for a wheelchair?
- Is the lighting adequate?
- Is someone available to welcome people and orient them to the meeting space as needed?
- Is the coffee service accessible to a person in a wheelchair or with another type of mobility device?