

Peninsula District 16

Representative's Report

Meeting Date: March 5, 2022

MEETINGS SUMMARY: District 16 currently has 22 meetings: 3 meetings are on hold (not meeting); 8 are meetings using Zoom; 4 meetings are now hybrid; and 7 meetings are face-to-face.

The District meetings are continuing as hybrid at Yorkminster Presbyterian. We meet every other month for 2 hours (9:30-11:30am). The last meeting was January 22, 2022.

The following dates have been scheduled for the remainder of 2022: March 12, May 21, July 9, September 10, and November 12.

GRs are reporting that out-of-state members and newcomers are attending virtually. Several groups have regular members attending from other countries. Members of these groups seem to appreciate both the convenience and social distancing aspect of the virtual-only meetings.

Twenty-six members attended the virtual District meeting on January 22, 2022. What a joy! A snowstorm prevented it from being hybrid. The attendees were a mix of GRs, panel members and interested AFG members. A decision was made to continue our District meetings in a hybrid format so members from outside the District can participate.

We are excited to welcome our first out-of-state GR, Noel Y. who resides in San Francisco, CA and represents the Williamsburg Monday Morning Breakfast Club group. The District is grateful for her service.

CHALLENGES:

The Peninsula District is continuing to accept the changes that the pandemic has brought, while working to change the things it can. The District is providing meetings in a variety of formats, offering an opportunity for members outside the district to participate, and continuing to welcome newcomers.

There was insufficient interest to support our Alateen meeting; the District voted to discontinue the meeting.

Some groups have been changing their meeting formats frequently. There is a delay in updating the online schedule when virtual meetings go hybrid or face-to-face, then return to a virtual format. This has typically occurred because of a lack of volunteers to open the facility and increased concern over potential exposure from COVID. There have been reported instances of members and newcomers showing up to unattended face-to-face meetings because of the delay in the online schedule update.

SUCSESSES:

- The Tuesday 6:30 PM “Newbies” remains a successful virtual meeting that provides information and support to newcomers.
- All the positions for our new panel have been filled.
- The District is grateful to our Group Records Coordinator, Jo F. She has been busy updating information as groups decide, sometimes monthly, to meet virtually, hybrid or face-to-face.

THINGS THAT ARE WORKING WELL:

- The “Boots on the Ground” initiative is ongoing.
- This month the District provided literature to a medical practice, a local recovery clubhouse and the counseling center at a nearby university.
- Groups are considering how they can continue to support outreach.
- The District is planning to participate in the Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction Studies, July 17-20, 2022.

THINGS THAT NEED ATTENTION:

There are currently seven meetings that do not have a GR. We are working on this.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peninsula District 16 Representative,

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Robynn B.

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