
Intergroup IR Meeting
April 27, 2021 6:30pm - 8:00pm
via Zoom

April 27, 2021 Intergroup IR Meeting

The meeting started with Serenity Prayer. Julie asked everyone to sign in using the chat with their group's name and the time and day of their meeting, borough and email.

Suze opened with a reading from Conference Approved Literature. She read Hope for Today, April 10th P.101

IR's were asked to approve the minutes of the prior meeting, in January. A copy of the minutes was sent to all IRs by email. Any questions or comments regarding minutes could be asked to Cynthia, the SIGN-IN Host."

The minutes were accepted, and we went around the room and introduced ourselves.

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Introductions were done.

The Board members introduced themselves Julie, Meret, Suze, Cynthia and Pinar and read, "We are but trusted servants"

Reports

Administrative report (Meret)

We are receiving donations by mail, Venmo and Paypal. Some meetings brought up returning to face-to-face meetings but no news has been given on that. The website is up to date and there is a new Zoom Tool Kit thanks to Cynthia. Some literature is out of stock because of WSO. We ask to buy local. We have a former board member, Jude, who helps with the shipping of Literature. We can use help with the shipping if any of the IR's want to volunteer. How Alanon Works is also available in book format and IR's might want to announce it at their meetings. Our bills are paid up to date. We have a new computer as our old one was falling apart.

Suze made her remarks reporting on In Reach: Meret works for INreach but Suze is doing a special program in reaching out to dark meetings.

Donations:

Still receiving donations by mail, Venmo and PayPal. Deposits are made into bank account weekly.

Meetings:

There were a couple inquiries about returning to Face-to-face meetings. We have not yet heard from any active meetings returning to physical meetings yet.

Website:

The website is up to date including an updated ZOOM toolkit PDF from Cynthia on the homepage.

Literature:

There are a few books out of stock [see below]. We have everything else in stock. Continuing to ship orders weekly. Asking Jude (former board member) for help shipping; if he's not available

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perhaps we can train another board member or IR for this service

- From Survival to Recovery (none in stock)
- Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage (none in stock)
- Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses (9 in stock)
- How Al-Anon Works for Families & Friends of Alcoholics (24 in stock)
- >This item is available at WSO in eBook format.

Bills:

All bills are up to date.

Jeanne read the Financial Report as Bill was not present. Julie was available to answer the questions

For the 1st quarter 2021 Income was \$39,968 which compares nicely to the 1st quarter of 2020 amount of \$24,886 a 48.6% increase, The primary reason for the increase was individual donations increasing to \$18,175 in 2021 from \$2,623 in 2020 a 592.8% increase.

Literature income decreased to \$4,554 in 2021 from \$10,961 in 2020, a 58.5% decrease. This was partially offset with a reduction of Costs of Goods Sold in the amount of \$3,435 a -45.8% decrease.

Total expenses increased by 21.6%, \$4,261 mostly due to pay raise to the Office Manager, shipping costs due to our free promotion and other office expenses.

Net Income for the 1st quarter of 2021 was \$8,930 which compares quite favorably to the loss of -\$1,629 in 2020 for the same comparable period, a 648.9% increase.

The trend in increased monthly cash flow has continued in the first quarter 2021 (January-March). As of April 12, 2021 there is \$43,431 in our checking account. We ended 2020 with \$36,787 in cash. We continue to pay our bills in a timely manner.

The Savings Account shows \$50,449 in assets as of 4/12/2021 which includes, \$21,000 the full 3 1/2 months of Prudent Reserve, \$23,479 is targeted for Public Outreach, and the remaining \$5,970 is undesignated at this time.

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The Board approved the purchase of a new replacement laptop computer for the office manager.

Cynthia asked if it is ok to send Bill's report to IR's. The answer was yes.

Lauren asked, "The literature number is for what period?"

Julie answered It is from January to April

Lauren said She is happy that it is shared like this.

Julie brought up the issue of contributing to other service arms and expressed that at the board meeting it was decided to recommend contributing to New York South Area Alanon in the amount of \$3000 considering our financial standing. There will be a poll to see if people are on board with donating \$3000. IR's were asked to please raise their hands if there are questions

Sally wanted clarification to where the donation is being made?

Julie said the donation is to be made to the Area

Question: What is New York South Area?

Julie explained that New York South Area is the local service arm of Al-Anon World Service.

Meret added that of all the service arms they are the ones that are most behind the scenes; they train members to be able to work with Alateen meetings..

Cynthia stated that NY South Area is \$16,000 Dollars in debt.

What areas are contained in the New York South Area?

Meret Answered: Five boroughs of New York Long Island, Downstate areas like Rockland, Orange, and Westchester counties.

Everyone voted yes to donating \$3000 to the NY South Area.
Julie thanked everyone and asked IR's to share this news with his or her group.

Website and Communication (Meret and Clara) shared their report on Website and Communication. Clara stated that she is a new member in the communications committee.

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Robert, with a background in graphic design, wondered how we can make our material more updated and stated that he would like to be part of the committee.

Alateen;
Jeanne read a statement about Alateen being a part of Al-Anon:

Julie thanked Jeanne for reading this letter.

Meret stated that the reason we asked Jeanne to bring this up is we only have two meetings all over New York and we need more meetings and we would like IR's to announce them in the meetings.

Julie asked if we could poll the IRs about the question of whether or not to keep the meetings virtual through January 2022.

Questions asked: Where would we meet in person?
Julie said she doesn't know

The IRs approved keeping the meetings virtual until January 2022

Julie: 7th tradition and the information was posted on the chat.

Breakout Rooms

Julie read breakout room questions and 10 minutes were set to discuss the following issues.
Should Intergroup use some of our funds to better our website professionally and what should be on it?

Should we have an Intergroup Instagram page and what information should we have on it?

Breakout Room Reports

Group 1: Tina K Shared from Group One: They had a lively discussion about Website and said they agreed to spend money on updating the website. No repeating information on the web site. They also suggested announcing the Alateen Service training on the web site.

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Group 2 Clara: They unanimously agreed on creating a search engine for finding meetings to find meetings all over the world as seen in various other 12-step programs. Give access to shares, make

Instagram: there are mixed concerns about anonymity and promotion rather than attraction. Some pros said they enjoyed following the news

Group 3 Michael: Their group unanimously agreed to spend money on website design. Taking into perspective what the shortcomings are. More shareable content like Alanon related announcements, reaching out to newcomers, automated email to IR's on alanon related announcements

They said the Instagram should be discussed by Alateen's, concerns about promotion and anonymity. Are we interested in attracting diversity? Like there are meetings that have more young people and perhaps we could ask their opinion.

Group 4 Betsy: Visually it is static, the very definition of Alanon can be more visible, a testimony from different groups, maybe podcasts, meeting lists
In favor of Instagram as well.

Group 5 Amy C We all felt that using a reasonable amount of the funds to redo the website, honing on search quality, maybe finding meetings by zip code, day and keep it simple for newcomers. As well targeting literature for newcomer specific, Lgbt
Instagram : Anonymity is a big question. Algorithm question not fan of paying someone to run the account but it might be interesting to post thought for the day and some literature

Old Business

The seminar about service above group level is available and there is a chart that gives a visual explanation of service levels. The other old business was defining Intergroup's role to clarify the purpose of how Alanon is different from AA. Put our purpose and definition more clearly out there. Meret is working on this at the moment.

Meret stated that our mission statement is on the web site which was put together 10 years ago by the board and IRs of that time. There is a clear mission statement but if the IR's want to revisit the mission statement they can bring it up.

New Business:(Cynthia)

Cynthia shared on the new business: There is already new information on the web site about Zoom detailing all that is needed. In the coming months there could be a workshop on putting

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together

Julie stated that the board is open to suggestions for Seminar topics for the Spring?

Robert V: Can we get assistance for aGroup inventory in a zoom world? Is there a group member who is available to help a group inventory?

Julie said that there is someone in the area who can assist

Another question: Can we please ask the people who reported from the Breakout rooms to send their answers to us? Answer : the report will be in the minutes

Question: What should we do about returning to in person meetings?

Julie answered that the groups will make their own decision and if there are any questions they can bring it to the board.

Meret: Up to every group to decide . It is great to be autonomous but this is something to be discussed. Even meeting outdoors presents issues. Intergroup website on the News tab at the

bottom there are two links that will take you to the Zoom recording of the seminar. Meret gave her email address for questions.

Suze: One of the ways that the groups brought up was updating the website and it is being worked on.

Harriet asked if someone can be IR to two different groups
Julie answered no it is not suggested

Julie made a series of announcements, which will all be posted on the News page of our website by the end of the week.

Here are a few important dates to bring to your groups.

- Share A Day is on Saturday May 22nd, noon-4.
- The Intergroup Board now meets on the second Wednesday of the month. The next Intergroup Board meeting will be on Wednesday May 12th, from 6:30-8 pm. If you're interested in serving on the Board, please contact me. You are welcome to come to the Board meeting.
- The next Intergroup Rep (IR) meeting is on Tuesday July27,2021

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We also have some general announcements about volunteering.

- Monica and Cynthia were our fabulous tech-hosts for this meeting. If you or any member of your group can be a tech-host for an occasional Intergroup event, we need you.
- We practice rotation of service, and Bill, our Treasurer is now serving for a second year. If you or any member of your group has numbers or accounting background, please consider joining the Finance Committee.
- Please share with Groups'7th Tradition' Announcements posted on NEWS tab and a clickable link on our Home page.
- Please read the draft of "Welcome "IR" letter and send comments and feedback to us @nycalanon.org.
- Dates for the remaining IR meetings are posted on our website News page. They take place Tuesday evenings, July 27th, and October 26th from 6:30-8:00 pm.

Dori made a motion to close the meeting. It was seconded and it was closed and the meeting room was kept open for fellowship for ten minutes after.



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