

2020 NEI Business Meeting
APPROVED MINUTES
Sunday, August 9 @5PM

Via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/128213347>

Dial up: [+1 929 205 6099](tel:+19292056099)
Meeting ID: [128 213 347](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/128213347)

Volunteer to chair today's meeting in absence of acting chair: Chris T
Ask for Timekeeper & Spiritual Reminder: Phil B., everyone
Serenity Prayer/12 Steps & 12 Traditions
Check-ins / Sobriety Accountability
Not a quorum, Chris/Betsy 4-0-0
If needed, vote to allow webmaster to bypass Sobriety requirement for this month, Aaron/Phil 3-0-1

Ask for volunteers for open service positions: Chair, Vice Chair, Newsletter Editor, Corresponding Secretary, Outreach Chair, Activities Chair. Newly vacated: database coordinator. No takers.

New business:

- Discussion of ABM. Chris noted that the being "talked to" format was not engaging as a participant. Had it not been for NEI's underwriting of his attendance, he would have left the Zoom meeting. Peter submitted formal notes from the event. Betsy attended "free and open" Committee sessions. Wonderful opportunity to get a taste of what goes on without having to make a commitment first. Recommends sharing this avenue more fully prior to future ABMs. Seth noted that feedback is being reviewed and plans to improve the Zoom format and agenda will be in place for next year. Phil enjoyed the ABM, he found it interesting and he joined two committees.

Every meeting:

- Fundraising Ideas (tabled)

Recording Secretary – Betsy L., Review draft of July minutes (attached). Edits made. Approved: Chris/Aaron 3-0-1

Literature – Aaron

No orders through Aaron. 5 pamphlets, 1 basic text sold at Vermont Retreat. Retreat coordinator to restock first or second week of October.

Group Reps Reports

Phil has been sharing about the FWS committees are open to all.

Website – Chris

682 users, 1,200 sessions, half mobile/half desktop, top-page use COVID meeting, emails are going straight to end-recipient rather than Chris having to "touch" every email. Sub-committee to meet to work on plan to convey information on the web as meetings begin to reopen, either entirely in person on some form of hybrid Zoom, in-person format.

Telephone Coordinator

No report.

Treasurer

- July treasurers report
Note: After E-bulletin went out, bump in donations: \$241.63.
Newton-Wellesley Hospital checks deleted from liabilities.
For ease of reimbursement, treasurer is using Venmo and writing check to self.
- Motion to accept July treasurer's report: Chris/Betsy 3-0-0.
- 2020-2021 Budget was accepted.
Phil/Betsy 3-0-1.

Activities – Jenny

- Fall Gathering Report from Lisa P: are people on Paul's committee, 3 different rooms to use in the church, considering box lunches rather than buffet style, on Zoom part up to 100 people, challenging part will be the sound, what will travel component be from out of state? Still working on amount and if set amount or donation, SLAA webmaster can help with that. If no travel: back-up plan all Zoom. NEI needs to be hands-on with Zoom, commitment to diversity in the speakers. Meeting next Sunday to finalize the flyer.
- Report about Vermont Retreat: attendees thrilled to be there. Will host again.
- Trivia Nights report, 6 people attended. Invitation for another person to co-host every other Saturday. Dates are on the website. Phil volunteered to do that with Chris.

E-Bulletin. To be mailed out August 19th.

- Donations
- Fall Gathering Flyer
- Retreat Flyer
- Link to the budget

Tabled from previous meetings:

- Issue: can we cover \$475 per month during pandemic. Discussion. Make this first.
- Bylaw Review (comparison document distributed to NEI members) Make this second.
- Discussion: requirement for each group to send GR or not to be listed. Require Group Reps to attend. Concern, NEI serves the groups, not vice versa. – Chris/NEI will require Group Rep name to post “live meeting” to go in July E-Bulletin.

Check out & Serenity Prayer.

AGENDA: item for next month. When to email out E-bulletin. Should everyone look at e-bulletin.

Submitted by Betsy L
September 13, 2020