

Meeting held on Sunday, February 8, 2009 in room AR100 of Allen Riddle Hall at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Convened at 5:00 PM. Serenity Prayer, followed by Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Brief check-in. In attendance: Kim B (chair), Ed W, Bruce R, Curtis B, Lisa P, Tim C, David B

Department Reports

- Recording Secretary (David B) – Review of January business meeting minutes. **Motion to accept (Tim/Curtis). Motion passes 6-0-0.**
- Treasurer (Eric G / Curtis B, open) – Contributions were received from the Newton Tuesday, Weymouth Sunday and Natick Friday meeting groups. Combined these were well over \$1000.00. Overall, we are ahead of budget by \$1,716.53 which goes a long way to help NEI out of financial difficulties. The Vermont Scholarship is once again in the Positive, so NEI can now offer limited scholarships for the March VT weekend. Approval of the Treasurer's report was tabled because the second page of the report listing contributions was inadvertently left out of the e-mailed report.
- Outgoing Mail (Kim B) – 157 envelopes sent in January, including new meeting list and Vermont flyer.
- Phone coordinator (open) – 165 total calls to the answering service in January. 16 requested a meeting list. From the web site, there were 42 requests for a meeting list and/or information.
- Mailing List (Jenny RW) – Not present. Updates to mailing list go to Jenny.
- Meeting List (Bruce R) – No updates yet. Next meeting list in April.
- Vermont Coordinator (Jenny, open) –
- Newsletter (Rich N) – Sent a draft via e-mail. Wants to run “Amends from N.E.I. Chair” for a second month. Another article about N.E.I. finances being in the black or red, whichever is the good one. Tim and David will proofread. We’ll add dates for Spring hike and Spring conference.
- Activities Committee (Jenny RW, Lisa P, David B, Kim B) – Kim made phone calls to find a place to hold the Spring Conference. Two locations were unavailable and one was unknown. They will call us back. **Motion to hold a Wachusett Mt. hike on May 16 (rain date on May 17) with getting current meeting (Kim/David): 6-0-0.** Got about 9 people for movie on Jan 24. We raised \$36.
- Literature (Ed W) – Sold \$15 worth since last meeting. 10 pamphlets and 1 1-year medallion. Brought a printed report of our current inventory.
- Outreach (Tim C) – Currently compiling a list of addresses. Tim has 200 printed postcards. Passed them around at the meeting. The outreach coordinator has discretion to choose which clinics and therapists we send it to.
- ABM Delegate (Eric G, David B) – Curtis cannot attend the ABM in Tampa. David is still willing to attend, however.
- Internet Coordinator (Lisa P) – In January, we had a total of 15 requests via e-mail: 1 media inquiry, 2 mailing list updates, 5 requests for meeting location, 2 messages asking for confirmation that a meeting is still happening, 1 from someone needing a beginner’s meeting, 2 messages from other groups/intergroups/FWS, and 2 messages from newcomers. The NEI website does not yet link to the free pamphlets on the FWS web site. Question: Can we put the bylaws on the web site?

Old Business

- Literature – Ed can order more literature for the Spring Conference. Do we want to continue selling literature? The only people who buy it are people who attend NEI meetings. We still have \$1200 worth of literature. Group conscience says purchase more literature for conference.
- Open Positions – David is willing to be the corresponding secretary, but he doesn't know exactly what the job involves.
- Spring Conference – Spring Conference is usually held in April, but we don't have a location yet. People on the activities committee don't have time to make phone calls. Suggestion to call Episcopal Divinity School and see what they can give us for \$1000. They are no longer owned by Harvard, however. Bunker Hill CC might have space in late May. Boston University rents space. They will call Kim back. Other suggestions: VA Hospital, Tufts, MIT, UMass Boston. We want people to make phone calls by this Saturday, Feb 14. David will coordinate. **Motion that activities committee make decision for Spring Conference (Curtis/Tim): 6-0-0.**
- Elections – We'll have elections next month. Only official group representatives with 3 months sobriety will be allowed to vote. Make sure we announce this at our meetings. Send group representative names to NEI via group registration forms.
- Voting Rights – Out of 7 people at this N.E.I. meeting, only 4 are eligible voters.
- Meeting List – 12 Steps vs. Preamble. Bruce asked a lawyer friend about using the 12 steps. Since NEI is not incorporated, we can claim fair use of the 12 steps. **Motion that we retain preamble if there's space (Curtis/David): passes 6-0-0.**
- How-To Manual – Curtis has 60% of it. He will mail what he has to Lisa and bring a report to the next meeting. Curtis will nag people who haven't sent him anything.
- Reducing Mailing Costs – Should minutes and treasurer's reports go on the internet instead of being mailed? Every time we have something extra, we go over the limit for first class. Possibly send treasurer's report every 3 months, or summarize report on the newsletter. Send minutes every 3 months. Another suggestion is to send a renewal notice every year. Take these suggestions back to your groups and ask what they want.

New Business

- Media Inquiry from Patriot Ledger – Someone is writing article on sex addicts. Wants to talk to people Curtis B, David B, and Ed W volunteer to talk to him.
- NEI Meeting Expediency – We've been getting better at making the reports quickly, but we have too many reports. Can we consolidate the reports to bring the number of reports down to 5? Should we time the reports to 1 minute each? We'll try to keep the treasurer's report and recording secretary to 5 minutes each. Suggestion of consolidating Mail, Phone, Internet, Mailing List, Corresponding Secretary into one report. **Motion to consolidate for the next meeting. David will collect reports: (David/Tim): 6-0-0.**

Tabled Items

- VT Weekend Policies

Next NEI Meeting – Sunday, March 8, 2009 at 5:00 PM in room AR100 at Newton Wellesley Hospital. Respectfully submitted, David B.