

**AVP/CA Steering Committee Meeting  
Thursday, January 21, 2016**

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

**Absent:** Joyce Branzoff

**Clerk:** Ann Leonard

**Notes:** Sue Torrey

1. Gathering: “One of my New Year’s resolutions or goals and how I am doing.”
2. Review Minutes from December 10
  - Approved as amended.
3. Financial Report – Stephen Matchett (distributed earlier)
  - The report was reviewed and accepted.
4. Crisis Committee Update
  - The committee will be meeting next week on the 26<sup>th</sup>. A report will be on the agenda for the next meeting. We will also consider a name change for this committee on a future agenda
5. CDCR Grants – Ann Leonard
  - We received three new one-year grants for 2016. The only current area where we received a second year grant is in Susanville. The other two grants are for California City, near Lancaster and for the new prison in Mule Creek in the northern San Joaquin Valley. That grant will begin in March. The outreach coordinator for that will be Ann Boone and ?????? and they will be meeting in Santa Barbara at the beginning of February.
6. Website Update – Stacy Hughes
  - The committee is moving forward with Tino (Mexico City) with the part of the work which is tech related and Barbara Atwell and Sue Rios are working on developing the process for input from others to create the content side. The website is up and it is hoped to be completed by February. Stacy will send a link to the new website.
7. Academy for College Excellence – Linda McCue
  - Linda reported that Diego Navarro has dropped the plan of working at local prisons as unrealistic and will start the program at Roundtree Jail in Watsonville, where the staff in charge are supportive. He is also planning to bring the program

to Alameda Jail and Monterey Jail. The program, “A Bridge to a New Life” is aimed for those incarcerated persons who are not ready for college, and will work at preparing them for success in college. The start will be in the fall of 2017 and he would like to have us offer an AVP workshop just before the semester begins. Three community colleges, Hartnell, Cabrillo and Alameda, already have ACE in place.

- The local council in that area is interested and Diego would like a letter from the Steering Committee supporting the program. The program is voluntary and there is hope to take it into Los Angeles County in the second year.
- He is submitting a grant proposal to the Ford Foundation by February 1<sup>st</sup> and will include our participation. Question that need to be answered: Might there be funding for the AVP workshops in the grant?
- The Steering Committee approved the participation in the program and Linda was authorized to submit a letter so stating.

#### 8. 2016 Prison Assessment – Ann Leonard

- It is time for an assessment of the program which will involve interviews with facilitators and inmates. A recommendation will be brought to the next meeting.

#### 9. CLARG – Ann Leonard

- Everyone is encouraged to get all info for 2015 in on the data base and Ann and George will prepare the report.

#### 10. Steering Committee Retreat in Los Angeles – Nancy Vimla

- Nancy spoke with Gary Wolfe and he is working on trying to obtain space at Orange Grove Meeting. If we meet there, we could ask for hospitality from the meeting. Those who have other places to stay in the area should make those arrangements and let the committee know. Nancy will follow up with Gary to see what progress has been made.

#### 11. AVP/USA Gathering in Denver

- We would like to help people to go, especially returning citizens. Nancy Vimla and Steve Gelb are planning on attending. We will communicate with local councils to see who they would like to support and encourage them to offer what support they can, then AVP/CA could help. Sue will write the request up and Stacy will get the list of all local councils together so that it can be emailed out to all

#### 12. SLO Council

- Karen and Sue shared a concern about a nonprofit organization, Restorative Partners, which is offering AVP at the jail, at the juvenile hall, and also in the community. They have a returning citizen employed as a Community Outreach

Coordinator. She is doing a great job of arranging, marketing and bringing in participants for the community AVP workshops. She is currently also being paid for facilitating for AVP, which is a concern.

- After much discussion, it was agreed that AVP will pay for materials and associated items, but not for salaries.

### 13. Items postponed from last meeting

- AVP/CA Newsletter – Steve, Karen and Sue have conferenced by phone and are in process of working on a newsletter issue which will highlight San Luis Obispo and activities there and is planned for this February
- Avpcalifornia.org email address *No notes for this*
- Photo links – Stacy sent these out but will resend right after this meeting.
- Video conference *No notes for this*

### **Next Meeting::**

- **Thursday February 18th** will be the next meeting.
- Ann will clerk for two more months and Karen will be the assistant
- Nancy Vimla will take minutes for the next meeting.

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