**ACA SMR**

**Group Conscience Committee Meeting**

January 28, 2021, 8:45am Meeting #xx

Attendees: There were 37 attendees. These are a few who attended: Robert, Paul KF, Barbara, Chris, Christy, Katie, Wendy, Diane, Rene, Harry, Leslie, Katie DC, Yvonne, Amanda, Indira, Casssie, Hala, Nolan, Linda S, Pam, Brian eM, Jeff, Kim, Karen

**1. Call to order/opening prayer:** Meeting was called to order at\_8:47am\_ by Paul KF. This was followed by the Serenity Prayer.

**2. Meeting Secretary, time-keeper and agenda:** Meeting Secretary: Craig, Time-keeper: Chris S

Agenda for meeting was screen shared by Paul KF

*1. Call to order/opening prayer*

*2. Meeting Secretary, time-keeper and agenda*

*3. Minutes of the January 22, 2021 meeting*

*4. Business*

*Following group comfort rules*

*5. Next Steps*

*Prioritizing review of other position descriptions*

*Network directory and organization chart*

*6. Next meeting*

*7. Adjournment and closing prayer*

**Motion was made by Wendy to accept the agenda as proposed. Second was Diane. Motion passed.**

**3. Minutes of the Jan 22, 2021 meeting:** The minutes from Jan 22, 2021 meeting were screen shared by Paul KF.

**Motion was made by Wendy to accept the agenda as proposed. Second was Diane. Motion passed.**

**4. Business:**

**Following group comfort rules:** Paul brought up two thoughts to begin with: 1.) Does the group want to identify any new issues that have arisen?; 2.) Some people may give specific motions others may give general ones. Everyone will have an opportunity to share but remember that we have to have time to vote on motions.

The following statements were offered during this Self Care meeting:

Barabara – Not in favor of limiting the discussion to 10 – 15 minutes. The group conscience needs the space for the ebb and flow for the discussion. I prefer that we have very clear boundary verbiage. For example “2 minutes to share” and “raise hands to share”.

Karen Boca – The group is very well run but we need more volunteers and more training.

Nolan – Regarding the discussion, HP works through the group conscious.

Hala – Would like to have more boundaries in place. Last week offering more training guide lines for the break out rooms. There was a tradition broken and a moderator didn’t stay anything. It would help if there was additional clarity on what to do and what not to do.

Chris S – Stepped back from service because when I enforced comfort rules there was push back. Traditions and concepts should be part of trainings so they will know when to adhere.

Robert – Need more leader/moderators to serve for the 5 rooms. My focus has been the staffing and not always able to focus on the group comfort.

Indira – Is there a rule for attendance before taking over leading in order to keep the spirit of the meeting?

Paul – Addressed last comment with mention of the Common Elements Description which has been in development.

Barbara – Mentioned that at one time the group conscience decided that an individual have six weeks in the program.

Indira – Agreed with this statement but acknowledged this is hard due to so many new comers.

Robin – In terms of traditions (concepts) maybe with the second reading that one could be changed to discuss the traditions and concepts.

Harry – At 8 months, I still feel new. Ask people to look over the traditions. We need to not be looking for perfection but we need to learn its okay to make mistakes.

Rene – In terms of stumbling [in leading a meeting], in ACA feelings are so high that it doesn’t take much to set me off. Forgiveness is really important. What is the most important thing we do? In ACA, it creating safety; modeling gentleness while maintaining boundaries. The leader models this.

Wendy – It is stressful to do service. How do I handle distractions? Can we have a place to process the without judgment? For example, How did you handle it or would you handle it? This would be in addition to Robert’s trainings.

Barbara – In the Service Team Social, it was literally to talk about the things we are talking about now. It would be nice to have something or a place to develop this conversation.

JJ – A component for ACA is self responsibility and expressed two points. She advocates for a sentence be put in the literature “and if you need help to reach out”. She added the idea of while we are expanding are we keeping the quality of the meeting up.

Diane – Feels that there is not enough staff and its difficult to keep the boundaries. I don’t want to interrupt someone’s share if they are over two minutes. She added that she has problems with communication and hopes that others with these issues can find ways of communicating at the meetings.

Robert – In responding to adding a traditions reading that another alternative is that some of the readings are two pages and that they can be split between two meetings. He proposed that we could add to the script for the calendar month, a reading of that tradition.

Chris reported that we are at 45 minutes.

Karen Boca – Proposed that the longer second readings could be split between two weeks.

Harry – Is there a 12 & 12 like in AA?

Wendy – WSO has proposed to do a 12 & 12.

Robert – mentioned that the traditions are on page 489 in the BRB.

Chris – added that the SMR daily readings has them in the back of the book.

Diane – Added that the traditions are on the WSO website.

Paul – poised a question on the frequency of the trainings for leader/moderators.

Robert – Leader/moderator trainings are once monthly and Tech Host are given every other month.

Indira – Have we discussed with the increase of participants at the meeting in terms of comfort rules prior to this? Is there a correlation?

Barbara - Asked what is the vibe of this meeting? It comes down to this – to have a welcoming staff and having a sacred space or is it a ‘chaotic’ vibe (laughter, chit chat, etc).

**Barbara made a motion to continue the meeting for 10 minutes. Robert was the second.**

Barbara – continued her thought that the vibe carries through all the leaders. She added that she is feeling a chaotic vibe currently. How do we create a space to heal in?

Paul – Some of this is covered in our current writings (scripts).

Karen Boca – I like the camaraderie but I also like the quiet. Can we start the meeting earlier to get the chit chat out of the way and have the 10 minutes to the starting of the minutes as quiet time?

Indira – With the new numbers of participants allowed, I can come a little later to the meeting and not experience the talking. This would be a compromise.

Diane – Is there a transition time to the quotes in the chat? We can gently interrupt people who are bantering to put quotes in the chat.

Brian eM – Its chaos before the meeting - the laughter and the joking? Concerned with trying to moderate people’s participation.

Nolan – I feel its my responsibility for the vibe of the meeting. There’s 150 ‘flavors’ of participation. I am concerned over regulating – the less rules, the better.

Robert – Offered two points. The first was with in person meetings, no rules till the meeting starts. The second is the reason we introduced the quotes was to give participants a way to do a brief service – if they aren’t able to do other types of service.

Paul – Brought up inappropriate comments and cross talk. WSO has rules on predatory behaviors.

Chris mentioned that we have 23 seconds left of the 10 minute extension.

Hala motioned to add 5 minutes to the meeting. Diane and Barbara were the seconds.

Wendy – with the in person meetings, you have the ability to stay out of the discussion. I can do that on Zoom as well as unplug the sound.

Jeff – With the people who can’t stay today [for the entirety of the meeting] we need to have closure who need to go but we need to keep the meeting going.

Paul – is there anyone who wants to take notes for the remainder of the meeting and to lead the meeting?  
No one responded.

Paul – should we have a motion to continue discussion next week?

Barbara motioned to adjourn. Diane and Robert were the seconds. Motion passed.

**5. Next Steps:**

Continue discussion on safety at the meetings.

**6. Next meeting:**

Diane made motion to continue this discussion on Tuesday, Feb 2 at 8:45am. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_was the second. Motion passed.

The next meeting will be held on Wed, Feb 3 at 845am.

**7. Adjournment and closing prayer:** **Motion was made by Barbara to adjourn meeting. Second was made by Diane and Robert. Motion passed**. This was followed by the Serenity Prayer.