

Prisons Committee- US
Committee Report for Chicago International Conference
November, 2023

Prisons Committee meeting was held on October 15th and the following items were discussed.

1. Since the last trustee meeting in Cleveland, two (2) prison meeting starter kits have gone out. SCI-Waymart Waymart, PA and Shakopee MN- Dept. of corrections Shakopee, MN. Women's Prison.
2. Deb M. (Area 8A) made initial overtures at Shakopee by giving them a new blue book. They in turn, requested that a contingent come and talk with their inmates. A couple of 8A members are going through the paperwork and processing to do just that.
3. It was reported that New York State won't allow 12 Step programs into prison due to their "religious affiliation", however, Joel G. (Area 6B) clarified that the actual issue is the recognition of compulsive gambling being on the level of alcohol and drugs and the catch all "security concerns".
4. Maxine S. provided a list of five California prisons who expressed interest in "receiving more information". We will follow up to ascertain exactly what information they desire.
5. It was a general consensus of those in attendance that the higher the security classification of a facility, the more difficult it is to find staff receptive to our program. So far, all success has been with level I and Level II facilities.
6. For those at the meeting for the first time, the procedure for issuance of prison starter kits, GA literature, and prisoner communications was discussed.
7. Lastly, the geographical remoteness of most correctional facilities in relation to outside meeting was discussed.
8. An updated (unpublished) list of prison meetings was sent to ISO.
9. A letter from the London meeting chair was read. Meeting on Friday mornings is up to about 15 weekly attendees.

Submitted: Ed G.
Trustee Area 10
Prisons Committee Chair-US