

North Texas CoDA Community Service Group (CSG)
Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2021

Attendees: Charles D., E. Dallas/Garland, Robert M., E. Dallas/Garland, Lisa L., Unity Women's Ft. Worth, John D., Monday Central, Mark S., Waco, Wendy S., E. Dallas/Garland, Cindi S., Richardson, Sharon M., Richardson, Jackie D., Carrollton, Calista M., Tyler, Rosa C., CoDA Vive', Nate F., Denton and Joe K., Denton.

Charles, Chair, Opened meeting at 1:00 pm welcoming everyone and asking for those unidentified on the Zoom call to announce their name. This was done so we can make sure there are no outsiders on the Zoom call. Robert also announced he would be recording the meeting and asked for any objections. There were none.

Election: Treasurer's position is open again. Charles announced he had good news and introduced Wendy. She already does service work for CSG in the outreach/communication area. Wendy has volunteered to run for the position of Treasurer. Charles explained we have tried filling this position 2-3 times so far and he has been doing both the Chair and Treasurer positions temporarily. Charles asked for a nomination. John nominated Wendy for the position; Robert seconded. Motion passed unanimously. As Vice Chair, Robert has agreed to be back up signer on the bank account.

Addendum: Robert has since indicated he prefers to not take on the bank back-up role. The officers of CSG, Charles, Robert and Cindi did a group conscience and it was agreed that it is appropriate for Charles as Chair to be the bank back-up. This was announced on the N. Texas WhatsApp on October 22, 2021 with a chance for any objections. There were none.

Updates from Old Business – we did have birthday party with a robust turn out, every seat was full at all tables. We had attendees from multiple groups. Charles thanked Andrea for putting it together.

Point of Order/Secretary's Report: Robert M. stated that the minutes were sent out for review previously. There were two minor corrections. Sharon M. was added as Attendee and the word "April" was added to the approved minutes section. Robert motioned for the July minutes to be approved as corrected. Mark seconded. Nate asked to discuss a section of the minutes. Robert asked if Nate's question was regarding the accuracy of the minutes or something else. Nate said it was a topic in the minutes. This can be discussed later during New Business. The motion was then voted on and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: \$1481.09 was starting balance and ending balance at the end of 3rd quarter is \$1404.88. After the birthday party expenses, we ended up with a net positive of \$156.42. Charles stated there is a check register and a bank statement and they do match. These were sent out to the officers for their review. Wendy motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, Robert seconded. Motion carried. In 2021 we've had 7th tradition donations from Frisco, E. Dallas, Waco, Tyler and Richardson. Thank you!! Without those donations we could not have provided things like the birthday meetings, speaker meetings, etc.

Structure of N. Texas CoDA: John D. presented a diagram of the way CoDA is organized, from Local Groups, to Community Groups, to CoDA Texas, State Delegates and CoDA Inc. and more. See the description and flow chart on the ntxcoda.org site. Nate F. from Denton feels the chart is presented in a way that the local groups look like they are on the bottom – he would like the chart to be presented in a more horizontal way. Nate also emphasized wherever the information is from, it should be clearly noted on these documents. Charles and John explained much of the wording is from the Fellowship Service Manual. It is not meant as a power hierarchy. Cindi stated that historically the CoDA organization has explained the flow as an inverted pyramid. Mark and Charles agreed. John will revise the document to make it more horizontal or where the local groups are at the top with the chart flowing down. He asked Robert to

remove the document temporarily while revisions are done. Ideally, we would like this information shared with groups or in a newcomer type meeting. John also mentioned that CoDA has designated 2021, "The Year of Service."

CoDA History in North Texas: Charles put together a historical report which he shared at the birthday party. It is also available on the website. Cindi and Sharon today stated that CoDA has been in Dallas 34 years, not 35. Sharon shows a date of February 1987 as the first meeting. Cindi apologized she thinks she gave the wrong info to whoever did the flyer. Charles will correct this and any other corrections anyone has.

Step Study: Riley will be coordinating a Step Study soon on Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:00pm and it will be a 14 week study. Location and more info: TBD. Robert stated there is a document on our website that is CoDA Texas and CoDA Inc. approved to work the first three steps using the 30 Questions. This can be done with a sponsor and then that person, having completed the first three steps, could be qualified to help another person with Steps 1-3.

Speaker Meetings: Lisa is focused on finding a Spanish speaker, but has not had any luck. Cindi asked about having a non-Spanish speaker since she is having trouble. Lisa stated we have had six speakers already, so she is focused on Spanish speakers right now. Meetings are held quarterly – the last one was held about three months ago.

State Conference & Retreat: The event is happening October 22-24, 2021 at Camp Lone Star in Tom Ball. There are still scholarships available. There is a Zoom option available for \$50.00 on Saturday if you are interested in the virtual option.

Roundtable Discussion:

(This is an opportunity for each person present to ask questions/present ideas.)

Cindi gave her feedback on the birthday event. It was a fabulous event. She thanked those, especially Andrea, Charles and Wendy for their efforts. Cindi would have liked us to have done introductions (to meet attendees) and business **after** we ordered the food. Charles stated Wendy has volunteered to do the next birthday event.

Rosa, CoDA Vive', reported there is only one Spanish group meeting right now in our area, Domingo Central. Her CoDA Vive' meeting is thinking about doing a virtual meeting soon.

Lisa stated when she attempted to let CoDA Inc. know that the Monday meeting was NOT meeting anymore, the CoDA volunteer stated she would have to reach out to the contact person. Charles is able to help with this issue as Chair of NTXCSG.

Nate stated he was concerned about what he read in the minutes about a group being given three weeks to respond. The group conscious process had been followed about a meeting that was not meeting, yet was advertising they are a CoDA group. We had reached out to this meeting numerous ways and they were not responsive. Therefore, after much discussion, there was a GC decision to deal with this situation. Nate was satisfied with this explanation, but had some concern about the precedent it sets.

Calista from Tyler reported she has a very small group and one person just got their one year chip. Wendy thanked John for the visual about the service work. Mark stated his group is struggling a little, but it's hanging in there. He's looking forward to the retreat in a couple weeks. Sharon was muted so she could not give input. Robert presented the "Getting Started Working Steps 1, 2, & 3 using the 30 Questions" document on the Zoom white board. Nate agreed this is a good way to get a person started in doing the steps with or without a sponsor. Jackie reported the Carrollton meeting is still meeting via Zoom and they are looking to meeting in person soon.

Announcements:

Cindi stated she was representing Norma today from Richardson group. She stated Norma would want the Retreat mentioned again. It's not too late to sign up, show up or attend the Zoom portion on Saturday.

Future Agenda items: 1) Live or Zoom meetings for Community Service Group meetings and
2) Meeting Group Emails, as suggested by Lisa.

Charles thanked everyone (too many volunteers to name!) and stated despite the pandemic, we've gotten a lot done in the last year including the first in-person event, the 34th birthday party. We've updated the meetings list, enhanced our online presence and donations including PayPal and Venmo. There are a lot of items provided on the ntxcoda.org website including a facilitator guide, events, and most recently, the history of N. Texas CoDA. He thanked everyone for their participation today.

With no other business on the agenda, Lisa motioned we adjourn, Mark seconded. The meeting adjourned on time.

Next meeting: January 8, 2022 via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Cindi S. - Secretary