

Meeting held on Sunday, April 5, 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: Eric G (chair), Kim B, Ed W, Curtis B, David B, Lisa P, Bruce R, Michael T.

Quorum Check: We have 3 eligible voters. **Motion to waive sobriety requirement for today's meeting (Eric/Michael): Passes 3-0-0.** We have 6 voters present.

Department Reports

- Recording Secretary (David B) – February minutes have been updated with treasurer's report. **Motion to accept (Ed/Michael): passes 6-0-0.** Draft of March minutes has been passed around. Amendment suggested. **Motion to accept as amended (Ed/Curtis): 4-0-2.**
- Corresponding Secretary (David B) – Mailing went out on March 28. Mailed 100 envelopes, included flyers for the Spring Conference and the Mt. Wachusett hike in May. In March, our e-mail address received 8 messages: 4 messages for meeting location requests or meeting location updates, 2 inquiries from newcomers, 1 request from Gay Pages confirming contact information, and 1 from a psychology student wanting to attend a meeting. Previous phone coordinator still works with the answering service but does not formally hold the position. David did not contact the meeting list person to find out the status of the meeting list. 1000 copies of the April meeting list were printed for today's meeting. Total bill was \$152.25. 160 meeting lists are needed for the mailing. Phone coordinator needs copies too. Answering service received 157 calls in March. 23 people requested a meeting list sent to them and 15 people requested callbacks. Phone coordinator has done spot checks with the answering service and they always pick up the phone. Answering service also needs new meeting lists.
- Treasurer (Eric G / Curtis B, open) – Treasury report is passed around. \$153.05 in 7th tradition contributions for March. We have new checks ready to deposit. These will show up on the report for April. We took in \$36 for the Valentine's Day event. Our checking account will move to Wainwright Bank. We're working on getting a tax ID number so we don't have to put anyone's social security number on the account. Eric will contact IRS about getting a tax ID number for a 501(c)(4) non-profit. We don't need to incorporate for non-profit status if we take in less than \$25,000 per year. **Motion to accept treasurer's report (David/Michael): passes 6-0-0.**
- Newsletter (Rich N) – Not present. Curtis and Michael volunteer to review the newsletter.
- Literature (Ed W) – Four groups ordered literature for a total of \$106.50. We ordered \$676.00 in literature, which should be here in time for the Spring Conference.
- Vermont Coordinator (Jenny RW) – 11 Participants. John M is now capable of being a Vermont Weekend facilitator.
- Activities Committee – Proposing a canoe event in June, brought a sample of the flyer. Need canoeing images for the flyer. Do we want to hold getting current in the beginning, end, or middle? How much do we want to charge? Can activities committee decide these things? Round Robin discussion. **Motion to give activities committee discretion to set guidelines for activities as long as it fits within budget and includes recovery aspect (Eric/Curtis): passes 6-0-0.**

- Outreach (Tim C) – Mailed 78 postcards to various treatment centers. Tim is stepping down as outreach coordinator.
- ABM Delegate (Eric G, David B) – David will not meet suggested 6 months of sobriety before ABM. He leaves room for discussion on whether or not to keep him as delegate.
Motion to keep David as delegate (Curtis/Ed): Vote of confidence passes 5-0-0.

Old Business

- Spring Gathering – We have a location (UMass Boston) and a flyer. Lisa brought many copies of the flyer for people to take to their meetings. We have paid for May 2. We have 3 keynote speakers already. We'd like to find a female speaker too. We need items for the raffle. Let Lisa know if you have recovery-related items for the raffle. Suggestion that we visit other meetings and promote the conference.
- NEI Business Meeting Expediency – Should we eliminate brief check-ins? Round robin discussion. Consensus is to keep check-ins.
- How-To Manual – According to bylaws, this is the chair's responsibility. Curtis and Lisa have been working on it. Chair suggests using the Google Group and Google Docs to help put it together.
- VT Weekend Policies – Eric will follow up with VT coordinator on this.
- Reducing Mailing Costs – In February, we suggested sending treasurer's report and minutes every three months, with the meeting list. We can put a summary of treasury report into the newsletter. **Motion to send reduced mailing starting in May consisting only of flyers and the newsletter. On those months when meeting list is sent out, we send consolidated treasury report (3 months of activity) and 3 months worth of minutes. (Eric/Michael): 5-0-1.** Next mailing will have 2 sets of minutes (February and March), treasury report, meeting list, canoeing flyer, newsletter, flyer for Individual Contribution Month, and flyer for July Vermont Retreat.
- Bylaws Review – Suggestion that we put the bylaws on the Google Group as they are amended, form a subcommittee to create new bylaws for approval by NEI. Set a target date for updated bylaws. Motion to form an adhoc committee responsible for providing a draft of amended bylaws by the July business meeting (Eric/David): passes 5-0-1. David, Curtis, Bruce, and Eric agree to be members of that committee.

New Business

- None

Tabled Items

- Group Visits
- How Outreach Committee, Activities Committee, and Vermont Coordinator Fit into Bylaws.

Next NEI Meeting – Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 5:00 PM in room AR100 at Newton Wellesley Hospital. Respectfully submitted, David B.