

**Tulare County Hospital & Institution Committee Minutes**  
**September 26, 2020, 10:00 am, Zoom Meeting**

**Opening:** Joyce R. opened the meeting at 10:00 am with a moment of silence in gratitude for service and the confined alcoholic who still suffers, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

**Statement of Purpose:** Miki S. read the H&I Statement of Purpose.

**Twelve Traditions:** Melanie M. read the A.A. Twelve Traditions.

**Introductions/Sign In:** Introductions were made of Area Chairs from Area 91 Miki S.; Area 92 Kat C.; Region 190 Rafael F. In Attendance:

Joyce R.	Rae Ann B.	Melanie M.	Tommy S.
Boo M.	Rafael F.	Clayton N.	Miki S.
Jim L.	Kat C.	Claudia Q.	Rafael D.
Allen L.	Patrick. S.	Jacqueline D.	Tracy Jo W.
Bill H.			

**Anniversaries/Pass the Basket:** Gary B. will be accepting checks at his residence for 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions. Gary's address is in the chat. Sobriety anniversaries recognized: Melanie M. 10-years 9/26.

**Approval of Minutes:** Joyce R. Asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the August 8, 2020 meeting, none were presented. Upon motion being duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved as presented by unanimous vote.

**New Business:**

Soberfest: Jacqueline reported that we need a 5-minute speaker, volunteers to set up an H&I table and Pink Cans. After discussion, Patrick S. will represent H&I as the speaker, Joyce R. will set up the H&I table and the Pink Cans will be available for contributions on the table.

Prudent Reserve and Distributions: Joyce R. reported in Gary's absence that after looking at our expenses it would be wise to maintain \$100.00 in prudent reserve which would cover three months of expenses for the group. This is for information to be considered upon any future distributions.

Area Expense Reimbursement & Policy Revisions: Joyce R. reported that at the September Steering Committee, the original topic for discussion on Area Reimbursements was changed to a Pilot Program and included in the budget. This would be a \$30,600.00 expense if all Area's requested reimbursement. As it is included in the budget, upon approval of the budget this amount would be approved for disbursement. The funding for the budget comes from the money contributed to the Pink Cans. It was noted that in 2017, the wording on the Pink Cans was changed and now reads, "To Support the Service of the Hospital and Institution Committee", which broadens the use of the money placed in the Pink Cans. It was also noted that in the suggested policy revisions, that the IVSS Coordinators would have a seat on the Steering Committee. Currently 20% of our meetings in facilities are represented by 25 Major Institution Coordinators while the remaining 80% are represented by 15 Regional Chairs thus limiting the ability to bring the collective conscience of Northern California to the Steering Committee. It

was further noted that meeting materials are not being printed in Spanish which makes 5 of the 15 Regional Chairs unable to participate in bringing the collective conscience to the General Committee as they are unable to discuss the information with their Areas as the topics are not available in Spanish. The committee discussed their view on these subjects. Joyce R. noted that this is discussion only as each active H&I volunteer has a vote at the General Committee Meeting. Therefore, it is up to each volunteer to decide at what level they are willing to participate.

Area Chair: Joyce R. reported that her term ends at the November 28, 2020 meeting, and we will elect new Area Chair at that meeting. The qualifications for this position are on page 11 of the Pink Pamphlet: Three years of current and continuous sobriety, including one year of active committee participation and have firsthand knowledge of the Facility Coordinator's responsibilities.

Regional Chair: Currently, we do not have a Regional Chair, Joyce R. stated that she will make herself available for this position at the next meeting after election of an Area Chair. The qualifications for this position are on page 13 of the Pink Pamphlet: Have a minimum of five years of current and continuous sobriety and three years of active committee work in H&I and have a full understanding of the responsibilities of all assignments at the area level.

\*\*Joyce requested all volunteers review both of these positions and consider making yourself available if possible. Our continued growth is dependent upon our continued unity in service.

### **New Business:**

Kings County: Prior to Covid, we were in the process of attempting to start H&I meetings in the Hanford area. Currently, we have been in discussion with Area 91 and Area 92 regarding the possibility of making a joint effort to contact facilities in that area and see if Zoom H&I meetings were a possibility. It is the belief that our continued unity is the attraction to H&I work and pursuing this jointly may attract interest from volunteers in that area. This was discussed and the group sense was to pursue this as a joint effort.

### **Reports:**

Area Chair: Joyce R. reported that she attended the September NorCal Steering Committee and gave our Region 90 report. Joyce continues to attend the Fresno H&I monthly meeting, Spanish Region 190 meeting and stays in contact with Miki S. from Area 91.

Tulare County Jail Women's: Diana was unable to attend but reported that the facility remains closed, she continues to make literature available and has heard nothing new from the facility.

Tulare County Jail Men's: Patrick S. reported that he has nothing new to report.

Turning Point: Jim L. reported that no in-person meetings are being held at Turing Point and currently he and Joyce are working on attempting Zoom meetings with the facility.

Pine Recovery: Tommy reported that on 9/5/20 they were able to hold the first Zoom meeting with Pine Recovery and all went well. Joyce reported on 9/19/20 a second meeting with Pine with a mixed panel was held and well received by the residents. Literature was delivered to

the residents. Boo M. will be facilitating the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at Pine Recovery beginning in October.

Women's Recovery Homes: Alice S. reported via e-mail that Zoom Panel Meetings are continuing twice a month at Mothering Heights Recovery Home at 7:00 pm. The panel consists of 4 to 6 women, who are rotated from our volunteer list. H&I continues to be well received by staff and residents. Alice reported that she really feels that we are making a difference. Literature and pamphlets are delivered as requested. On September 1<sup>st</sup>, she picked up an ample supply of literature and pamphlets. Zoom meetings will continue through November.

Mental Health: Boo M. reported that she continues to stay in contact with the facility and they feel that Zoom is not an option.

Corcoran & Avenal Prison: Bill H reported that he and Monte continue to stay in contact with the staff at both sites. They have been able to deliver a substantial amount of literature to Corcoran and hope to be able to get literature into Avenal soon. They are attempting to keep clearances up to date.

Regional Report: Kat C., Area 92, reported that they are currently not holding any H&I meetings as the facilities remain on lockdown, literature is being provided to their facilities, the monthly committee meeting is continuing and they are holding a study of the Pink Pamphlet. Miki S., Area 91, reported that all facilities are still on lockdown, communication continues with the Administration of facilities and literature continues to be delivered. Rafael F., Region 190, reported that all facilities are still on lockdown, literature is being provided as requested, they continue to meet monthly and are visiting the Spanish Speaking groups to encourage more H&I volunteers.

Treasurer Report: Gary B. reported via e-mail that our balance remains \$60.00. Our rent has been paid through December of 2020. As previously stated, 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Contributions can be mailed to Gary, address available in the chat, as we will have some expense for our Zoom account.

Literature Report: Tommy S. reported that there is plenty of literature on hand, and he has been able to provide literature as requested.

CSR Liaison: Joyce R. reported that she did not attend the CSR meeting in September, but did send in a report and articles continue to be written monthly for the newsletter.

GSR Liaison: Ralph D. reported that District 47 continues to meet the first Wednesday of the month via Zoom. General Service in New York is still closed but is processing literature orders. The Grapevine and LaVina are available on-line for \$1,99. Contributions can be made on-line at AA.org. It was determined that it costs General Service \$8.16 per member per year to provide services. There is a challenge to each member to contribute that amount to General Service, and if you are able consider contributing additionally for a member who cannot. CNIA will be holding Mini PRAASA via Zoom in October. CNIA has sent out a questionnaire to all GSR's to take to their groups for completion as the answers will be reviewed at the Mini PRAASA during the area inventory. Please see your group GSR and participate.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business, the meeting was closed with the H&I Responsibility Statement at 11:16 a.m. The next orientation will be 10/24/20 & 11/28/20 9:00 a.m. and the next business meeting will be 11/28/20 10:00 a.m. all via Zoom. The agenda has misinformation.

In love and service,

Notes taken by Tracy Jo W., typed by Joyce R.