

Meeting held on Sunday, December 10, 2017 in AR 100 at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Meeting convened at 5:00 PM with Serenity Prayer, reading of Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, and brief check-ins. Members Present: Seth S (chair), Patrick D (timekeeper), David B, Betsy L (spiritual reminder). On the conference call: Peter S, Lisa P, Drew P, Marsha Z, Wil C, Jenny R (also spiritual reminder).

Quorum Check: 5 group reps total, 3 meet the 3-month sobriety requirement. **Motion to waive sobriety requirement (Patrick/Wil): passes 3-0-0.** We have 5 voting members present.

### Department Reports

- Chairman (Seth S) – Elections are next month. Looking for people to step up and take office positions. The next meeting is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday next month, January 21, rather than the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday.
- Recording Secretary (David B) – Review of draft minutes from November. Some corrections. **Motion to accept minutes as amended (Patrick/Marsha): passes 5-0-0.**
- Corresponding Secretary
  - Mailing Report (David B and Lisa P) – The December mailing went out on Monday, December 4 to 46 addresses. It included the October minutes, Quarterly financial report, December newsletter, and January Meeting & A Movie flyer. The email mailing went out on the same date to 356 addresses and contained links to the same materials.
  - Telephone Coordinator Report (Peter S) – The answering service received 127 calls in November. The responders returned 4 calls on the following topics: 1 question about the program, 1 question about meetings, 1 meeting info update, and 1 question about Vermont Retreat. We've had delays in getting responses to calls. Responders check messages on Wednesday morning, Monday night, Friday night. Still people who enquire about retreats often get a callback after they've been in touch with Jenny. The retreat is next weekend, so it would be helpful to check messages between Wednesday morning and Friday night. Peter will have someone check messages on Thursday too. Discussion on keeping current phone coordinator in the position. Suggestion is to keep coordinator in the position but without access to telephone numbers. Is it possible to do the job without access to telephone numbers? No, because people give addresses when requesting a meeting list. Consensus is to allow phone coordinator to continue in this position until elections in January.
  - Internet Coordinator Report (Lisa P) – We received 9 emails in November 2017 on the following topics: 4 meeting list additions/updates, 2 inquires on December Vermont retreat, 1 from a newcomer for general information, 1 to update a group contact, and 1 on service at the Fall Gathering.
  - Meeting List Report – New meeting in Barnstable MA on Tuesdays starting on Dec 12. New meeting in York ME on Thursdays.
- Treasurer (Michael T) – Seth delivers report in lieu of Michael. Current balance is \$12,497.95. \$11,899.25 in general fund, \$91 in delegate fund, \$507.70 in scholarship fund. \$251.00 in 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions. Income from Fall Gathering is \$792. Treasurer has about \$1,000 in checks not yet deposited for Vermont Retreat, so Retreat income is below budget so far. We spent \$624.67 on literature in November. Scholarship money does not come out of the general fund. Scholarships come from the scholarship fund, which is a separate item in the treasury report. Nothing in the report shows money being transferred

from scholarship fund to general fund. This should be in scholarship distribution, but that shows \$0.00. **Motion to accept (Patrick/Wil): 4-0-0.** (One voter dropped off the call.) There was no record of NEI sending money to FWS last year. Treasurer has not sent contribution yet. Did we donate to FWS in fiscal year 2016-2017? Ask Treasurer.

- Literature (David B) – Sold 24 pamphlets for \$30 to one group and 2 books sold at retreats for \$38. We have \$2,569.00 in literature assets. This fiscal year we have sold \$314.76 in literature.
- Activities Committee including Vermont (Jenny) – Flyer for Meeting & Movie in January was mailed. Flyer for Valentine’s Event is ready for review. Need decision on Massachusetts Retreat in 2018.
- Outreach and Committee (Patrick) – We are in process of getting group registration forms from people. No group visits yet. Sent registration form to NEI but have not received any responses. Need group contacts from groups.
- ABM Delegate & ABM Committee (Seth) – No new information.
- Newsletter (Betsy) – Draft has been emailed. Would like an article from someone in NEI on what service means to them. David, Jenny, and Betsy will write something about what NEI service has done for them. Make sure paragraph on group contact information is correct. Need quote. For February Newsletter, maybe include an article about Massachusetts Retreat. Volunteers to proofread: Seth and Patrick.
- Group Reps Reports (if any) – None

#### Old Business

1. NEI Surplus – Where are the needs of the Fellowship? We have at least \$1,500 over a prudent reserve. Suggestions: send a second delegate to the ABM, develop an NEI App, mailing information to professionals in the area, do outreach in more ways, e.g. paying for advertising, give away literature, pay for transportation for outreach and group visits, give some of surplus to FWS, donation to retreat scholarship fund.
2. Massachusetts 12-Step Retreat – Activities committee has discussed this and would like input from NEI. We’ve done this 3 years in a row and the last 2 years have struggled to get people to come. The last 2 times we have had to negotiate with the facility because we did not meet the minimum attendance requirement. Round robin discussion. Consensus is to not do it in 2018 but start planning earlier for 2019.

Items for the Mailing – Due date for Mailing is Wednesday, December 20.

- November Meeting Minutes (David)
- January Newsletter (Betsy)
- We Are Not Alone Flyer – Valentine’s Day (Jenny)
- March Vermont Retreat Flyer (Jenny)
- NEI Elections Flyer (David)

Close Meeting: Check-Outs; Serenity Prayer

Next NEI Meeting is Sunday, January 21, 2017 at 5 PM. David B has the Bluetooth Speaker and will bring it to the January meeting. Respectfully submitted, David B.