

NEI Business Meeting Minutes

The New England Intergroup monthly meeting was held on Sunday, September 8, 2019 in Bowles Conference, Room #6 at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. 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 (Chair), Chris T, Jenny R, Phil B, Joe G, Seamus S, Betsy L (Spiritual Reminder) and Aaron H (Timekeeper). Participating by phone: David B (SLAA Conference Public Information Committee).

Reading of 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, brief check-ins. All Officers present meet their sobriety requirements.

Quorum: There are five group reps present who meet the sobriety requirement.

Old Business:

- Prescription Pads. Final art/layout was sent to Seth for ordering. David B participated in this discussion as a representative from FWS. Discussion about allowing David to share our design/layout with other intergroups. This is being tabled. We are also working on the draft of the letter to go with the pads.
- Bank Account Signatories - The bank has lost records of our account because the account was opened a long time ago. The Treasurer and Chair and the old signatories plan to go to bank before the Fall Gathering to get it straightened out.
- Remove Sobriety Requirement from bylaws – Discussion of the necessity of sobriety requirements for officers. This issue has already been voted on by the Intergroup, but the bylaws need to be changed. Chris volunteered to make draft changes to the bylaws. We will look at this next month.
- Fall Gathering – Joe G and others from Newburyport are working on the Fall Gathering. He shared an email he is sending to group reps asking for speakers, volunteers and raffle contributions. Joe and two others are also going to other meetings and sharing about the Gathering.

New business

- How do we collect ABM funds? – Brainstorming about how to raise funds for the ABM rep. Ideas: Part of February 7th Tradition month, having envelopes go out to the groups, announcement during emails or during the Gathering and on the raffle table, a committee to work on this, new electronic methods for collecting funds (i.e. Venmo). **Motion to have 15 minutes of discussion at every NEI meeting about increasing revenue Jenny/Aaron 5-0-0**
- Database overhaul – Chris would like to redo the many email accounts we have as part of our domain. There are many redundancies. Chris would like to remove many of the email addresses that are no longer in use. He will also set up a “dumping ground” email for record keeping purposes.
- GoDaddy’s use of Lisa’s credit card – Joe G volunteered to have his credit card on file with them instead of Lisa’s. Thank you, Joe!

Department Reports:

- Chairperson – Geri (interim) No report.

- Recording Secretary, Peter S. – **Motion to accept minutes as amended: Betsy/Chris Vote: 6-0-0**
- Treasurer, Jenny R – Jenny made a journal entry to eliminate the shortage. Peter had questions about this which he and Jenny were not able to answer. Discussion about having someone with accounting knowledge assist us. David B will ask Rich from Worcester if he is willing to help us with our financials. Also, we need to purchase new accounting software because we are using a 2014 version. Approval of August financials is tabled until next month.
- Web site – Chris gave a report on use 853 distinct users with 1300 sessions. We received 88 emails.
- Corresponding Secretary -
 - Phone Responder Report (Geri) – We have all 7 days covered. 120 calls came into the answering service. 18 callers requested callbacks which the responders did.
 - Internet Coordinator Report: None
 - Mailing Report: None
- Outreach report – See above on prescription pads.
- Activities, Geri – No Report other than Gathering discussion above.
- Printing, Seamus – Betsy has the printer this month.
- Newsletter, Betsy – doing articles on the Fall Gathering and literature orders.
- Literature – No report.

Contents for October mailing: October newsletter, approved August meeting minutes, (Fall Gathering for electronic version only) meeting list and Retreat flyer.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 5:00 pm. Peter will bring the Bluetooth Speaker to the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Peter S