

**SoCal CoDA
Quarterly Business Meeting**

**Minutes of the meeting of December 2, 2017
Held at the Hispanic Conference, 100 N Third Ave. Covina, CA 91723**

1. Opening Prayer

In the spirit of love and truth, we ask our Higher Power to guide us as we share our experience, strength, and hope. We open our hearts to the light of wisdom, the warmth of love, and the joy of acceptance.

2. Member Read:

a. Purpose

b. Traditions

3. Introductions

The SoCal CoDA Board meeting was called to order at 10am by Vice-Chair Darlene. Present also were Treasure Christine, Immediate Past Chair Corey, CSC Delegates Athena, Kirsten, France, Conference Facilitator Hal, Corresponding Secretary Anna, Recording Secretary Sarah, Historian Mike, Website Chair Evie, Community Representatives: LA CoDA Lesley, Orange County Doreen, San Diego Bryna, Spanish Speaking Community Nora. We had five visiting CoDA members Carol, Terri, Doreen, Michelle, and Shauna.

Darlene Vice-Chair asked if everyone had a copy of all the handouts. She began the discussion with an email from the Chair Darcie regarding debit card fraud.

Email from Chair Darcie –

On November 21, 2017 Treasure Christine notified Chair Darcie of the following:

“...I see some debits from the SoCal CoDA conference account in the Palm Desert area in October and November. See attached October statement...These might be fraudulent use of the SoCal debit card?”

Darcie immediately called the bank to report the fraud and freeze the card. All of the charges, a total of \$1066.87, came from a specific debit card. Darcie contacted the authorized signer with that card and found out the signer had never used the debit card. The card that is in the possession of the Signer had expired on August 2017. The charges in the account began in September 2017 and continued through November 2017. There is an active claim with Wells Fargo. We expect a full refund.

Next, a review of the minutes from the previous board meeting. Board members discussed a few amendments.

Minutes of the August 27th meeting were approved (Corey/Leslie).

4. Reports:

Treasurer's Report – “Christine” reported the following regarding the SoCal treasury accounts: as of November 28, 2017, the SoCal Checking Account has \$10,236.84. SoCal Savings Account has \$2,658.79. The Conference Account combined has \$2,746.71. Total Cash on hand in all accounts is \$15,642.34.

Currently the Sept-Nov 2017 Conference Account has fraudulent charges in the amount of \$1066.87; pending a claim with the bank Wells Fargo. Seed Money \$1700 from 2017 conference is still in account.

***Action Item:** For Hal to move the Seed Money from the conference account back into SoCal Board Account.

The 7th Tradition donations YTD for 16/17 were \$4,786.67. It was discussed that this amount was lower than the previous year 15/16 \$5,614.29.

The 7th Tradition donation details for year 17/18 1st Quarter (Oct-Dec) were \$551.02.

Financial Statement for 2016/2017 SoCal Checking YTD Net Loss (-\$5,397.09)

Financial Statement for 2017/2018 SoCal Checking

- a. Total Income YTD \$717.02.
- b. Total Expenses YTD \$793.06.

Immediate Past Chair – “Corey” No Report

Vice Chair – “Darlene” No Report

CSC Delegates – “Athena” produced the report from CoDA CSC Board Report.

From the CSC Board Report Minutes–
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

The CSC Board Minutes highlights included the following:

“Treasures” reported Giving Wise Solutions app is on Android and will be soon available on Apple products for giving 7th tradition. The 2017 budget had a negative cash flow of \$7,900 with a prudent reserve of \$250,000. CoRE voted to increase the royalty from 30% to 40% and has given a \$10,000 7th tradition donation. There is currently approx.. \$100,000 “buffer” to cover shortfalls, specifically at the end of the year with CSC expenses.

“CoRE Board” stated that 57% of CoDA’s income comes from CoRE. They are launching a new website and online bookstore in 2017. Connections is asking people to share their stories to be published, and to let the fellowship know they need their shares. Issues Mediation reported they

have a new trifold brochure on the website called “Dealing with Disagreements”. The literature committee reported they are working on a piece of literature for traditions, as well as another piece called “Growing up in CoDA”, Growing up in dysfunction and how it has affected us. How we can use the CoDA program to help “grow ourselves up”. Want to have a new book of “Stories” in addition to what is in the back of the Blue Book.

“Colorado VE”- Colorado submitted their prayer for approval. It was approved. This CoDA prayer has been renamed to “CoDA Recovery Prayer”, and is now conference approved. This prayer has been added to the opening “prayer”, as well as the meeting handbook.

CoDA Recovery Prayer – “God help me to Accept other people as they are, Recognize my own feelings, Meet my own needs, and Love myself just as I am.”

“CSC Outreach” is creating a package to give to professionals. They also produced a “Twelve-piece relationship toolkit”, submitted by Canada.

“Board and Bylaw” changes included the following: to add another part of leaving the board “exceeding 45 day leave of absence” where an alternate would come up to be a Board member. This was carried unanimously.

Conference Facilitator – “Hal” said that he has been talking with people from the Desert Community with no progress in getting a Conference under way. He said he is a huge fan of the conferences if we can avoid the red ink. He also likes the format used by San Diego Community for their Super Saturday Seminar. He states it’s a great business model. He is feeling discouraged by not receiving any responses from the Desert Community and is not sure how to proceed. He has also requested a current copy of the Bylaws and would like clarity on his job description. He let the board know he will be out of town for three months.

Conference Chair – Open Position

Corresponding Secretary – “Anna” reported she sent out the September “Thank you” notes and has not sent out Octobers.

Recording Secretary – “Sarah” No Report

****Action Item:** Sarah to make amendments to minutes dated August 2, 2017 send to webmaster to be uploaded.

Historian – “Mike” reported he is collecting all documents electronically, and to please send to him via email.

Hospitals and Institutions – Open Position.

Our visiting member Shauna inquired about the H/I position. Darlene read the Bylaws explaining the role and position. The board discussed the various needs for the role. Explaining

to Shauna what it's like to be in the H/I role. The board spoke openly about the level of commitment and work it takes to be the Chair of Hospitals and Institutions. A discussion on the time in program per the Bylaws was discussed. The board also expressed support by making suggestions to speak to other members who have been chair to help make the transition smoother.

Shauna took a moment to speak about herself and her experience in CoDA. She has 3.5 years in the program and attended the CoDA conference in Minnesota. She has worked her steps and currently works with a sponsor and sponsors woman. She actively volunteers at a treatment center for woman. She is very motivated to get the Orange County inter-group resurrected.

Shauna was voted in as the new H/I Chair board member. (Darlene/Evie).

Website Chair – Evie reported that she is working quickly to upload information quickly onto the website. She mentioned to the Orange County visitors that she is managing their URL, and that when they were ready they could recreate the website. She has spent time re-organizing different areas on the website. She also said all the aliases were up and done.

Sub-Committee Chair for Conference Format– “Lesley and Christine” reported the sub-committee had several conference calls and got a lot of good work done. They provided the board with two handouts presenting detailed descriptions on various options for holding the annual conferences. The sub-committee did not come to any specific decisions, however created a clear evaluation of the various options giving opportunity for the board to come to a decision on how to proceed. The committee came to conclusion that it needed to discuss why SoCal should host these conferences knowing the cost can be great expenditure for the SoCal CoDA Community at large and the hosting community. The last conference held in 2017 in Redondo Beach at the Torrance Marriot, created a net loss for the SoCal CoDA Community. This conference stands alone since previous conferences all broke even or made a profit. The sub-committee stated that even if the last conference had made a profit we would still be discussing this matter. To host a conference, it takes a lot of resources and money, which now need to be taken into consideration.

The committee produced ample data to show various options as to how the board could host a conference and the different cost evaluations for each type of business model. They also produced several key reasons as to why we should host the conference. Those reasons included: Carrying the message through service and recovery, holding the annual assembly, CoDA member fellowship, and fundraising opportunities. They also looked into if it is stated anywhere that the Board must hold a conference each year. As to the question, “what is the primary purpose for SoCal to host a conference?” The committee was unable to find documentation to answer this question. The Bylaws only referenced the annual assembly and the conference committee chair positions, but nothing regarding holding conferences.

Their conclusion was that the conferences provide accessibility to both new and longtime CoDA members in SoCal to carry the message to each other. The conference also provides a place to hold the annual assembly and is a convenient option for drop-in attendance. This raises awareness about how the SoCal board operates. Fellowship is a key to CoDA recovery and at the

conferences members are given the chance to get to know each other, share meals, and have space and time to “hang-out”. Fundraising supports sending delegates to CSC and gives the opportunity for positive net proceeds to match fundraising goals. The board will discuss these option is greater detail at the next board meeting.

Sub-Committee Chair Bylaw Changes – “Darcie” not present for report.

5. *Community Representative Report's:*

Desert Communities: No Representation

LA CoDA: “Leslie” reported that LACC is doing well. They have well over 30 meetings including a new meeting in Seal Beach. They are having elections in November and December and are having difficulty filling the positions. The marathon meeting on Thanksgiving was a success. They are hosting two more marathon meetings this year. One is on Christmas Eve and the other is on New Year’s Eve.

Orange County: “Doreen” reported they currently have 13 meetings. They do not have a meeting list. Currently, there is nothing happening or any upcoming events. Their focus is to get the inter-group up and running in Orange County. It was suggested by the Webmaster Chair Evie since they do not have a website they could put their meeting list on the SoCal website once its created.

San Diego: “Bryna” reported that San Diego has 28 meetings. They had a fabulous Super Saturday Seminar. There was about 100 members in attendance with a profit of \$300. The money they made is going back into the community. The next event is the Christmas party on December 16th at Kensington Church. Currently having difficulty with getting support for service positions.

****Action Item:** Evie for the webmaster to post the flyer on the website for Sheri. Event is from 5-9pm.

Spanish-Speaking Community: Nora reported they have 17 meetings. The 7th tradition collected \$16.00. She invited everyone in attendance today at the board to come join the Spanish Conference today.

TVCC: No Representation

6. *Unfinished Business:*

- a. *New Meeting Place* – Discussion regarding the next meeting place for the SoCal Board meeting. A Motion was brought forward to have the board meeting in each of the communities and to rotate each quarter. The motion was voted and did not pass. Discussion continued as to where the next board meeting would be.

7. *New Business:*

- a. *Storing electronic documents* – Historian Mike brought up that he is currently scanning documents and saving them electronically he would like to save them somewhere so the webmaster has access to them as well. The board discussed it was also noted not just one person should have access to these files. **Motion:** I move that we store the historical documents electronically somewhere on the web that's accessible to the webmaster.

Motion was amended.

Amended Motion: I move that we store historical documents electronically somewhere on the web and grant access to the Chair, Webmaster, and the Historian.

Motion was passed unanimously (Darlene/Corey).

****Action Item-** Evie create a place online to store documents.

- b. *Orange County Inter-group* – The board discussed if there were any resources in the Bylaws that showed how to create an inter-group. It was stated there is no procedure on how to do it, but it was suggested to visit other inter-groups and to follow their business model. No motion.

****Action Item** – Evie to put up the Orange County website, however, she will not be maintaining it.

- c. *2018 One day conference hosted by SoCal-* The board discussed having a one-day conference in 2018 that would include the Assembly meeting. **Motion:** In 2018 we have a one-day conference before the end of June to include the *assembly*.

Motion was passed unanimously (Evie/Darlene).

- d. *Meeting place for next SoCal Board Meeting* – It was brought up to the board that the SHARE location is pending and may be available for the March 2nd board meeting. There is a \$25.00 room rental charge. **Motion:** I move that we schedule the next SoCal board meeting on March 3rd to take place at the

SHARE location in Culver City. 6666 Green Valley Circle, Culver City, CA,
90230

Motion was passed unanimously. (Leslie/Darlene)

e. Motion to adjourn.

Motion was passed unanimously. (Corey/Kirsten)

The meeting was closed. Our next meeting will be held next quarter on the first Saturday, March 3, 2018, 10am to 1pm, at SHARE!, 6666 Green Valley Circle, Culver City, CA, 90230. Many thanks to all whom participated.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah C., Recording Secretary