

Tulare County Hospital & Institution Committee Minutes
June 13, 2020 9:00 am, Zoom Virtual Meeting

Opening: Joyce R. opened the meeting at 9:05 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: Sherri D. read the H&I Statement of Purpose.

Twelve Traditions: Rafael D. read the A.A. Twelve Traditions

Introductions/Sign In: Introduction of first-time attendees and out of town members were made. In attendance were:

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| Joyce R. | Rae Ann B. | Tommy S. | Bill H. |
| Rafael F. | Miki S. | Boo M. | Jacqueline D. |
| Fred F. | Alice S. | Diana Z. | Claudia Q. |
| Jolene E. | Sherri D. | Melanie M. | Gary B. |
| Rafael D. | Tracey W. | | |

Anniversaries/Pass the Basket: Due to meeting virtually, it was requested that interested members make a donation directly to NorCal or hold their donation until our next in-person meeting. Sobriety anniversaries recognized: Jacqueline D. 1-year 6/19; Tommy S. 13-years 6/18; Rafael F. 31-years 7/8; Miki S. – 24-years 5/4; Boo M. 23-years 5/18; Sherri D. 33-years 3/13; Rafael D. 5-years 4/30; Rae Ann B. 25-years 6/6; Tracy W. 1-year 4/7; Joyce R. 7-years 6/4.

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

Reports:

Area Chair Report: - Joyce R. expressed gratitude to all on the committee for continuing service to the confined alcoholic during these trying times. A special thank you to Bill H. for accommodating our meeting on Zoom, and David G. for always keeping the website up-to-date so we can all stay connected.

Tulare County Women’s Coordinator – Diana Z. reported that there was one meeting brought into Tulare County Jail during the first week of March prior to the shutdown. There continues to be 8 women badged and one waiting for orientation. Literature was requested by the Jail and brought to them. Diana will continue to stay in contact with the Jail and provide additional literature as needed.

Tulare County Men’s Coordinator – No Report.

Turning Point – Bill H. reported that due to being unable to bring in-person meetings to the facility, Jim has been attempting to set up Zoom H&I meetings with the facility, with no progress on moving forward at this time. Jim will continue to stay in contact with the facility.

Pine Recovery – Tommy S. reported that due to being unable to bring in-person meetings to the facility, they attempted a Zoom H&I meeting, had 5 volunteers signed on and the facility was unable to accommodate due to technical difficulties on their end. They are attempting to set up outdoor meetings with the facility.

Women’s Recovery Homes – Alice S. reported that the last physical meeting at the facility was on 2/20/20. On May 21, 2020, they were able to conduct the scheduled H&I meeting via Zoom. The meeting was well received by the residents who requested more meetings. Mothering Heights was contacted and agreed to Zoom H&I meetings every other Thursday. On the June 4, 2020 Zoom Meeting, New Visions and New Hope Women’s Recovery Homes also joined Mothering Heights. The next meeting is scheduled for June 18,2020

Mental Health –Boo M. reported that the last physical meeting was on March 4th. Boo has stayed in contact with the facility and July 2, 2020 has been scheduled to resume in-person H&I meetings. They are looking at expanding to a twice a month H&I meeting.

Corcoran Prison – Bill H. reported that they have been unable to go into the facility since mid-March. Literature is continuing to be delivered to the prisons. They are currently contacting volunteers and updating clearances. When they resume physical meetings, it would be helpful to have some more Spanish speaking volunteers.

Avenal Prison – Monte S. was appointed as the Major Institution Coordinator at Avenal Prison and is working with Bill H. to become acclimated to the position. We look forward to having Monte join us in the future.

Regional Reports:

Spanish Region 190 – Rafael F. reported that they will be able to go back into Fresno County Jail on June 12, and must wear masks. They are currently waiting for the other facilities to open. The Spanish Region is enjoying the unity between the areas.

Area 91 Mariposa/Madera - Miki S. reported that Mariposa County currently has 3 active H&I meetings, once we start participating again: Mariposa County Jail has a weekly men's meeting on Thursday evenings with 2 volunteers and 12 participants. Mariposa County Jail weekly women's meeting is on Tuesday evenings with 4 volunteers and 4 participants. There is also a weekly meeting at Mt. Bullion Fire Camp, a CDCR Fire Camp, on Thursday evenings with 2 volunteers and 25 participants. Madera County provides meetings at 2 State Prisons: Central California Women's Facility has 4 meetings on Wednesday evenings with 4 volunteers and 283 participants, 3 meetings on Friday with 1 volunteer and 71 participants, and 4 meetings during the week with 0 volunteers and 110 participants. Miki has recently submitted 4 additional applications from Visalia for clearance. There is a new Community Resource Manager at CCWF. Valley State Prison currently has 26 meetings throughout the week with 5 volunteers and 603 participants,

Area 92 Fresno - Kat C. could not attend but reported that due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, H&I site visits have been suspended, but they are looking forward to continuing H&I meetings at Fresno County Jail for Women and Men, West Care Men and West Care Women and Juvenile Hall. The Major Institutions volunteers are also waiting to resume meetings at Pleasant Valley and Mendota State Prisons.

Treasurer Report – Gary B. reported that we had a beginning balance of \$252.00 and no rent has been paid. Distribution of funds was discussed. Upon motion being duly made and seconded, it was approved unanimously to keep \$60.00 and distribute \$96.00 to Tulare County Central Office and \$96.00 to Visalia Alano Club.

Literature Report – Tommy S. reported that we are well stocked on literature and has made arrangements to meet and deliver literature as needed.

CSR Liaison – Joyce R. reported that she attended the first meeting of the Central Office on June 9th since the March meeting. At this time, all planned events have been postponed, volunteers continue to answer the phones after hours and discussion was held on how groups are moving forward on resuming in-person meetings and handling trace reporting.

GSR Liaison – Rafael D. reported that the GSRs continue to meet on the first Wednesday of each month via Zoom. GSO continues to accept and send out literature orders while the GSO office has been closed since mid-March. Contributions for all groups can be made on-line. Through the end of June, the Grapevine is being offered free on-line. The International Conference has been cancelled and the General Service Conference was held virtually. There was extensive conversation at the CNIA level regarding resuming in-person meetings.

Valley Speaker Group Liaison: Joyce R. reported that this is a new position as of March. Jacqueline D. has agreed to take this position and attend the Soberfest meetings beginning July 8, 2020 for H&I. Jacqueline will bring the needs for H&I volunteers to our meeting and share our information with them. We are looking forward to this new opportunity.

Old Business: Tabled from the February 8, 2020 meeting was this committee's position on allowing weapons at our meetings and discussion followed. Upon motion being duly made and seconded, it was approved unanimously that weapons will not be allowed at any Tulare County H&I Meetings. This policy will be posted when we return to meeting in-person.

New Business:

Regional Chair Vacancy: Joyce R. reported that Joe G. has stepped out of the Regional Chair Position. Please review the position in the Pink Pamphlet and let us know if anyone is interested. This is an important position as the Regional Chair is our voice as an area at the Steering Committee Level. Joyce R. expressed interest in this position if it remains vacant upon her terming out of Area Chair at the end of 2020.

Hanford Commitments: Joyce R. reported that there has been some interest in taking H&I meetings into facilities in the Hanford area. This Area remains without a committee so H&I meetings are not happening. It is possible that if we begin taking meetings into this area, interest can be generated and possibly a committee can form in time. Upon motion being duly made and seconded, it was approved to move forward on taking meetings into the Hanford Area. Joyce R. will make contact when feasible around Covid-19.

Change of Meeting Date: Joyce R. presented moving our meeting date to the 4th Saturday of odd months at 10:00 am with orientations being the 4th Saturday of every month at 9:00 am. This change will allow our committee time to review information going before the General Committee Meetings as currently we meet one day prior to the General Committee Meeting which does not allow time to review information. Discussion followed. Upon motion being duly made and seconded, it was passed unanimously to move our meetings as indicated. This will be require a 2/3 majority vote at the next meeting, August 8th under Old Business to allow for an informed committee vote.

H&I Policy Manual – 2020 Proposed Revisions: The proposed revisions were reviewed by the committee and an no opposition was presented to the proposed revisions. These will be presented at the June 14, 2020 General Committee Meeting where it will need to be approved by majority vote with the final vote being at the General Committee Meeting on October 11, 2020.

Area Expense Reimbursement: Joyce R. presented NorCal's proposal for Area Reimbursements as some areas are having difficulties in meeting their meeting costs. This was reviewed and tabled until the next meeting where more information will be made available as it will be discussed on June 14, 2020 at the General Committee Meeting.

New Business from the Floor: None was presented.

Adjourn: There being no further new business, the meeting was closed with the H&I Responsibility Statement at 10:40 am. Notes taken by Tracey W., typed by Joyce R.