

NEI Business Meeting Minutes

The New England Intergroup monthly meeting was held on Sunday, July 14, 2019 in Bowles Conference, Room #6 at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Meeting convened at 4:00 PM. Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions read, and meeting started, including the final collating of the monthly mailing.

Members present in person: Patrick D (Chair), Jenny R, Seth S, Betsy L (spiritual reminder), Aaron H (timekeeper), Phil B, Geri C, and Kevin K and Seven S.

Reading of 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, brief check-ins. All Officers present meet their sobriety requirements.

Motion to permit group reps who do not meet the sobriety requirement the ability to vote: 4-0-0.

Old Business:

- **Outreach Committee**, Prescription pad update Betsy/Phil passed around four suggested layouts. Discussion on layouts and expense of printing and mailing. Tabled to next meeting.
- **Sobriety Requirement discussion update:** Tabled
- **Changing of Bank Account signatories:** Discussed but no resolution as to when this will be done. Tabled.

New business

- ABM Delegate – Seven (We did this at the end of the meeting. See ABM Agenda discussion below)
- Discussion about what we are donating for auction Items for IRC: Group Conscience is for Handmade Toy Sailboats from David B and recording from 2017 IRC in Boston.

Department Reports:

- Chairperson, Patrick D – Patrick is stepping aside. This is his final meeting as chair.
- Web Site Coordinator – Discussion about giving Chris ability to email monthly mailing even though he does not have sobriety requirement. Group conscience: Everyone voted yes except for three abstentions.
- Recording Secretary, Peter S. – Review of June 2019 minutes. **Motion to accept minutes as amended: Jenny/Seth Vote: 4/0/1**
- Treasurer, Jenny R – review of May 2019 report: Of note: we received \$395 in 7th tradition. donations. **Motion to accept May 2019 minutes Seth/Geri Vote: 5/0/1.** Review of June 2019 (last month of fiscal year) report. Of note: we had \$247.60 less in 7th tradition that budgeted. Total income is \$756.34 less than budgeted. Because our expenses were also down a lot we did not operate at a loss. **Motion to accept June 2019 minutes Peter/Seth Vote: 5-0-1.** Jenny will work on 2020 budget for next meeting. It will include \$1,500 set aside for the FWS archivist position.
- Corresponding Secretary, Geri/Jenny
 - Phone Responder Report (Geri) – There are four responders and two more potential responders.
 - Internet Coordinator Report: No report
 - Mailing the monthly went out to 46 people. The quarterly went out to 116 people.

- Activities, Geri – Spring Gathering evaluations reviewed. New Fall Gathering date is October 26th. We need a theme for the Fall Gathering. We are working on the format for the Anorexia Retreat with the new SLAA steps workbook.
- Printing, Seamus – no report
- Newsletter, Betsy – Suggestion for an article about open chairperson position. Group conscience to not send out the quarterly July mailing because the June mailing included meeting list. **Simple group conscience vote: Passed.**
- Literature, Seamus – No report.

Contents for August mailing: Bike flyer, Anorexia retreat, 2019 year-end financials, June meeting minutes and newsletter.

ABM Agenda Discussion meeting lead by Seth S. Seven is our delegate for 2019. There are three motions and several items for discussion (IFD).

1. Motion: New Pamphlet: The gift of no Contact. Reviewed the motion but no discussion.
2. EFD: SLAA 12 and 12 Book. Of note: the Literature Committee is looking for feedback on work so far
3. IFD: Adaptation of the H.O.W. (Honesty, Openness, Willingness) step and sponsor guide for use by SLAA. H.O.W. is a methodology widely used by 12 step groups. Discussion: concerns regarding copyright.
4. Motion: Limitation to the number of offices that each officer can hold. Discussion: Argument for this is that it is a limitation of power for one person. Argument against is that it takes flexibility away from the board.
5. IFD: Adaptation of the “Super Service Dog” brochure which promotes service for the fellowship. Review of IFD but no discussion.
6. IFD: Changing the wording of the 11th tradition by adding “social media” to the list “...press, radio, TV, film, and other public media.” Discussion: Argument against: The term social media is already included in media. Argument for: Social media is different than other media because a person’s personal social media account is different than general media.
7. Motion: Add an 18-month bronze sobriety medallion. Argument for: If it helps one person it is good. Argument against: it is unnecessary.
8. IFD: Discussion of the project development and budgeting process for Conference Committees. No discussion because it will not affect us.
9. IFD: Amending the Conference Service Manual in order to limit editing of Conference-Approved Literature to no more than 3% of content. This was spoken of favorably during discussion. There was no vote.
10. IFD: Use of the pronoun he or she as opposed to person, member or individual in SLAA bylaws. Discussion: many organizations are also having this same discussion.
11. IFD: Whether the Board of Trustees shall create an archivist position. This IFD was proposed by NEI.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, August 11, 2019 at 5:00 pm. Peter will bring the Bluetooth Speaker to the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Peter S