

MINUTES

SARA-MANA INTERGROUP MEETING

August 17, 2021 at 7 PM

Central Office & Zoom

[Zoom ID: 733 4126 4918 PW: 912785]

- Call the Meeting to Order: A quorum was met. Jessica had an excused absence.
 - Moment of Silence Followed by the Serenity Prayer: Matt
 - 12 Traditions: Todd
 - Welcome and Introduction of New Intergroup Reps: Kim from Women in Solution and Scott from Beginner's Men's Group
- Reports
 - Chair Report: Matt – Newsletter is ready. Thank you to Christine, Ross, and Eric. Due to busy work schedules, not much has happened with regards to the Helpline volunteers. The new Helpline chair, Greg, needs to be added to the email list to attend the Intergroup meeting.
 - Co-Chair Report: No report due to Jessica's excused absence.
 - Secretary Report: Melissa read the minutes from the previous meeting.
 - Treasurer's Report: Craig gave the Treasurer's report. July balance was \$12,754.47; deposits totaled \$3,148.76; expenses totaled \$901.83; less prudent reserve of \$6,500 the new balance is \$15,001.40.
 - Committee Reports
 - Finance Committee Chair Report: Ross – Financial resources are healthy. There is not an online donation button for Intergroup on the website at this time. Jackie O. will put a button on the website. Matar resigned from the Finance Committee, leaving two openings. Jim C. is not available and will be moving out of the area.

Matt – Requested that Central Office (not General Service) website have one donation button to have a selection of how much to each of the following: Central Office, General Service, and Intergroup.

- District Intergroup Liaison: No report
- Helpline: Greg was not present, Matt presented. Greg and Matt are working on training and have spoken with Janice about H&I info to share with callers.
- Where & When: Samantha – There is a new pink edition of the Where & When. Website is up-to-date.
- Newsletter: Christine – Newsletter is printed and being put online. The committee needs help with electronic distribution. Ross – Complimented Christine on the newsletter. Christine said she didn't do it alone and thanked those involved. Matt – Evan can upload the newsletter onto the Central Office website. Alan – Chris M. can post on the General Services website.
- Central Office Report: Matt – Emergency meeting was held to discuss contribution changes and how it is reported.
- General Service District 4 Report: Alan – District 4 Central Office business meeting workshop is scheduled for Thursday, August 19th. Workshop at 9 AM and business meeting at 10 AM.
 Assembly is scheduled for October 8th–10th in Tampa, which may be changed to virtual from live. All are welcomed to attend.
 A notice was sent to all GSRs and DCMs to change how contributions are made. A separate check must be made to each entity. Gary asked if cash could be split if cash was brought to the Central Office. Alan said cash could be given with a note indicating how much to each entity. Matt – Explained that we were not a 501C3 and legally, the change was needed after 30 years. Contributions need to be made in three checks or in cash with instructions about how much for which entity. Gary asked if we fund the travel of delegates from other areas. Alan – No, we do not.
- Current Practices: No Report
- Old Business: No old business

- New Business: Scott – His homegroup wanted to sign up for the Helpline.
Dave – From Monday Night Men’s group had a question about the change to incorporation and if it was made without a consensus or knowledge of the groups.
Gary – Also from Monday Night Men’s group stated the same concern and raised further questions.
Matt – Stated that there were multiple meetings that took place to discuss this change after receiving a letter from SunTrust, in which SunTrust said it did not find the “business” registered under SunBiz. SunTrust required incorporation to hold an account. The full discussion within Intergroup and out to the entire group conscious took place over a matter of six months pre-COVID and through the early months of COVID. The decision, with the guidance of an accountant was to file as a 501C4.
Gary – Asked if there was a quorum during these discussions (10 members requirement)? Matt – Said there was. Gary – Asked if the professional advice was provided in writing or only verbally. Matt – In a written email. Gary – Asked to see the email and the minutes from the meetings during that period of time. Gary – Asked why a 501C4 was chosen. Ross – Answered that 501C3 is a non-profit entity and a long, expensive process to file. Central Office is a 501C3 and it didn’t fit the structure of Intergroup. A 501C4 is a non-profit entity that isn’t charitable. This status made us compliant with the IRS regulations and would streamline our financial structure. It was the best option to remain in compliance with the least amount of paperwork. Matt – Stressed that members and officers of Intergroup are not paid professionals or finance professionals. He encouraged Gary to join the Finance Committee to help fill one of the two positions open.
- Meeting Closure with the Lord’s Prayer. Next meeting September 21, 2021.