

## October 26, 2016 Intergroup Representative (IR) Meeting Minutes

- Having reached a Quorum the meeting started at 6:31pm and opened with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.
- The CAL Reading was from the pamphlet "Attracting and Cooperating".  
**Action:** The July 2016 IR Mtg. minutes were accepted *With one amendment – Typo to be corrected – "I am too old for Al-anon" should read Alateen.*  
by 13 votes and 3 abstentions.
- The IRs and the Board went around the room and introduced themselves.

### Housekeeping

- **New board members were presented to the IRs and their blurbs were read to the IRs by Secretary, Rebecca. Ballots were passed out. Ballots were collected by Rebecca and counted by Rebecca.**

### Reports:

Dolly presented the administrative report:

- Intergroup has a new office manager. Her name is May. She is currently in process of updating 15 years old computer system.

Jude presented the Treasurer's report:

- Please see attached report at the end of these minutes.
- First 3 quarters from year 2016 have been compared to the same period last year. Donations are up. Share-a-days brought in \$3000. Office ?? Meetings brought in \$1000. The rest of the donations comes from the IRs and private donations. Not sure about this last sentence. Can you ask Jude?
- Literature numbers are little bit down, when looking at cost of goods sold. (For clarification – When talking about literature income, shipping fees are included. When talking about goods sold, credit card fees etc are included.)
- Intergroup does not make money on literature, it is a service we provide.
- Expenses went a little up as there was a need to buy a new computer and we needed to train two office managers.
- Some groups need insurance policy, Intergroup offers to add the meeting space their policy to cover them for an annual fee of \$100. This income is listed under "Office Income – Miscellaneous".

### Ellen presented the Literature Report:

- Ellen does service on Thursdays from 4–7pm and do weekly inventory of our needs for Literature.
- With Quickbooks Intergroup can monitor easily stock levels and decide when it is needed to order new books. It helps avoid over-ordering.
- Comments around room – IRs noticed better stock levels and selection.
- Question was asked on what kind of support is there for financially struggling groups. Answer: There are free literature pamphlets at intergroup office and there are books online.

### Elizabeth presented the College Outreach report:

#### At our last IR Meeting:

- Introduced the idea of College Outreach to share information about Al-Anon by providing information and volunteering to help students set up meetings. We would coordinate these efforts with the appropriate counseling services at colleges.
- Took a list of names and contact info from interested members

#### Update:

- Created an email for the committee – [nycalanoncollegeoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:nycalanoncollegeoutreach@gmail.com)
- Reached out to everyone who signed up
- Created a google site to store the list of interested members and our materials
- Created a subcommittee of younger members who were willing to speak at college forums
- Reached out to members for connections at colleges and universities and researched the right services at these colleges
- Determined that we wanted to do a soft launch – reaching out to one or two schools and rolling out the program slowly so that we could develop it as we went along
- Reached out to Columbia and found a receptive ear at AIMS – their program in the Medical School to help teach students in all the medical professions about addiction and its impacts.
- Wrote a proposal for AIMS that hoped to provide information for both the medical students who might benefit from the information personally and would also help them understand Al-Anon and be able to offer info to their patients – “When Doing Good is no Longer Good For You” – a one hour presentation that included information about Al-Anon, personal

shares, literature and q&a. We hope to be part of their program in the new year.

- Reached out to Bklyn College with a similar proposal. We have our first outreach session in December with their program for personal counsellors for students at Bklyn College.
- Selected a packet of literature to offer colleges and universities.

#### What we need from you:

- We need you to tell your groups that we are embarking on this. Ask them to email us at [NYCalanoncollegeoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:NYCalanoncollegeoutreach@gmail.com) with any info they might have to help connect us to local colleges and universities. Our goal is to share info about Al-Anon to college students by coordinating with the appropriate counseling services at colleges. We can provide literature, speak at appropriate events, bring presentations like the one described above and help students set up meetings.

#### Dolly presented Meeting Information Form report:

- Intergroup always had a new meeting registration form. This form has been reformatted. Now it can also be used for updating meeting information. It needs to be put online. Intergroup is looking for a graphic designer to help design it.

#### Fall Fundraiser: Sustaining Membership Drive (the Board)

Fall fundraiser was shared with all IRs to distribute at the meeting. This letter will be available online. It will also be e-mailed to everyone on Intergroup mailing list. Focus of the fundraiser is Sustaining membership drive. Intergroup currently has 12 sustaining members. Sustaining members help Intergroup budget better. Intergroup thinks it would be a great fall fundraiser. Donations are welcome in general, but push is on Sustaining Membership.

#### **Election Results (DH)**

Michael and Jasmina were voted on the board. (Jasmina 22 yes, 1 abstention) Michael (18 yes, 1 no and 4 abstentions).

#### **Old Business:**

Column (EP): IRs were invited to look for the column on the website and contribute.

Topic considered for 2017 column is Concepts.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Collection**

#### **Topic: Carrying the message: Step 12 (IRs and the Board)**

Proposal made to form a Subcommittee: How to get PSAs out for the holiday season. (RV)

Rebecca read from Service Manual on the topic of Carrying the message.

Rebecca has a list of 21 local TV stations (obtained from WSO) to reach out to.

Only 4 ever played a PSA in last year. Rebecca presented couple of ideas how to do outreach.

#### Discussion:

Question was asked weather Facebook and Google do PSAs?

Al-anon rules on using Facebook were explained.

Suggestion was made to make Al-anon “business cards”. Same IR offered example on how his group put up adds in barber shops and beauty shops.

IRs were reminded that a Template for flyers is available on WSO website.

Suggestion made to leave AFAs on Subway seats.

Suggestion made to look in to Podcasts – Would “This American life” play a PSA?

Port Authority was suggested as a place to leave AFAs.

Question of reaching out in High Schools was raised? Dolly reported that she has made presentation in one Middle School, and on High school Health Fares.

It was mentioned that Teachers have obligatory Professional Development days – Al-anon could approach teacher admin to present then.

Question asked weather Public Stations for colleges do PSAs?

Some IRs spoke about importance of getting the word out there – as people might not come straight away, but they will the information for when they hit a rock bottom.

Suggestion made for AA meetings to announce about Al-anon.

#### **Announcements:**

- **Al-anon district 13 workshop**
- **Brooklyn anniversaries were announced.**

- **dates for the 2017 IR Meetings:**

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**The meeting closed at 7:58pm with the Serenity Prayer.**

**Respectfully submitted by,  
Jasmina**