

NDIAA STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: February 27, 2024

Call to order: 6:56 PM

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

Attendance: George M., David O. Jared F., Brett C., Ena C., Cathy T. , Dick H., Paul V., Robyn P., Philomena P., Stas W., Maureen M., Kate H., Jack B., Hayden S., Tim W., Carly L., Steve B., Anthony B., Laura D.

Anniversaries: none reported

Minutes from Previous Meeting: Motion to accept: Accepted – none opposed.

Chair: George M. - Finance Committee and Treasurer to look into PayChex situation/issue. Kate H. is new CPCPI Chair.

George M. is waiting for the PayChex situation to be straightened out before he comes in to office to start records retention project.

Mike C. is perhaps stepping in as Area 12 chair - he's working on also finding an alternate.

Vice Chair: David O. Is working with Tim W. to get the Hope House 3 speaking commitment settled. Per Tim, we are approved for the men's meeting.

Treasurer Report: Jared F. reports that Dick H. fixed the numbers for the budget. Finance will be updating and creating the report on Saturday so it can be ready to present at Intergroup on Wednesday.

Dick H. says there are not financial statements available for steering today because it took until Monday to get statements from the bank. There were many issues with PayChex i.e. they still have not run a payroll yet since installation; they doubled payroll in Quickbooks and it needed to be corrected. Dick has serious concern about PayChex's integration with Quickbooks. Dick recommends getting rid of PayChex and going back to issuing checks. Complicating factor: Quickbooks will no longer sell the desktop version of their software starting this summer, though it will continue providing support for current desktop software users.

Cathy T. and Paul V. say they would prefer online Quickbooks instead of current desktop version (Paul uses for his business and loves it) but it would be more expensive. The size of our payroll is small, which limits the options available to us.

Motion made to discontinue PayChex. 4 votes yes (get rid of). 2 vote no (keep). 1 abstaining. Motion carried to do away with PayChex system.

Point of information: only officers, members at large, and one office chair may vote (7 eligible votes at this specific meeting). Committee chairs may not vote.

Intergroup Office Report: Cathy T.

Contacts: AA Info: 26 12 Step: 5 Al Anon: 1 AlaTeen: 0

Member Miscellaneous: 58 Visitors: 80 Literature:

Total calls/Contacts: 170

Home answering: Patti R. Not present, no report, will have count available for intergroup.

Calls: Type: AA Meeting Info.: 12-Step: Spanish Speaking: Office:

Committee Reports:

Area 12 Liaison: George M. reported that the Grapevine *print* subscription price is increasing, but the online subscription price is not changing.

The agenda for the Area 12 meeting is now available on their website. Of note: the translation/plain language version of the AA book (to be written at 5th grade reading level to increase accessibility) is a major topic. At the assembly, Area Liaisons will have 90 minutes to look over the plain language version and report their questions/suggestions/concerns.

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. It may be hybrid, so you could have the option to attend online or in person.

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.

Point of interest: there was a discussion to host NERAASA 2025 in Delaware, but the bid was declined because DE does not have the infrastructure to host it.

Area 12 is considering redistricting the whole state of Delaware.

Bridging the Gap: Stas W. Says things have been quiet and they are not receiving many new clients. They are finalizing info packets with Ena for printing and deciding which facilities to visit to hand out packets. They will work with Jack and Maureen to decide. The committee has been concerned about blurring lines between affiliation, promotion, etc. Maureen has been speaking with a prison admin (Ms. Romero) who says that she was told BTG is not yet up and running. Maureen will discuss with Stas re: remedying the misunderstanding, clarifying that BTG is, in fact, up and running. BridgingTheGap@ndiaa.org is the committee email.

Corrections Commitments: Jack hit a bump in the road with prisons - applications are only good for a year, so he had to get in contact with the 14 male volunteers to have them re-apply. They are successfully reinstated.

Maureen M. offered a point of information - the prison holds the applications so that they can batch process them all at once - that makes the admin’s job easier when expiration time comes around, because the applications all have the same date. There has also been a lot of disruption with employee turnover.

Maureen is having a really hard time recruiting women and keeping women speakers to go in to the prisons for meetings. They lost a lot of volunteers over the winter. She will make an announcement at Intergroup on Wednesday that women volunteers are greatly needed.

CPC/PI: Kate H. says she is two weeks into role, has ordered literature and binders from New York - she is studying up for role. She is also looking into what kind of posting we can put out into the world, i.e. can we post AA info phone number on a diner placemat ad space? Is it promotion, or just providing info? She’s looking in to pricing and will discuss further.

Finance: Included with Treasurer’s Report

Institutional Commitments: Tim W. reiterated that it’s ok for people to continue going to Hope House 3 battered women’s shelter.

There is an issue of the commitments not being filled or taken at Delaware Psych, and issue of no patients showing up for meetings when the commitment *does* get filled.

Literature: Fara D. reports at 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, and was able to provide support to someone. Limestone's Pastor Tim is looking into connecting the church with AA meetings. However, intergroup has said previously that we cannot do this because of affiliation.

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

No one has contacted Fara about upcoming events, but Patti told Fara about a March 23 event. She is looking into getting details so she can provide literature at the event.

Newsletter: Hayden S. says the newsletter is going well. Regarding the Group Anniversary Club - is anyone opposed to putting a sign up sheet at Intergroup so Intergroup Reps can list their group anniversary if they want it in the newsletter? No opposition. Will have sign up sheet at Intergroup starting Wednesday.

Hayden is considering new columns for the newsletter and taking suggestions. He wants to add an AA trivia page.

Should we print the newsletter? Most people are not going to the website for the newsletter to read or print it. Could we print it instead, so IG reps can bring it back to their groups? General consensus is yes, but look into how much it would cost and best way to print (i.e. formatting, stapled, brochure, etc.) Laura D. requested that the website be listed on the printed newsletter to drive people back to it.

Special Events: Philomena P.- The Winter Dance was fun, and there were about 30 people in attendance. They are focusing on the Spring Breakfast on April 28, i.e. getting a speaker, nailing down details.

The Committee is also looking into a Blue Rocks event.

The Founders Day Picnic on June 9th will be next big event to work on.

Robyn suggested doing a bingo event; Special Events has been trying to do that, but it's actually really difficult to plan bingo events because it's technically gambling, so the facility must be licensed by state. The committee still wants to do it, but it's staying in "the hat" for now.

Unity Chair: Anthony B. reports that the committee is working on the first workshop, to be held April 6. The budget (\$345 out of \$1,500 annual) includes \$200 room rental, \$145 in supplies, food, water, coffee. Anthony submitted this event budget to Jared. The committee is still planning on doing a quarterly speaker event.

The first round of the mass email "cheat sheet" went out to IG reps last month.

Unity is still doing the outreach packets for groups that do not have an IG rep.

Web Chair: Laura D. updated the website and realized that she needed to turn over all the minutes and financial reports in the archive- we only keep a certain number of years, so the oldest reports need to be taken off the website now. This will be a big project involving a lot of updating.

Old Business: George is still contacting GSO about reporting the first registered group in DE.

Also, the Ena and Cathy are setting up ProWorks to come in to office to replace the thermostat.

New Business: Ena - someone stopped in the office to ask if we could put info out about AlaTeen. The Intergroup office does have a little bit of info about AlAnon, but nothing about AlaTeen. The general consensus is to have AlaTeen info available at the office, but not to bring it to the Intergroup meeting to hand out.

Serenity Prayer/Close: 8:23 P.M.