New England Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

Meeting held on Sunday, July 13, 2008 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), Curtis B, John B, Rich N, Kim B, David B, Lisa P, Marie.

## Reports

Treasurer: Eric and Curtis will discuss treasury report prior to mailing. Questions on NEI meeting, Fall Gathering, Spring Gathering. May have to make statement postponing report. Eric to do outgoing mail.

Phone Coordinator: In June, 14 calls total. 2 requested meeting lists. From the internet, there were 9 requests for meeting lists. Richie to be contacted to continue another month. Richie has been doing good work spreading the word. Tell Richie it's OK to have calls carry over. May have a discrepancy to calls vs. callbacks.

Newsletter: Rich N wrote a draft of the July newsletter and sent it around. The July newsletter should have article about the barbecue. August newsletter should have an article about the ABM. For September, David B will write an article about the benefits of service.

Recording Secretary: David brought draft of the June minutes. **Motion to accept: (John/Curtis): passes 5-0-1**.

Activities Committee: Flyer for barbecue event went out in the last mailing. We'll provide some food and we'll have a grill there. We should start planning the fall conference, if we want to do it this year. Possibility of a canoeing event later.

Meeting List: Bruce will take over with the next meeting list. David brought copies of the July meeting list. We have a few new meetings. The Monday night Leominster meeting is now defunct. David wants to know how many copies to print for this month. David will send 150 copies of the July meeting list for the monthly mailing. David will call the phone coordinator to see how many he needs. **Motion that we print 300 (Eric/Kim)**. 150 for the phone coordinator seems like a lot. Past minutes should show us how many is appropriate. **Passes 8-0-0**.

Internet Coordinator: In May, we had 13 messages total: 5 requests for meeting locations, 5 meeting list updates, 2 mailing list updates, 1 one message from another intergroup. In June, we had 6 messages for meeting location info, 2 meeting list updates, 1 request for a therapist referral, 3 messages from other intergroups, and 1 request from a grad student doing a research survey. Gayellow Pages is a free listing (new business). Published New Jersey kayak trip info. WNEI sent us a flyer for their fall conference.

Vermont Weekend: Two people just came from the weekend. 19 people registered for the weekend. Jenny and Richie were the facilitators. "The food was awesome."

Literature: Not present. Report via proxy. We'll add a link to the website to allow people to automatically request literature online. Journal books and topic pamphlets are rarely sold, but they sell at conferences. Literature coordinator would like to have those available at conferences, but not keep inventory on those.

Outreach Coordinator: Not present, but e-mailed a report to us. The report contains several ideas for doing outreach: contacting therapists, speaking at treatment centers, ads including contact info, etc. It

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also includes an example of a postcard with S.L.A.A. info that could be sent to therapists and treatment centers.

ABM Delegate Report: New motion added to agenda. ABM begins on Tuesday, July 15.

New Business:

Motion from ABM: Issue of hiring professional writers to write SLAA literature. Too much work for a committee or a volunteer. Round robin discussion on issue. Consensus that writer should be an SLAA member. At a minimum be a member of a 12-step program.

Survey request from Ph.D. student at University of Arizona. Someone has created an internet survey on sex addiction. Consensus is we ignore it.

Announcements from other intergroups: Delaware Valley Intergroup has a canoe trip on July 26 in New Jersey. WNEI has a flyer for their fall conference. **Motion to put WNEI flyer in mailing** (Kim/Curtis): passes 8-0-0. Motion for both go on web site: (Lisa/Kim) 8-0-0. The information on the canoe trip is already on our web site.

September Activities: Canoe/Kayak event suggested. There are places near Soldier's Field and in Newton. Another suggestion is bicycling. **Motion for bicycling in September, followed by getting current meeting (David/Kim): 8-0-0.** 

Gayellow Pages: Free phone listing. Motion that we place the basic ad for free (Lisa/Kim): 8-0-0.

Old Business:

NEI How-To Manual: We need directions on how to do NEI tasks. Useful when we rotate positions. Motion to form a committee to develop a plan to create a How-To manual and encourage all NEI members to contribute (Curtis/David): 8-0-0.

Open Positions: Corresponding Secretary. Treasurer (Eric is doing it temporarily). Phone Coordinator (Richie did it temporarily). Vermont Coordinator (6-month sobriety coordinator).

Intergroup Meeting Calendar: Suggestion that we identify all NEI meetings for the year. David volunteers. (David motions, Rich seconds). Passes 8-0-0. David will bring dates next month.

Bylaws Review: Review of Bylaws, Section C (services). Motion that point C change an annual Recovery Gathering to at least one annual Recovery Gathering or other special event (Eric/John). Friendly amendment offers change to "Organize and administer special program events i.e. marathons roundups etc and at least one annual recovery gathering.": **passes 8-0-0**. Stop with item number e. Table f for next meeting.

## Tabled Items:

1. Study Group Meeting / S-Group meetings on List

Next NEI Meeting – Sunday, August 10, 2008 at 5:00 PM in AR100, Allen Riddle Building at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Respectfully submitted, David B.