

## NORTHERN DELAWARE INTERGROUP MINUTES

**DATE: March 6, 2024**

**Call to order:** 7:02 PM

**Preamble was read aloud**

**Responsibility Pledge:** I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help. I want the hand of AA always to be there, and for that, I am responsible.

**New Group Reps:** 2 new Group Reps

Brady N. - Early Risers

Chris V. - More Will Be Revealed

**Attendance:** See Sign in Sheets

**Anniversaries:**

John R.- March 16th, 2 years

Anthony B. - March 19th, 4 years

George M. - March 12th, 32 years

**Minutes from previous meeting:** Motion to Accept- Seconded- Accepted. None opposed.

**Chair:** George M. - Announced meeting time changes for ODAAT @ St. Catherine's: on March 31st (moved to 3:15) and April 7th (moved to 1:00)

Announced that printed newsletters are available on back table.

**Vice Chair:** Dave O.: No report, but "thank you" to the intergroup reps that have been selling tickets to the Spring Breakfast. Please contact the office if you want tickets - there is a waiting list.

**Treasurer Report:** Jared F.: Due to the issues with Paychex and receiving bank statements, February's financial statements were not available at Steering, but are available now. See line 50- we have an excess of \$8,300 in January due to closing out 2023 donations. Therefore, we are in good shape for our prudent reserve - we actually have 4.8 months of reserves now.

Steering Committee voted to stop using the Paychex system due to continued difficulty with their staffing and with its integration with our computer accounting system. The mid-month payroll will still come from Paychex, but we will then go back to paper paychecks.

Answering a previous question: the group contribution summary on financial statements is the summary *as of January*. The February summary will be out next month. We are always reporting a month late due to the accounting system.

Financial Committee will be reviewing statements this month and bring recommendations to the next Steering Committee.

**Intergroup Office Report:** Ena C. -

- AA Info: 29 ● 12<sup>th</sup> Step: 5 ● Al Anon: 0 ● Alateen: 0
- Member/Misc.: 61 ● Visitors: 84 ● Total calls / Contacts: 179

**Home Answering:** No report from home answering

Stated that 39 calls had been received:

- 24 calls - Meeting information.
- 8 calls - 12 Step calls.
- 0 calls - Spanish speaking meeting information.
- 7 calls - Misc. office information.

**Area 12 Liaison:** Michael C.: There will be conferences coming up for delegates from Districts 4, 12, 16 on April 30. They published a new pamphlet (“Do you think you’re different?”) There will be a “mini conference” on Saturday, April 6 at the Elk’s Lodge in Dover to help prepare delegates to go to the conference.

The DEYPAA Convention is on September 27- 29 at the Wilmington Sheraton.

The DE State Convention will be at the Hyatt in Dewey Beach, DE on November 1-3. The hotel is \$169/night, including breakfast and a Saturday lunch. There will be a sit down banquet dinner. Parking is free.

The plain language Big Book is still in discussions and will be discussed further at the New York conference.

**Bridging the Gap:** Robyn P. - things are moving along but not getting many people from facilities. BTG hasn’t received a new contact in 3 months. Please tell your home groups about BTG so the word starts to spread. Please see Stas or Robyn P. for more info or with questions.

**Corrections Commitments:** Not present. George said that during Steering, the report surrounded the clearance and application process- applications are only good for 1 year.

**CPC/PI: Kate H.** – Kate has been considering if we could buy a small ad space on diner placemats with an AA information phone number. However, previous delegates have told her that it is definitely promotion, so she is dropping that idea.

She went to the Bear library - there was no Big Book or 12 & 12 in circulation, so we are donating some literature.

Hayden S. says that in reference to Kate’s idea about diner placemats, he does not think that it is promotion as long as message is limited to something like “do you need help with drinking? call us for support” and as long as it doesn’t list peoples’ names, it wouldn’t really break traditions. He wants to support Kate’s suggestion to put ads on placemats

Ena C. says that it wouldn’t even mention AA, it would just be general. Therefore, it wouldn’t be promotion of AA specifically, it would just be a resource to the community.

George M. says we will continue to kick around the idea, look into cost, see if realistic, etc.

Michael C. offered point of information: Sussex County intergroup tried something similar by putting up posters in bars and bathrooms, but were told to take them down.

**Finance:** Jared F. – Please see the Treasurer’s Report.

**Institutional Commitments:** Tim W. - last month, we had 21 commitments, and only 19 filled. DE psych hospital, both zoom and in person, were not filled. Tim went last week to this in person commitment, and only a few people showed up, but he still carried the message. Commitments have to be filled so we can carry the message, God willing.

DE Psych commitments are at 3:00 in person on Mondays and 3:00 on Microsoft Teams on Fridays. He has already tried to change to a later time, but the facility said no. He also tried to move the meetings to a different floor, but the facility rejected that request for safety concerns.

Suggestion from group about adding a commitment at Rockford Center. Tim W. will contact Rockford and see if we could do commitments there. We may have been dropped during Covid, because we used to have commitments there- that's uncertain, but Tim will follow up.

**Literature:** Fara D. reports at that February's intergroup, we sold \$145.50 in literature and meeting lists and received \$6.50 in donations.

Fara acted as CPI at Limestone Presbyterian on Feb. 3rd.

At the Spaghetti and Speaker event on February 10, we sold \$324.80 in literature and received \$2.60 in donations.

There is a Soup and Service event on March 23 - literature table will be present.

Literature will also be at the Spring Breakfast on April 28 and the DEYPAA conference.

**Newsletter:** Hayden S. - the new Newsletter print edition is available. The Newsletter's goal is the same as our primary purpose, so Hayden is moving forward with that goal top of mind. Please pass the Newsletter around at homegroups. Let Hayden know if you want something specific in the Newsletter. He again reiterated desire for the placemat ads, per Kate's suggestion. Several people in the group tried to scan QR code and it says it's deactivated. Hayden will look into fixing the QR code.

Group asked if we are still putting the group anniversaries in the Newsletter? Per Hayden, please see the form on back table where you can put your group's anniversary. We will list group anniversaries in the appropriate newsletter going forward.

If you want your individual sobriety anniversary in the Newsletter, Hayden is more than happy to do it; he will add another form in the back for you to list your anniversary.

Please help Hayden with ideas if you have something you want to see in the Newsletter.

**Special Events:** Philomena P.- The Winter Dance on Feb. 17th was fun and successful with about 35 people in attendance.

If you want to attend the Spring Breakfast on April 28, please call the office for tickets, because there is a waiting list. Group Reps, please bring any leftover/extra tickets back to the office so they can start giving them to people on the waiting list.

**Unity:** Anthony B. Reminded new homegroup reps to see Carly L. for brief orientation.

We sent out the "cheat sheet" for the first time last month and seems to have been very successful. Several people from the group said that they liked it and found it helpful.

We are doing the steps workshop on April 6 - please see the flyer on back table. This is just the first of 3 workshops, and one speaker jam, planned and budgeted for this year.

**Website Chair:** Laura D. – not present, no report.

**Old Business:** Question - Leona May is now renamed "Aquila". Can it be updated on the commitment form? It's a different organization now and the administrator was apparently adamant that we call it Aquila - there's a men's house and a women's house. Tim W. will be reaching out to Aquila to confirm this change and update it on the commitment forms.

Sean from Young People AA - there is a free History of AA event on March 23 at Limestone Presbyterian. Also, you can now pre-register for the DEYPAA conference in September at the Sheraton Wilmington. Pre-register to save money, as the price will go up each month until event.

**New Business:** Capt. Tim wishes to recognize the staff of our intergroup office - they are always there, always helpful, and they will find the answer to your question if they don't know it off the top of their head. Ena C., Cathy T., and all the volunteers are wonderful.

Andrew T. reminded everyone that this Saturday, March 9, Concord Step (normally held at 6:00 at Good Shepherd), will not be meeting. The homegroup will be at Aldergate for the March Through the Steps event.

**Group Concerns:** None mentioned.

**Group Announcement:** None mentioned.

**Tim W. gave out commitments.**

**Motion to Close: Serenity Prayer / The Lord's Prayer 7:58 P.M.**