

District 7 Meeting Minutes

November, 5, 2011

Smullin Center

Sue opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions and Concepts were read by all.

Present: Eileen B, Sue B, Cris C., Cheryl C., Roberta R, Bunny G., Susan E., Michelle B., Marvalee M., Cathy S., Leanne W.

NEW BUSINESS

Sold Meeting Follow Up: At the SOLD meeting there was discussion regarding rotation of this position. There is a group of volunteers that are interested. This group (committee) would work together with the various duties involved. There was extensive discussion and Q and A for approximately one hour. Some of the questions included:

1. What are the requirements to house the literature? Secure place? Climate control? How much literature is there? Michelle stated there were 4 cabinets approx. 4.5 feet tall and 1.5 feet wide and about 2 feet deep. Currently there are also 4 shelves and a couple of "extra boxes". More literature space is needed when a new book first comes out.
2. How much time is required per week? Hard to answer as this depends on the amount of orders and if there is a new book. Currently SOLD has been present at least one event (Rogue Round Up) a year. This involves Fri Sat and Sunday. Most weeks it takes approximately 30 minutes. More time is needed when the financial report is due. Aprx 2 to 10 orders a month are placed by groups and SOLD orders from WSO aprx 4 to 6 times a year. It was suggested that SOLD continue to be flexible with delivering materials to groups. Michelle said their system of a mail slot and a pick up station (bench with built in box on the porch) has worked well. Members echoed how well this has worked. Orders can also be sent with someone to the District meetings. The perspective new group voiced interest in having a Grants Pass annex to facilitate delivery in Jo County.
3. It was suggested that the next volunteers start with panel 53, perhaps elected sooner to allow training time.
4. Michelle voiced that this would be a great position opportunity to inform the groups about now and allow someone to come forward and stand for this position. Because the nature of the job is different than other positions we might attract some new volunteers.
5. Chris posed a question about selling Al-Anon literature at Heart Song – a book and gift store in GP that does carry AA materials. Perhaps being in a public place would help spread the message. Pros and Cons were discussed. Michelle added that maybe the store could buy some material from SOLD and they could sell it on their own. Chris will look into this.
6. Susan voiced that people want E books; Sue reported that the WSO is looking at this.
7. Marvalee suggested considering electing the new SOLD volunteers routinely one year before each new panel to allow time for training and moving.
8. Chris suggested since "terms" were now established that SOLD use this last year to train the next person/people. Since it is like a business it is different than other positions.
9. Some members thought things should stay the way they are. "If it's not broke-don't fix it" Sheryl asked why the change was happening if it wasn't Michelle and Gunther's idea to give it up.
10. Sue explained some of the history of this move to make SOLD more of a "part of the District" as opposed to "separate but reporting to" the District. The group members gave great praise to Michelle and Gunther for their 18+ years of service with SOLD. Some of the words used were "wonderful", "outstanding service".
11. Leanne said she didn't feel Sheryl's question was answered and asked what Michelle and Gunther thought about giving up SOLD? "Is this something you want"?
12. Michelle said she could only speak for herself and that she really didn't want to give SOLD up. She said the past few months have been very difficult. She felt "all the flack" and controversy has made her not want to deal with it any more. She felt "personally attacked" and is "tired of it all." "It was a great service to do but this has made it no fun anymore."
13. Sue B – reiterated that Michelle and Gunther have done a "wonderful job" and in keeping with the spirit of rotation it is good to allow other people the privilege to experience this unique service opportunity. The group came to a consensus to take it back to the groups that this position is becoming available; it will be a three year commitment, with a few months of training before the position starts. Anyone interested can call Michelle to find out more about how SOLD operates etc. Sue will get the job description out to the District

members to take to their groups. It was decided that interested parties will stand for this job at the March District Meeting and we will vote.

In the interest of time it was decided to delay: Treasurer's report, Minutes, Education, District Meeting for 2012, Group Reports, AA Liaison, Meeting Lists, Website.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Report: Proposed budget was distributed for members to take back for their groups to review. We will vote on passing this 2012 budget at the December District Meeting.

Answering Service Report: Michael was not present and he reported to Sue that he will be contacting volunteers on the list to see how it is going and move forward with assignments.

Fellowship – Marvalee reminded the group that the fall fundraiser for D7 is November 12 in Talent – Dessert Social, cake walk, and speakers. Get your sign up sheets to her please.

Public Outreach - Roberta reported that PO plans to continue the “mailings” and Health Fairs in 2012. The cost of newspaper ads is up so this will not be done this year. She reminded us that one of our cheapest and more dependable tools is the “tear off” posters. They can be downloaded from the website or let Roberta know if you want more. **PSA's:** Sue reported that the PSA's will be showing in more theaters as the Regal Theaters has bought more theaters. The Area pays for this.

Roberta suggested that the individual groups could “Adopt a Professional” and send them a Forum subscription. (Cost is \$11/year). **Southern Oregon University** officials are interested in having an Al-Anon meeting on their campus. They are offering a room. “WE” would need to have members commit to going to this meeting until it had enough of its own members. Susan suggested the Ashland groups might be the best place to recruit volunteers. Anyone interested can call Roberta. **Sue B has 5 DVD's** for taking to professionals. **Libraries** – Roberta is checking to see if they have the newer book. **Speakers** – Roberta asked for one person from each county to be the liaison to treatment centers. This volunteer would meet with or call centers and explain our program. Volunteer would then find out the details and call Marvalee with specifics so she could find speakers. Cris C volunteered for Josephine County and Cheryl volunteered for Jackson County. Marvalee will get in touch with these ladies to let them know what information she needs etc.

Baskets for SSM – baskets, materials for making baskets were available for members to take back to their groups. Baskets for the 2012 SSM have been requested to be raffled off at the November Assembly. Assembly is November 18, 19 and 20 in the Portland area.

Alateen – Leanne requested that the Alateen sponsors could be added to the District Roster. She will check with the other sponsor to make sure this is ok with them.

ALATEEN: Leanne distributed posters that will go in the next mailing to professionals. It was suggested that they go in several mailings to professionals. The next mailing is Jan.

SOLD – Michelle reported that SOLD will budget \$1100 cash to the District as usual. They will also give \$600 to public outreach. The \$5 paperback copy of How It Works is a fantastic bargain. Many groups have purchased some copies to give to new comers, treatment centers. It is a great gift idea.

District Inventory – Michelle suggested that since it has been awhile since the District group did a Group Inventory that this might be helpful. Michelle will bring copies to the next meeting.

NEXT DISTRICT MEETING: Dec 03, 2011 at St Paul's in Grants Pass