

**AVP/CA Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, December 10, 2015**

Participating: Joyce Branzoff, Karen Brower, Steve Gelb, Ann Leonard, Sam Lewis, Steve Lomas, Linda McCue, Stephen Matchett, Sue Torrey, Nancy Vimla

Absent: Gori Urling

Clerk: Stacy Hughes

Notes: Ann Leonard

1. Gathering: “Something good or something new.”

Possibility of going into fire camps due to Milestones was mentioned.

2. Review Minutes from November 12

Approved as amended on Google.docs as of 12/10/15.

3. New Items

Linda reported on Diego Navarro of Academic College Excellence (ACE)’s request for AVP to work with his program at Watsonville Jail and two local prisons. He is submitting a proposal to the Ford Foundation by February 1st and wants to include us. Question that needs to be answered: Does the local council want to/are able to support this additional work? The Steering Committee (SC) suggests the local group get more information/specifics and report back. Linda will send them articles about his program. It was also suggested they address issue of limiting program to short-term inmates, as this may leave out people who could benefit from the workshops.

Pat Hardy has received an inquiry about working again at Lompoc (a Federal prison) and is discussing it with Santa Barbara volunteers.

Crisis Team Update. Karen and Nancy have joined the group and are being oriented as to what has been done in the past. Current issue re Ellen Eggers suspension from Solano is still ongoing. Latest development is looking at group meeting with Ellen and a couple of other coordinators from Salano along with Pat Hardy and with Steve Gelb as mediator, provided everyone agrees to abide by the ground rules. They are now seeking confirmation for a meeting in January in San Luis Obispo. The Solano program is now regrouping given the role Ellen was playing and will resume doing workshops in January. The Crisis Team will report back to the SC after the meeting.

3. Agenda points from previous meeting:

- Location for 2016 Steering Committee Retreat. Possibility of LA? Steve and Gori looked into Banana Bungalow but it won’t work. Maybe we have enough SC

members locally who could host people? Transportation and parking are serious issues in LA. Steve G. also suggested asking SC members if they have friends in the area they can stay with. We also might want to set a date well in advance this year to assist with planning. Group will check out Santa Monica and Orange Grove Quaker meetings re space or people who could host participants. It was suggested the organizers talk to Gary Wolf. We are looking at **July 15-17 as a possible retreat date.**

- Website update. Barbara Atwell is working as project manager. Justin from Chico is now part of the process as well. They are communicating with Tino (Mexico City). Question of data base integration is under discussion. Web group will meet on 12/19 when it is hoped we can move forward. Steve Gelb noted that Peggy has been extended to the end of December but it looks like we will need her services through the end of January and after that on a month-to-month basis. Steve and Stacy have had discussion about maintaining old website but everyone feels this is not necessary. It was suggested we could also put up a schedule for the AVP conference call number on the new web site. People also need to know that we can set up additional numbers at no cost.

Items below postponed:

- Video Conference Calling Possibility –
- Communicating with AVP-CA: content for next Newsletter / VR mailing
- Report from Fall Gathering
- “steeringcommittee@avpcalifornia.org” email address
- Links to download Stacy’s photos

Next Meeting::

- Meeting dates should avoid the second Thursday of the month. **Thursday January 21st** will be the next meeting. From now on, dates will be the **third Thursday of each month**. Also we will reinstate doing mini reports in advance to save time during meetings. Ann will clerk for next three months and Karen will be the assistant; Sue Torrey will take minutes for the next meeting.

Closing -