

Cypress Group – Group Conscience Minutes

Contents

Meeting Minutes April 1, 2024	2
Meeting Minutes February 5, 2024	4
Meeting Minutes June 3, 2024.....	6
Emergency Group Conscience July 15, 2024	8
Meeting Minutes August 5, 2024	9
Meeting Minutes October 2024	11
Meeting Minutes December 2024	12

Cypress Group – Group Conscience Minutes

11508 Cypress North Houston Road, Cypress, Texas 77429

Meeting Minutes April 1, 2024

John A Opened the meeting with the serenity prayer at 7:45pm

Secretary Report: Kelli R reported.

- February 5, 2024 Minutes submitted and Read.

Motion made by Rob to approve February minutes: seconded by Gene.

Steering Committee: Rob H reported.

- Meet on March 18, 2024
- All agenda items will be discussed in new business with the exception of three (3) items which were submitted to the appropriate committees; i.e. brushes for the vacuum and cleaning supplies.
- Clarified with Cleaning Chairperson that the Cleaning Committee has a budget of \$200.00 to buy supplies.

Motion made by Thomas to accept Steering Committee report; seconded by Christian.

Treasury Report: April Reported

- Have not being doing well – We have dipped below our prudent reserve of \$25,000.
- The handout gives a breakdown of Books and Blue can deposit.
- Suggest we inform the group of financial responsibilities.

Question from floor- Why is there a variance in the rent for Jan and Feb?

The average was taken since there was an over payment.

Question from floor- Why is the electricity bill high? Did we go over the usage?

Did not see anything unusual on the bill but will look at the bill in depth and see if usage did go up. Was stated that sometimes the AC has been set to “On” instead of “Auto.”

Motion made by Thomas to accept Treasury Report; seconded by Pops.

GSR Update: No Report given.

Old Business:

1. Les proposed that the Chairperson responsibilities and would welcome any changes/comments. Responsibilities of Chairperson were made to match the 12 Steps. Where do we want to place them? Suggested to place in binder and sign up board.

Kathy: should there be a statement about the newcomer in the room and how to address -i.e. "Do you have a problem with alcohol and a desire to stop"?

Thomas- is in the opening of meeting preamble; but we do not ask if they have a desire to stop drinking.

Harold – Sometime will say they are newcomer, and we turn into a newcomer meeting. Thomas- agrees with the conversation. 100% should be on the opening statement of preamble and would be added to new business. Explaining that it is a closed meeting when we get to the new business we can talk about.

Motion made by Rob to approve the chairperson responsibility signage: seconded by April.

The majority was in favor with 2 oppositions.

Motion by Harold to post Chairperson responsibilities by meeting chairperson board and in binder; seconded by

The majority was in favor with 1 opposition.

2. Founders writing – talk about the answer from groups. Come together as a group.

Thomas read #6 Question – our GSR can take this back to the Delegate.

Motion made by Thomas to have our GSR state that the Cypress Group Conscience that any changes to the founders writing go through the conference process; seconded by Jaime.

New Business-from Steering Committee Meeting

1. Change the Sunday noon meeting from meditation to open discussion. – Not present 2.

Why did we purchase a \$200.00 popcorn machine that is not getting used? = Not Present

3. Repaint the walls.

General discussion on "Do we want to repaint the walls. Improvement expenses would come from a second basket. Get a handful of volunteers to paint the wall. Paint cost. Spruce it up

Motion made by Les to repaint walls and allow the maintenance committee to choose the paint color; seconded by Rob.

Add to old business for June GC Paint cost and color discussion.

4. Discontinue the Sunday 1:30pm meeting. No one is showing up.

Motion Made by Thomas to remove Sunday 1:30pm meeting: seconded by David.

5. Add a Spanish Speaking meeting.

Jamie stated that he has been approached about Spanish speaking meetings in the area and would like Cypress Group to consider adding one to the schedule. Jamie will put together an exploratory meeting report about Spanish speaking meetings in the area and the time and day would be best for Cypress to schedule the meeting. Report will be added to old business for June GC.

6. Allow Telge Rd to use our space in June at 10:00 am.

Motion made by Thomas to have Telge Road Women's Group to move their 10am Tue, Thru and Fri meeting to Cypress Group for the month of June; seconded by Jaime.

7. Al-Anon request meeting slot on Monday at 10:00 am

Paula made a motion to have an Al-Anon meeting held by the Hugs Group on Monday at 10am in small room; seconded Thomas.

8. Purchase Roomba – Not present.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

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Meeting Minutes February 5, 2024

John A Opened the meeting with the serenity prayer at 7:45pm

Secretary Report: Kelli R reported.

- Minutes submitted and read.

Motion made by Marie to approve the minutes; seconded by Thomas.

Steering Committee: Rob H reported. ☐ Meet on Jan 22. ☐ All Agenda items submitted were passed and will be discussed in new business.

Treasury Report: April Reported

- Available Funds Less Prudent Reserve is \$2570.10.
- Did not spend more than we had this month.
- January 2024 Rent payment was less than normal amount. The amount of \$1,130 was prepayment for February.

Motion made by Thomas to accept Treasurer Report; seconded by Bill.

GSR Update: Marie Reported

- Attended last district meeting.
- District 32 will host concept Q & A covering concept 1, 2, 3 on March 23, 2024
- Would like to propose Cypress host two workshops this year. Possibly on the traditions and sponsorship.
- Marie stated that she is currently holding two positions and would like to step down from the alt GSR.

Old Business:

- Nothing on the table

New Business-from Steering Committee Meeting

1. Move the Steering Committee two weeks before the Group Conscience meeting. Gives members time to consider the agenda items.

Motion made by Rob to move Steering Committee meeting two weeks prior to the Group Conscience Meeting; seconded by Pops. Motion passed with 1 abstained Les

2. Purchaser Roomba: Not present
3. Establish a Chapter 9 meeting: Not present.
4. Move the SC box: not present.
5. Establish Chairperson Meeting responsibilities.

General discussion was held concerning the Chairperson of each meeting responsibilities are to set up chairs, make coffee, clean up and lock up. This is part of education that is passed down from old to new. Binder only has lights and doors. Suggested a document be placed in binder outlining the responsibilities of Chairperson responsibilities. *Motion made by Thomas that he and Les will draft a meeting Chairperson responsibility to follow, and this motion will be approved in old business in April Group Conscience meeting; Seconded by Bill.*

6. What we have: Marie Supply Committee

Marie went through the supply room boxes and labeled. Question on the floor- "Why are we spending money on items when we have the supplies?". General discussion: Members are spending their own money as donation/service work- since sometime there may be a time restraint. This discussion led to Birthday chip inventory and why there were so many extra chips in the bin with reply that sometimes we don't have Bill and Bob Chips. *Motion made by Marie to inventory the chip bin: seconded by Bob.*

7. Lock up Big Books: not presented.

8. Changes to the Founder Writing

Discussion was held concerning this topic with many different thoughts on whether to change to change or not change the Founders Writing. What are the proposed changes? Might be helpful if we had more information for us to vote as a group.

Thomas made a motion to table the topic until the GSR attends the next District meeting and provide the group with more explanation; seconded by Rob.

9. Alt GSR position: *Motion made by Rob to elect Lucy as the Alt GSR; Seconded by Josh.*

Meeting adjourn at 8:40pm.

Cypress Group – Group Conscience Minutes

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Meeting Minutes June 3, 2024

John A opened meeting at 7:45pm

Secretary Report: Kelli R reported.

- April 1, 2024, Minutes submitted and read.

Motion made by Thomas to approve April minutes: seconded by Les.

Steering Committee: Rob H reported.

Meet May 20th at 7:45 PM

5 Agenda items were approved to be discussed at the Group Conscience Meeting.

Motion made by Thomas to accept Steering Committee report; seconded by Harold.

Treasury Report: April Reported

- Available funds are dipping below the Prudent Reserve • Electricity will be higher in the upcoming summer months.
- Bottom Graph shows our expenses.

Motion made by Rob to approve Treasure report: seconded by Les.

GSR Update: No Report given.

Old Business:

1. Paint - Cost/Financing Report
Motion made by Rob to table; seconded by Thomas.
2. Spanish Speaking Meeting
Motion made by April to table; seconded by Les.

New Business-from Steering Committee Meeting

1. Verify Members on Temporary Sponsor Board are current. Steven W.
Discussion on how long it has been since the Temp Sponsor board was updated. The last update to the board was in 2022. To make it easy the best thing to do is wipe the board clean and start over.
Motion made by Phil to wipe board clean; seconded by Rob.
2. Chairperson Quarterly Workshop. Jamie
Not present and this agenda item will need to be resubmitted to the steering committee.

3. Soda Machine seems to be always unplugged. Keep? Steven W.
There was a brief discussion held about the soda machine being unplugged because it's noisy. A Member did talk to Vending Machine Man, and he said there was \$18.00 taken out of the – sends a signal when needs to be stocked. The machine has no expense to the group.

Motion made by Harold to remove machine; seconded by Rob. Rob will contact Josh to have removed.

4. Meeting Preamble Reading- Clarify language in reading asking a newcomer “do you have a desire to stop Drinking? Les
Les intention was to have language added to meeting reading to ask the newcomer if they have a desire to stop drinking but has taken a new job in North Carolina and will not be able to complete this task. In literature the only requirement it states – this would be for a closed meeting. Do you have desire – have newcomer meeting. Does not have a desire - have member step out and explain about AA and open and closed meetings.

Motion made by Rob that after the question is ask “Is there anyone attending AA for the first time and the answer is affirmative the chairperson will ask, “Do you have a desire to stop drinking? seconded by Thomas. 18 in favor; 3-against: 1 abstained.

5. Have a Tradition in Relationship Meeting? Angela
Would like to have an open meeting on Traditions in Relations. Cool to see how the traditions work in relationships – even if you are single. Sunday at 4pm

Rob motion to establish a Tradition in Relationship meeting at 4pm on Sunday: seconded by Amber.

Prudent Reserve: No excessive funds to distribute through pie chart.

Motion to close meeting at 8:14pm followed by the lord's prayers.

Cypress Group – Group Conscience Minutes

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Emergency Group Conscience July 15, 2024

John Opened Meeting at 7:45 with Serenity Prayer

This is a special Group Conscience to address the coffee machines and repair of.

Josh – Facility Committee opened the discussion stating this will be in three parts.

1). We need to repair the coffee machines, due to the hard water calcium build up in the lines and filter which is killing the element. Currently one machine out of the three is working. We need up to \$1000.00 dollars to get all machines back in working order. This is the first order of business.

Thomas made motion for the facility committee to pay for the repair of coffee machines not to exceed \$1000.00; seconded by Gene. All in Favor

2. Due to the problem discussed above with the hard water calcium build up clogging up the filters on the lines connected to the coffee machines we will need to have the filters changed out every 3 months. The time period of 3 months is based on the usage of the machines. There was general discussion about other solutions to the hard water and with the lack of space to add a water softener and the unavailability to have municipal utilities changing the filters every three months will be the most efficient way to save the coffee machines.

Motion made by Rob to authorize a recurring expenditure every quarter of \$225.00 for replacement filters with timing description to be made by Facility Committee; seconded by Steven. All in Favor

3. The water dispenser filter needs to be replaced. The last one was replaced 6 months ago. We can order in bulk and have them shipped. This will be considered a maintenance issue.

Motion made by Thomas to allow the facility committee a recurring expenditure of \$ 200.00 (annually) for water dispenser filter; Seconded by Rob. All in favor.

Motion made to adjourn meeting; all in favor

Meeting Minutes August 5, 2024

John A opened meeting at 7:45pm

Secretary Report: Kelli R reported.

- June 3, 2024: GC Minutes submitted and read.
- July 15, 2024: Emergency GC Minutes

Motion made by Rob H to approve June 3, 2024 minutes: seconded by Steven W. All in favor

Motion made by Rob H to approve July 15, 2024 minutes: seconded by Gene. All in favor Steering

Committee: Rob H reported.

Meet on July 22, 2024 at 7:45 PM

Approved two (2) Agenda items be discussed at the Group Conscience Meeting.

Motion made by Lindsey to accept Steering Committee report; seconded by Harold. All in favor

Treasury Report: April Reported

- June and July income count down. Have concerns of the level of cash in account. Second page reflects the Monthly Cash Balance – dotted line is estimate to year end below Prudent Reserve
- Having trouble getting into PayPal. Venmo - reported up to the end of Aug.
- Power bill – will rise in summer months. Suggested from floor to check on monthly fla rates.

Motion made by Rob to approve Treasure report: seconded by Gene. All in Favor GSR

Update: Willy T GSR/ Lucy Alt GSR

- District 32 publishing a newsletter.
- SWRAASA Richardson Texas - 2024 Oct 11-13, 2024
- 2025 International Convention - July 3-5, 2025
- State Convention - August 15-17, 2025, Houston Texas

Old Business:

1. Paint - Cost/Financing Report - Not Present
2. Spanish Speaking Meeting
Maria will contact the Spanish Intergroup Office.

Motion made by Rob to table to next month; seconded by Couch Martin

New Business-from Steering Committee Meeting

1. Enter only through Backroom door on Birthday Night Bruce S.
Rob – When building is occupied all three doors must be unlocked if there is more than 50 people due to fire code. Might be a way to steer them through the back door. Will put in topic for Steering Committee of signage to use back door.

2. Elect NYE/Anniversary Party Committee, any budget over \$2000 will need special collections.
Rob H.

This business is normally done in Oct. Previous GG meetings approved the budget of 2000.00. 1st motion would be to elect committee and 2nd motion would be to have special collection for extra funds. After Discussion the 2nd motion was withdrawn, and it was suggested that an Anniversary Party Budget be prepared to determine if the total budget needs to be increased. Marie will have an Anniversary Budget put together for next group Conscience Meeting.

Motion made by Rob H to create the Anniversary Party Committee and appoint Marie and Lucy as Co-Chairs; seconded by Gene.

Prudent Reserve: No excessive funds to distribute through pie chart.

Motion to close meeting at 8:20pm followed by the lord's prayers.

Cypress Group – Group Conscience Minutes

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Meeting Minutes October 7, 2024

John A opened meeting at 7:45pm

Secretary Report: Kelli R reported.

- August 5, 2024: GC Minutes submitted and read.

Motion made by Marie to approve August 5, 2024, minutes: seconded by Rob H. All in favor

Steering Committee: Rob H reported.

Meet on September 23, 2024, at 7:45 PM

Approved all agenda items to be discussed at Group Conscience Meeting (10-7-24)

Treasury Report: April Reported

- We are in a low point. Under \$3,500 below. If this continues, we will finish below the prudent reserve in 2024 as shown on the graph.
- Avg \$515 – spending more than what is coming in.
- Sept Rent is higher, due to plumbing bill (flushed out pipes).
- Building expense went down in Aug due to electricity.
- Building expenses went up in Sept due to a past pest control bill.
- Supply Increase due to Intergroup Literature and Coffee/Cups

Motion made by Thomas to approve Treasurer report: seconded by Amber. All in Favor

GSR Update: Willy T GSR/ Lucy Alt GSR

No Report

Old Business:

1. Paint - Cost/Financing Report - Not Present - Removed from old business to no activity.
2. Spanish Speaking Meeting – Marie/Jamie. Marie will contact the Spanish Speaking Intergroup office. Probably start the meeting in the small room. Books needed.
3. Budget for Anniversary Party – Marie
Theme 70's
Food – BBQ Meet and Sausage \$700. Bring side dishes!
Donations for Baskets and Cake Auction.
AA Speaker and Al-Anon Speakers.

Cypress Group – Group Conscience Minutes

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Meeting Minutes December 2, 2024

John A opened meeting at 7:45pm with Serenity Prayer

Secretary Report: Kelli R reported.

- October 7, 2024: GC Minutes submitted and read.

Motion made by Rob to approve August 5, 2024, minutes: seconded by Gene H. All in favor

Steering Committee: Thomas reported.

Meet on November 18, 2024, at 7:45 PM

Approved all agenda items to be discussed at Group Conscience Meeting (12-2-24)

Treasury Report: April TR Reported by Porter

October

- Deposits increased over 1900 from September.
- Decreased expenses in Intergroup Supplies, Supplies, and Electricity
- Available funds are still \$1,431 below prudent reserve, but deposits increased \$2000 compared to September.

November

- \$7,900 in deposits which is a continued increase from October.
- Continued reduction in electricity cost but paid annual property insurance fee of \$929 (no increase from last year)
- \$1070 above prudent Reserve – Good Job
Discussion/comments: In Memory, a \$500.00 contribution for Mark T., was in basket thanking the group for all the support.

Motion made by Rob to approve Treasurer Report; seconded by Gene. All in favor.

GSR Update: Willy T GSR/ Lucy Alt GSR

No Report – elections tonight for new GSR

Old Business:

- 1) Maire will schedule a day to meet with Jamie
- 2) Anniversary Celebrations:
 - \$2000 is the allotted amount for the Anniversary / New Year's Eve party.
 - \$700.00 for meat.
 - \$350 for raffle gifts.
 - Basket donated by members.
 - Use old decoration items from last year.

Discussion held concerning the receipt of donations from outside entities and following the traditions. Basket items and cash can only come from AA members. Cash donations, please give to Marie.

New Business-from Steering Committee Meeting (11-18-24)

1. Change the Day for Traditions in Relationship Meeting. Jenny
Change the Traditions meeting time from Sunday at 4pm to either Tue or Thur at 5:30pm to see if attendance picks up.
Motion made by Thomas to change date and time of Traditions in Relationship meeting to Tue at 5:30pm in back room beginning January 7, 2025; seconded by Josh. All in favor.
2. To Remove “When Discussing our Problems” from meeting Introduction. Brett V
Remove “When Discussing our Problems” from reading at the beginning of meeting. In the preamble it states we share our experience strength and hope with each other, it does not state “when discussing our problem” then we continue with the meeting reading to state, “when discussing our problem”. Suggest we change to share experience strength and hope.
Discussion from floor: What is the standard Language? What will we replace it with? The complete sentence is “When discussing our problems keep them related to alcohol”. The preamble is the first paragraph, and the rest is Cypress reading. The preamble read from Grapevine states “... who share our experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem...” So, when discussing our common problem later on in the reading it makes perfect sense.
Motion made by Brett V. to change the reading of the preamble by removing the wording “when discussing our Problem” from beginning of the reading. No second all opposed.
3. Sell Popcorn Machine Jordan S.
For the record and clarification, a member of the group donated the popcorn machine.
Jordon made motion to sell popcorn machine; no second. - All opposed
Discussion: Does this topic need to go back through the steering committee for the next group conscience? The group conscience decided to move forward with another motion.
Jordon amended motion to donate the popcorn machine to be used as a raffle item for the Anniversary Party; seconded by Josh. All in Favor
4. Clarification about Service to Community not in line with Traditions. Lucy S
Why can’t we donate items for the community? We have donated in the past. How we able to gather up coats to donate in the past 3-5 years and did not get the explanation as to why we no longer donate as a group. This year we tried again to gather up coats and it became a big deal. Last year we gathered up 700. Serves the community.
Discussion From floor: We have a single purpose to carry the message to the Alcoholics. When we start getting involved with other entities, we get distracted. We need to follow the traditions. When we stop following them, we get in trouble as a group. This is a great cause but can’t go through the group. We have one primary purpose here that serves the community to help another alcoholic. The LCR box was removed because the member that put the box in felt that it was not in-line with the traditions. The traditions are here to protect us. We don’t endorse outside or affiliated with outside entities. It was suggested taking to a club to gather up donation items or gather as individuals.
5. Nomination – Phil M Intergroup Rep Alicia W.
Table IG Rep nomination in elections
6. Chair to Announce Donate in Coffee Can. Ronda B.

Whoever is chairing ask for donation to be put in the coffee can.

Discussion from Floor: Coffee cost is included in the supply budget. Please be remindful to donate coffee money to can. Rhonda withdrew the motion.

7. Look into functions of Steering Committee /Traditions. Lucy S

I did not understand everything about the steering committee.

Discussion from floor: The establishment of the Steering Committee occurred in GC Feb 2023 the bylaws of the steering committee were adopted and steering committee formally formed in GC of August 2023. All By laws were made part of notes and GC records to establish the SC along with the members. The purpose of the SC is to go through suggested agenda topics to see if topics goes against the traditions and to streamline redundancy of the GC Agenda Items.

8. Service Position Elections

2025 Elections- Nominations came from the floor and were all approved by the attending members of the Group Conscience Meeting.

Chair John A

Co-Chair David B

Secretary Kelli

Co Secretary Clarissa

TR: April

Co-TRs: Martin/Porter

GSR: Kathy

Alt GSR: Thomas

Intergroup Rep: Phil

Intergroup Rep: Paul

Literature Rep: Stephen

Literature Co Chair: Christian

Birthday Night: Amber

Co Birthday: Night: Marie

Speaker Night: Rep Jay

Facility Manger: Josh

Co Facility: Mauro

Supply Officer: Gene

Cleaning Office: Open

Steering Committee

Jeff – Chairperson

TK

Brett V

Amber

Brett H

Prudent Reserve: Excessive funds were not discussed in tonight's meeting.

Motion to close meeting at 9:00pm followed by the lord's prayers.

New Business-from Steering Committee Meeting (9-23-24)

1. Expense for Extermination. Falls under Maintenance Committee Budget.
The Pest Control invoice, which was unpaid for a year, has now been paid. A motion was passed last year for quarterly application of pest control as a recurring expense. No further action needed.
2. Apply for Sam's Club Credit Card. Agenda Item was withdrawn by Gene. No motion made.
3. Table any discretionary spending if under prudent reserve. From time-to-time members come up with ideals to spend money on (i.e., refrigerator, microwave...). Table these types of wish list items until the PR is at stated amount.
Motion made by Rob to table any discretion spending if under stated Prudent Reserve; seconded by Harold. All in favor
4. Establish service position requirements and descriptions. Create Co-Chair position for all service positions. Maire/Rob
Service position & Description.

Chair, Co-Chair, TR – 3 years of sobriety. All other positions 1 year of sobriety.
Literature needs a Co- Chair. This position requires more time and work. Give nominees the heads up.

Harold made a motion for Marie to create job descriptions for the service committees and present to the group conscience; seconded by Thomas. All in favor.

Prudent Reserve: No excessive funds to distribute through pie chart.

Motion to close meeting at 8:35pm followed by the lord's prayers.