

Meeting held on Sunday, August 12, 2007 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 (acting chair), Bill B, Bruce R (timekeeper), David B, Tom K, Lisa P, Jenny RW (spiritual reminder), Paul P, Kenn C, Curtis B, Rich N

Officer Reports:

1. **Recording Secretary (David B)** – Approval of minutes from July NEI meeting. Discussion on whether group that raised FWS concerns should be identified in the minutes. **Motion that groups and individuals not be named with opinions in agenda item 2 from July minutes. (Bill / Paul): 3-2-5.** No group conscience. Prudent action is to leave it unchanged. Item 7, Tom is resigning at the end of August, not December. Jenny took an action to clean-up NEI mailing list. Item 17: not all people who supported Spring Conference volunteered to support Fall Conference 2007. Change it to “volunteers needed to help with fall gathering.” Date is incorrect: should be “July 8’, not “June 10”. **Motion to accept minutes as amended (Kenn / Tom): passes 11-0-0.**
2. **Treasurer (Curtis B)** – We did well on the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition in the month of July. For July VT weekend, money was collected and deposited in June. We got a nice scholarship donation, and paid one for July VT weekend. Saturday Brookline meeting changed name, so that needs to be reflected in the report. **Motion to accept treasurer’s report as amended: (Lisa / Bill): passes 10-0-1.**
3. **Meeting List Coordinator (David B)** – Meeting list was mailed in July. Next meeting list in October. *Action: Eric will put a note in the newsletter for groups to update their information with NEI when they make changes. Action: David will contact Eric and Isaac to notify them of new meetings.*
4. **Newsletter Editor (Eric G)** – Eric brought drafts of the August NEI newsletter. He wants to announce the Bottom Lines pamphlet on the front page of the newsletter. 2<sup>nd</sup> page: summary report of the ABM. Eric needs more “my favorite meeting” articles. *Action: Eric will add web site coordinator to open positions. Jenny and David volunteer to review the August newsletter.*
5. **Corresponding Secretary (Kevin N)** – Kevin is not here. Envelopes are stuffed during the meeting. Tom needs July minutes, treasurer’s report, flyers. New stuff needs to get to Tom by August 22.
6. **Phone Coordinator (Kenn C)** – June: 189 total calls, 20 callbacks, 10 mailings. Web: 6 meeting list requests, 5 requests for pamphlets and meeting lists. There have been reports of people calling the answering service and getting misinformation about meeting locations. If we hear comments about this from members, have them contact Kenn if they feel comfortable.
7. **Internet Coordinator (Tom K)** – 4 duties: maintaining mailing list (Jenny), maintaining web site and meeting list (Isaac), monthly electronic mailing (Takes about 1 hour to upload documents to web site and sending group e-mail), answering e-mail requests to info@slaanei.org. Suggestions: auto-reply when someone e-mails NEI, remove it from newsletter, change “e-mail” links on web site.. Eric, Bill, Rich, David, Lisa, Jenny volunteer to help answer e-mails. *Action: Tom will send them the login-name and password and standard response templates.* Applause for Tom for all the work he has done over the years.
8. **Literature Coordinator (Ed W)** – Ed is not here, but David brought literature for him. 4 groups ordered literature. Eric brought back bottom line pamphlets from ABM.

9. **Activities Committee (Jenny W, Lisa P, David B, Isaac H)** – Hasn't met since June. Spectacle Island trip is Saturday. The next event is Halloween Party in October, then Fall conference. Flyers for those need to go out in September.
10. **Vermont Coordinator (Eric G)** – 10 people at July VT weekend. This is less than usual. Spread the word at your meetings about the twelve-step weekends. August 31 is the deadline for discount on the September weekend. There is a concern with processing mail with VT registrations. Jenny and Lisa are available to co-facilitate the September weekend. Nikki and Paul want permission to contact people about upcoming weekends. They want permission to pass out SLAA VT weekend flyers at any weekend. Group conscious says it's okay to pass out the flyers, because they are available to anyone on the internet.
11. **Outreach Coordinator (Lisa P)** – No report

Old Business:

12. ABM delegate reports – Kim's report: NEI's donation of a Lobster dinner was bought. The motion for ABM to produce report when there are resources to do so passed 28-3. Kim sent Powerpoint presentation from Linda Hamilton, the FWS executive director. Eric's report is in the newsletter. Every year, NEI sends fewer delegates to the ABM than we are entitled to have.
13. Spring conference – Wednesday Boston Men's Meeting offered to support spring conference at EDS. At their last business meeting, they voted to withdraw their offer. The following statement was read:

The Wednesday Night Boston Men's Group at the last business meeting decided unanimously to withdraw its offer to underwrite the facility cost for the spring 2008 conference. It was meant solely as a gift to the fellowship to include more folks who may not be able to attend due to financial constraints. With respect to the location, it was based solely on tradition. The group's intention was never to "withhold", "control", or "violate" any tradition.
14. Handicap-Accessible - Group registration form has been changed to add a "handicap accessible" checkbox. The meeting list cannot use the wheelchair icon to indicate a handicap-accessible meeting, because that icon has a legal meaning.
15. Fall Conference – Suggestion to call it "fall recovery gathering". Suggested theme is "Serenity in the City". We'll go from 1-9 again. Jenny needs the spring conference evaluations to know which topics were popular. Jenny will do the flyer and put together a list of topics that were "hot". Need someone to coordinate speakers, keynote speakers, registration, literature, raffle prizes, signs. David will handle signs and registration. Ask Ed W if he can handle literature. Send suggestions for topics to Jenny RW.
16. Outreach coordination – This is a new position, so we need to define what the outreach coordinator should do. Write letters to doctors. Try to get more diversity in our membership. Send information to abuse shelters. Contact hospitals and clinics that treat STDs.

Tabled Items:

17. By-laws Review

Next NEI Meeting – Sunday, September 9 2007 at 5:00 PM in AR100, Allen Riddle Building at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Respectfully submitted, David B.