

Meeting held on Sunday, August 9, 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-ins. In attendance: Eric G (chair), Ed W, Curtis B (Spiritual Reminder), David B, Jim B, Peter S (Timekeeper), Kim B, Michael T, Lisa P, Steven

Quorum Check: Eligible voters are selected as group reps or alternates and have 3 months sobriety. We have two people eligible to vote, six representatives total. **Motion to waive sobriety requirement (Curtis/Jim): passes 2-0-0.** Consensus is that we have group conscience on this issue. Then we have six eligible voters.

Department Reports

- Recording Secretary (David B) – Approval of minutes from July 12 meeting. **Motion to approve (Michael/Curtis): passes 6-0-0.**
- Corresponding Secretary (David B) – July mailing went out on August 5 to 100 US Mail addresses. Meeting List only to 66 e-mail addresses, which received a meeting list only in the mail. Envelopes contained July Newsletter, Flyer on discussion of bylaws, April, May, and June minutes, end-of-Fiscal year treasurer’s report, Vermont weekend flyer, and new meeting list. Answering service received 107 calls in July. 22 callers requested meeting lists. 17 people requested meeting lists through our web site. Our e-mail address received 20 inquires in July: 2 on meeting location changes, 4 requests for meeting locations, 2 requests for meeting lists, 2 literature orders, 5 from newcomers, 1 on carpooling to the Augustine Alchemy event in Connecticut, 2 on CO-SLAA, 1 about men-only Vermont retreats, and one message for another intergroup / FWS. Our mailbox received a request for information from an inmate at Walpole (MCI Cedar Junction), and another from an inmate at Bridgewater who wants support after his release. Curtis B responded to the fellow at Walpole. Rich N will write to the fellow at Bridgewater. Meeting List Changes: Sunday Somerville Men’s Meeting is looking for a new location, Monday Cambridge Men’s Meeting has a new location, Worcester Monday meeting has moved to a different room in the same building, Weymouth Wednesday meeting is in a different room in the same building, Keene NH Thursday meeting is defunct, Connecticut Intergroup has a new web site: www.slaact.com
- Treasurer (Eric G / Curtis B – open) – +729.50 for income, -114.79 for expenses. All activity in BoA account has been cleared. That account will be closed before the next meeting. We are now operating out of Wainwright Bank. **Motion to accept treasurer’s report (David/Jim): passes 5-0-1.**
- Newsletter (Rich N) – Sent draft of August newsletter. Jim and Michael will proofread newsletter. David will submit article on ABM. Someone will write a “My Favorite Step” article. Will also include an article on proposed changes to bylaws. Also needs a brief treasurer’s report. David will send meeting changes to newsletter editor. Update NEI service positions to include recording secretary and corresponding secretary. Make “opinion of the respective author” note at the bottom plural.
- Literature (Ed W) – David picked up \$207 in pamphlets and chips at ABM. Monday group in Worcester bought two books, for \$32. Friday Cambridge group bought 75 pamphlets and 5 one-year chips. David can purchase more books in September, since he will be in San Antonio on business. Report next month on what literature we need so David can buy it in San Antonio.
- Vermont Coordinator (Jenny, open) – There were 21 people at the July weekend. We got our

first registration for the October Vermont weekend.

- Activities Committee (Jenny RW, Lisa P, David B, Kim B) – We have a few possibilities for locations for the Fall Conference. We can get UMass Boston for November 7 or 14. Sexton says Grace Church is available for November 7 and 14, but their secretary is out until September 9. Another option is to ask St. Paul's Parish in Newton. Reverend has to look at proposal and discuss with vestry. Waiting to hear back from Newton-Wellesley Hospital about using Bowles Conference Center in main hospital. Our inclination is to wait and see what our options are in the next couple of weeks. Barbecue is on August 15th. We'll provide burgers & buns. Looking for other people to provide coolers and side dishes. David waited at carpool lot for Augustine Alchemy, but nobody showed up. So he went home. Nothing planned in September. October, planning to meet for WNEI Conference. Fall Gathering in November.
- Outreach (Open) – Received two letters from prisoners. Curtis responded to someone from Walpole. Rich N received a letter from a prisoner. We will ask him to respond.
- ABM Delegate (David B.) – Good experience at FWS. Discussed financial status. Income tax filings are up-to-date. FWS will ask for monthly automatic contributions for members. David joined Literature Committee (CLC) and Public Information Committee (CPIC). He wants to share our outreach postcard with CPIC. Conference Translation Committee was created.
- Group Reps Reports (if any) – None

Old Business

- Open Positions – Some of these positions are currently filled by someone appointed by the chair: Vice Chair, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Public Information Committee Chair, Archivist, Phone Coordinator, and Prison Outreach Coordinator. **Jim B volunteers to be Public Information Committee Chair. Curtis seconds. Passes 5-0-1.** Remove this as open position from list in Newsletter.

New Business

- Mailings Role – Kim B expressed a need to give up this service work. She will not continue past December. Add this to list of open positions.
- Bylaws Amendments Review – **Motion to postpone vote on Bylaws to October (Eric/Jim).** Flyer about discussion did not go out until recently. **Passes 5-0-1.**
- Date for Fall Gathering – Discussed during activities committee report.
- Web Host Renewal – We have options to renew with godaddy, or use FWS web hosting service. Lisa will talk to Delaware Valley Intergroup, because they have a terrific web site. We'll discuss web content for another time. Motion to renew for another year (Michael/Jim): passes 6-0-0.
- NEI Meeting Visits – We will have a renewed reason to do our visits again after bylaws reviews. Eric will send a link to the spreadsheet for visit sign-ups.

Tabled Items

- VT Weekend Policies
- Web Site Content

Next NEI Meeting – Sunday, September 13, 2009 at 5:00 PM in room AR100 at Newton Wellesley Hospital. Respectfully submitted, David B.