

January 10, 2021
CEC Minutes
Area 9 AREA SERVICE ASSEMBLY

Attendance: Michael M. Past Area 9 CEC Chair, Caroline P. Dist. 8 CEC Chair, Grant T. Area 9 CEC Co-Chair, J D. GSR-Area 9 CEC Member, Roscoe Dist. 4, Bob O. Dist. 19 DCMC, Jerry S. Area 9 CEC Chair, Sharon S. Area 9 CEC Secretary

Jerry called meeting to order at 9:45 as our CEC room filled up.

Introductions - welcome visitors and guests.

Sharon- CEC Secretary reviewed minutes from 12/13/20 meeting. Grant motioned and Michael 2nd to accept minutes as written and all in favor. Jerry will post minutes on the Area 9 website.

Old Business:

- Jerry was reimbursed by Area for most mailing expenses and all Grapevine subscriptions incurred.
- Jerry still has not received Grapevine/La Vina subscriptions ordered and he will follow-up.
- Jerry submitted Grant T. as Area 9 CEC Co Chair and will follow-up for approval process.
- Jerry resubmitted proposed CEC guidelines to GAP committee on 1/9/2021 for Area approval. No response yet. He discussed this may take a while for final approval. He also emphasized our guidelines, especially outlining Senior Accessibility issues will ultimately be suggestions for groups to follow.
- Report back from committee member contacts to Central Offices/Intergroups about our volunteer program to assist Elders with tech issues accessing online meetings:
 - Jerry**- Inland Empire- Caroline yes and is now posted under special events
 - Sharon**- Coachella- David yes and is now posted
 - Caroline**-3 Orange County Central Offices agreed to post and Caroline sent the packet to post
 - Michael**- South Bay and Harbor- Jerry will resend packet to Michael and she will add Temecula to her contacts.
 - Raye E.**- Temecula- not present today and Michael volunteered to contact and offer our info.
 - JD**- Victor Valley- yes he spoke to Brian and Jerry also followed up. **Bob O.** here today from high desert and is DCMC for District 19- they are interested in forming a CEC committee and have started to assist Elders in that area and appreciates Area assistance with this.
 - Jerry will resend packet to Michael and to Roscoe and Bob O.** to share info on our volunteer program for assisting Elders with accessing Zoom AA meetings.

New Business:

- **Jerry** shared he attended the USCAN West forum last month and attended the Intergroup/Central Office Panel Discussion. He posed the same question about suggested guidelines for listing senior/accessible meetings in directories. Jeff W cited some guidelines are already in the books and it sounded like it might be doable to designate senior friendly/accessible meetings. He did follow up emails to Jeff W, Central Offices or Intergroups at GSO, Gwen W at AA Online Intergroup and Maury P the liaison for San Francisco/Marin County Intergroup.
 - Jerry shared a response (as follows) from Craig at GSO:

“Wed, Dec 30, 2020, 8:04 PM (10 days ago)
Greetings from the G.S.O. of Alcoholics Anonymous. My name is Craig, Group Services Coordinator, and I have the pleasure of responding to inquires pertaining to Intergroups and Central Offices. Thank you for reaching out and I am glad we are in touch.

With regards to listing meetings and what the parameters of listing are and the guidelines, that is up to each Intergroup/Central Office or Area. We would encourage you to reach out to your local Area (you may have done this since you are on the committee) and Intergroup/Central Office if you have not done so. We will also encourage you to reach out to OIAA if you have feedback that may be helpful.

We will be interested to hear what experience you have, what the results of your communications are. All your points are good considerations, will be helpful forming discussions, and informing the group conscience. Please feel free to share what you are currently doing and anything new that comes of reaching out to your local A.A. entities. We can use all the shared experience you collect to offer other members and A.A. entities, as these topics continue to come up. I hope this information was helpful.

Happy New Year!

With an Attitude of Gratitude,

Craig Weidner G.S.O. Staff

Contact: (212) 870-3287

groupservices@aa.org”

Other new business questions, comments, suggestions:

- Sharon has been working on a digital contact letter with links to literature, geared to Elder community, per previous CEC committee and Accessibilities suggestions. If group agrees she will finalize this and send out to group for feedback. This packet would be used for Senior Centers, Nursing Centers as digital alternative to hard copies of literature to better align with Covid-19 restrictions. Group discussed and agreed to continue. JD will check with Twin Peaks Senior Center and Michael with her local Center to gauge response. Jerry shared he has a list of many Senior Centers throughout our area for contacts when we decide to proceed.
- Caroline discussed the accessibility guidelines will support all those with accessibility issues, in addition to our Elder AA's.
- Jerry discussed putting together a power point presentation of CEC activities, possibly for PRASSA and others that may be interested.
- JD discussed perhaps taping a “How To” video for Elders to show Zoom log-in procedures in real time.
- Jerry will send the volunteer packet on Zoom access (sent to Central offices) to Roscoe, Bob and Michael.
- Bob O. shared there are a lot of seniors in remote locations, stuck in their homes, in the high desert area. They are already assisting Elders and want to form a CEC committee for District 19. Discussed that Zoom and phone contacts may be only link for some AA Elders during this pandemic time. Also discussed the reluctance of some Elders to try this new technology. Area CEC members are available to assist District 19 as needed to help Elders overcome barriers in accessing AA meetings and literature.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

Thank you everyone!

Yours in Service, Sharon S. CEC Secretary