

New England Intergroup
APPROVED NEI Business Meeting Minutes
Vote of 5-0-0 at NEI Meeting 1/12/2020

Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019 at 5pm

The New England Intergroup monthly meeting was held on Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019 at 5:00 pm EDT at the Newton Wellesley Hospital – Main Hospital – Bowles Conference Rm #6. Meeting convened at 5:00 PM. Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions read, and meeting started, including the final collating of the monthly mailing.

Members present in person: Geri C., Interim Chair; Jenny R., Treasurer; Phil B, Group Rep. Plymouth; Betsy L., Group Rep. Worcester Monday Night, Newsletter; Website – Chris, T- Aaron H. No one was on the phone line.

Late arrival: Rob K. Group Rep. Friday, Providence. Met sobriety requirement for GR and participated in voting process.

Reading of Serenity Prayer/12 Steps & 12 Traditions. All officers present meet their sobriety requirements.

Timekeeper – Aaron; Spiritual Reminder – Chris T. ; Minute-taker: Betsy L

Quorum: Three group reps meet the sobriety requirement. Two did nAot. Vote to override Betsy/Aaron – 3-0-0.

New Business

Short check in of what current NEI attendees are considering stepping forward for during the election at January's meeting:

- Geri, step forward to run as chair
- Betsy, step forward to run for recording secretary
- Jenny, step forward to run again as treasurer
- Aaron, step forward to run as literature chair
- Peter, step forward to do the part of the corresponding sec'y position to handle mailing label and database

Open positions, that attendees agreed to share about at their meetings:

- Vice chair
- Newsletter editor

Motion to allow to Chris to bypass sobriety requirement for the month of December: Betsy/Phil 3-0-1. Note to chair to include this vote in the agenda each month.

Unclutter email addresses - Chris waiting on updated chart, will be inserted in clean format, but until then:

Activities: Geri is primary, Geri to ask Lisa to be back-up;

slaa@ - take out Lisa, should be changed to just Geri (as chair) and Chris, back-up (as webmaster)
info@ - take out Lisa, should be changed to just Geri (as chair) and Chris, back-up (as webmaster)
literature@ -- should go to Aaron, Jenny, as back-up
mailing list, Peter, Chris as back-up
Mass retreat – from Lisa, Geri, Chris to Jenny, and Kim as back-up
Meeting list – Peter, Chris
Phone coordinator, from Geri, Chris and Lisa, Geri will a volunteer and get back to NEI
VT retreat – Jenny primary, Kim back-up
Webmaster – Chris primary, Geri, secondary
Catch-all, Geri primary, Chris back-up

Transference of Answering Service to Google Voice for cost effectiveness - Chris shared that there's a free answering service to get a recorded message rather than a live voice. Round robin discussion. Group conscience was that a live person was important and worth the cost. Free service will not be pursued.

Old Business

Prescription Pads – Jenny presented revised cover letter. Accepted as is, with date change to Meeting List. Aaron/Phil – 4-0-0.

Therapist contact information. Members expressed confusion as to how to search for therapists in their county. Clarification is to search for the four criteria below using OR, not AND. May have to do search one at a time and then eliminate duplicates:

1. Sex Addiction
2. Couples Therapy
3. Internet Addiction
4. Infidelity

It was requested that Seth check the Google doc and make sure each member has imported names for the following counties by Jan. 5:

Seth – Barnstable
Geri – Bristol
Peter – Essex
Martin -Worcester
Seven - Middlesex and Suffolk
Jenny – Plymouth
Lisa (Betsy's replacement) – Norfolk
Not assigned (added later) - Dukes

Geri to supply names for all CSATs for Massachusetts via SASH.

Draft of proposed changes for sobriety requirements.

Next steps: Chris to revise proposed changes and email to NEI members by Dec 15th. By January 5th, NEI members expect to have read it. If member(s) does not understand how to read it, to contact Chris by January 5 for help so that member can participate in the discussion at the next meeting.

At the next meeting, it will be on the agenda to begin the review of the full draft of changes, discussing and then voting on each change. Once this process is done, full draft of proposed changes will be emailed to NEI membership.

Tabled: Update on marketing ideas /increasing revenue – Aaron, not enough time
Recurring donations – Chris, not enough time

Department Reports

Interim Chair – Geri will contact Scott Blatterman of Newton-Wellesley Hospital to reserve NEI meeting room and find mailing address for rent check to be sent.

Recording Secretary – vote to accept minutes, with elimination of notation that brief check ins were held at the beginning of the meeting. One minor grammar edit.
Betsy/Aaron 5-0-0

Treasurer – Jenny. Report submitted prior to meeting and distributed at meeting. Of note, \$562 in donations were sent in November. It was noted it might have been because November is gratitude month. Motion to accept: Betsy/Rob – 5-0-0

Tabled: Outreach – Seth not in attendance.

Website – Chris
681 users, 65 emails received.

Telephone Coordinator – Geri
114 calls to answering service, volunteers returned 9 calls, two hard copy mailings went out.

Activities Report – Geri/Jenny
No anorexia retreat this year
Bike ride June 6
Vermont Retreat July 17-19
ABM, July 28-31, convention to follow
August 15, Alchemy event in Connecticut, will share info with NEI members
Picnic TBD Milton in August
Sept. 12, hike or bike ride
Oct 2-4 Vt. Retreat
Nov. Fall Gathering, specific date TBD
Dec 11-13 Vt. Retreat

After discussion, it was decided not enough time to publicize Meeting & A Movie, so event moved to March. Flyer needs to be made for We Are Not Alone event in February.

Finalized dates for NEI 2020 are as follows and can be added to the website:
Jan 12, Feb. 9, March 15, April 19 (3rd due to Easter), May 3 (due to Mother's Day), June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 18 (3rd due to Columbus Day), Nov. 8, Dec. 13

Note for agenda for January 2020 meeting: set dates for NEI meetings for 2021 so can upload seamlessly to website

Newsletter – Betsy. No article on Bylaws, note directions to how to get to Bowles conference room and that groups can pick up literature there. Article on seeking new newsletter editor.

Literature – Aaron, is in possession of literature. Will review and inventory.

Corresponding Secretary – Position open, no report.

Printing – Chris. Contents for December Mailing:

1. Approved November minutes
2. January newsletter
3. **Flyer for “You are Not Alone Event” – do not have note on who is responsible for this.**

Deadline for materials to get printed - Wed., Dec.18, 2019

January Newsletter -- Betsy, no article on Bylaws, note directions to how to get to Bowles conference room and that groups can pick up literature there.

Close Meeting: Serenity Prayer

Next Meeting Date: Jan.12, 2020 at 5pm

Chris to take phone.

Notes submitted by Betsy L.