

**Intergroup Representative Meeting**  
**July 30, 2019 Minutes**  
**6:30-8:00 pm**  
**PS 41 106 W 11th St (6th Ave.&7th Ave.)**

IR Sign in. Quorum confirmation.

6:30 Serenity Prayer

6:35 CAL Reading: Hope for Today : November 27th

6:35 Approval of April IR meeting minutes

6:37 Introductions

\*Intergroup Representatives

\*Intergroup Board of Trustees Members

6:41 New Business IR Shares

\*IR Discussion

1. How do I decide what to report back from the meeting to the group?

2. What does Intergroup mean to my group?

3. How does service impact my Self Care?

6:56 Meeting relocated to Auditorium due to poor acoustics in cafeteria.

IR Shares

1. How do I decide what to report back from the meeting to my group?

\*Share about upcoming events.

\*Do not share about finances.

\*IR's time to speak about meeting is limited. Many get a few minutes during the business meeting.

2. What does Intergroup mean to my group?

\*Not a lot. It means what I tell my group.

\*Sometimes, old timers in Al-Anon are able to give more information about intergroup to their groups.

\* The representatives are familiar with the website and Share A Day, yet some did not realize that they are organized by Intergroup.

\*Groups like and want more outreach.

3. How does Service impact my Self Care?

\* Service can build self esteem.

\*Service can be challenging and time consuming interfering with family time.

\*Service can be helpful for newcomers.

\*Service helps take your mind off of your problems

7:30 Administrative Report (JG)

Changed web platform:

\*Key tool finding meetings.

\*Answers questions for newcomers and provides key information.

Literature:

\*Can always use volunteers. All volunteer slots are currently full.

\*Sales on web are constantly changing. Sales are currently down.

\*Intergroup office is open all weekdays except Wednesday. Office is open 12:30-5pm Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Thursday, there are evening hours 2:00-7pm.

\*Al-Anon and Alateen information is available.

7:23 Discussion:

\*Representatives expressed desire for more literature to be available electronically.

\*Suggestion was made to directly request WSO for a list of Al Anon information available electronically.

\*There is an electronic library for Al Anon literature.(JG) Can we add a link to it here?(JT)

\*Several representatives expressed that they felt hard copy literature is old fashioned.

7:25 Financial Treasury Report (JB)

Background:

Our Funds are kept in 2 separate accounts: 1)Checking, which is our general operating account, where individual and group donations, event donations, and book sale monies are deposited, and all day to day expenses and inventory are paid from. 2) Savings, where 2 separate bequests were deposited, in 2017 and 2019. The 1st bequest of \$48,000 was designated by vote by the IR's to be used for Prudent Reserve of \$21,000, increase Literature inventory by \$2,000, and the remainder to be used for public outreach or as designated by the IR's. A transfer of \$5,000 from Savings/Prudent reserve, was made at the end of 2018 to cover a shortfall. In the 1st 6 months of June 2019 we have made transfers to cover shortfalls of \$ 3,375.

Please take a look at the P & L comparison. Individual and Group donations for the 6<sup>th</sup> month comparison are down by \$5,435 and expenses are up by \$4,434. The expenses are affected by timing of payments. When we don't have sufficient operating funds, we need to hold off payments, where possible.

7:31 Discussion:

\*We need to be fully self supporting on our own contributions. Several representatives expressed concern that currently Intergroup is not, based on half year P&L statement.(IR)

\*Workshops (Share A Day) , have been making a profit for Intergroup. Their profit has not been listed separately on P&L statement. In the future they will be displayed separately.

\*Literature is considered by NY state as a retail organization. Cost of literature remains high even if we increase prices.

\*Office provides literature items to members that they might not find elsewhere and they can get it quicker.

\*Al Anon turns no profit from sales from third party vendors

\*Not sure if we should be retail organization as we are service organization. May want to reexamine the role of literature.(IR)

7:40 Suggestions:

\*We want to increase communication with groups.

\*May initiate a quarterly newsletter.

\*Remind members to add our address to their address books

\*office@nycalanon.org

Outreach(JT)

\*This spring visited health class in a Queens high school.

\*Three members shared their experience, strength and hope with the class.

\*There was a Q&A session. The students were very engaged.

\*Each student received information materials. Al Anon and Alateen books were donated to school library.

\*Al Anon literature has also been donated to the Women's correctional facility. The materials were well received.

Intergroup Bequest Policy:

7:49 Bequest Policy Discussion July 30, 2019

Per Service Manual p.104 "The WSO may accept a one-time bequest from an Al-Anon member in any amount. Bequest amounts, up to 10 percent of the total revenue of the WSO General Fund as identified in the previous year's audit will be placed in the General Fund. Members may designate, in a spirit of gratitude, more than the 10 percent; however, the portion of the bequest above the 10 percent will be reported separately on the financial statements. The World Service Conference will authorize the use of these excess amounts and the authorized expenditures will be administered by the Board of Trustees. These excess amounts are not available for general purposes, unless further authorized by the Conference. (Contact the WSO for details.)

In maintaining the principle of anonymity, no individual's gift is acknowledged publicly nor can the gift be earmarked for any specific purpose or program. Al-Anon members give knowing that the money will be spent continuing to support and expand the program that brought us peace and serenity during our lives."

Possible policy for Intergroup: Using WSO policy as a guide, from the Service Manual p. 104, with some changes. Accept a one-time bequest from an Al-Anon member in any amount. Bequest amounts, up to 10% of the total revenue per the previous year's statement, in 2018 the Revenue was about \$75,000, will be placed in the General fund

P&L

(checking account) for general expenses . The amounts in excess of the 10% will be used to bring Prudent reserve back up to its suggested amount of \$21,000, if needed, and then the remainder, if any, be set aside for special projects, such as public outreach or other, to be authorized by the IR's.

The 2019 bequest of \$21,623.61 has not been discussed or designated yet.

7:55 Discussion(Board/IRs):

\*The receipt of the second bequest indicated the need to develop a bequest policy.

\*Defined the term "bequest" as a donation from a deceased Al Anon member.

\*IRs expressed confusion regarding Intergroup bequest policy. There were many questions. We were over time so the matter was tabled until the next IR meeting.

8:00 7th Tradition

Old Business: None

New Business:

\*Intergroup Bequest Policy

\*Tote Bag Fundraiser (Not introduced due to time).

Announcements:

\*Next Share A Day - August 24. 2019

\*Next IR Meeting - Tuesday October 29. 2019

Closing, Serenity Prayer