

NYC Greater Al-Anon IR Meeting, Minutes

July 27, 2021

6:30pm

Via Zoom

Acting Secretary:

Lauren S., IR for Healing Power of Al-Anon, Manhattan

IR Sign-in and Quorum: (taken from Zoom Chat: initially 12 IRs were present for quorum. Others arrived later)

Harriet S, How Al-Anon Works
Fred G, Let it Begin with me
Lynn C, Saturday Morning Serenity
Besty, Park Slope Day Family Group
Susie P, Uptown Saturday Night
Chris L, St. Peters Start your Weekend Right
Clara M, SYDR
Lauren S, Healing Power of Al-Anon
Carolyn C, East Side Serenity
Kelly M, Miracle on 5th
Amy C, Step into the Heights
Ilene W, Today's Reminder (4 meetings)
Rachel A, Harlem Harmony
Bond, Solutions and Serenity
Allie E, Mustard Seed
Rachel A,
Jason T, West Side LGBTQ

Opening: Serenity Prayer

Conference Approved Literature Reading:

Hope for Today, Seventh Tradition, p.187

Acceptance April 2021 IR minutes Vote: 11 yes, 1 abstention

Introductions: IRs & Board of Trustees

Board members read: "We Are But Trusted Servants"(Board&IR)

Reports on Ongoing Activity

Financial Report /6 Month Comparison (Bill)

- Jan-June 2021 versus 2020: in 2021, gross profit was \$77,329, versus \$41,034, an increase of 88% .
- Due to contributions increasing from \$68,415 from \$32,270. Share-a-Day revenue is up.
- Literature income decreased.
- Expenses increased 29 percent.
- This year, there was \$28,372 in net income versus a gain of \$3,440 in 2020 at the same time.
- \$48,912 in checking account, with outstanding deposit.
- July cash position was \$45,912.from 6,787 in cash last year.

IRs asked about getting access to the report. The Chair responded that the financial documents were sent to IRs in advance of the meeting.

***Administration Report (Meret)**

- Donations by mail coming in, but declining.
- We continue to get donations via Venmo and PayPal.
- As of July 14 only one meeting update was submitted last week
- One group inquired about insurance.

Power outage at Meret's location stopped her report short. She later made a brief announcement re: a need to solicit ideas for how to spend Intergroup money in the service of NYC groups. For example AA has clubhouses where they invest in video conferencing equipment so the whole community can use the space for their meetings. That's one idea. This topic isn't on today's agenda but perhaps we can come together with ideas in three months if IRs bring it to their groups.

In response to a question, Julie said that Intergroup is reviewing its free shipping policy, but free shipping for orders under \$10 (small envelopes) was still in effect, and will add the shipping cost question to our next agenda.

***Website Committee Presentation(Judith & Clara)**

- As soon as the board approves \$800 we are far along with a spiffy new website.
- It will have all the info current one does, but be better organized.
- Meetings will be organized so users you can look for specific meetings by subject, date, interest, time, etc.
- Will have a separate news and events tab with drop down.

- Will have a significant presence for newcomers to find what they need.
- Literature will be simply done.
- AI-Ateen will be separate.
- Plug in will translate to Spanish and French. There will be a button that you click that translates to languages we choose.
- We are talking about rotating slides with info.
- Getting 20% to 30% discount on the design.
- When we have a mockup we will send it to IRs for feedback.
- Website will be ADA compliant.
- There will be downloadable newcomer's packets.

Old Business

Donations: Board continues to consider donations to service arms and suggested a \$3K donation to WSO, as we did for New York South Area last quarter. A motion to approve the \$3,000 donation was made and seconded.

(Lauren S. made the motion and Rachel A. seconded it.)

Vote in favor: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion passed.

New Business

World Service Conference Updates

- WSO has accepted electronic meetings as official AI-Anon family groups.
- They will have their own Electronic Area Assembly. Very evolving topic.
- In relation to our geographic areas, it's still evolving. The e-meetings have to set up group structure before approaching the Area.
- They will continue three languages--English, Spanish and French.

World Service Literature Updates

key updates being made to the following:

- *One Day at a Time*,
- *Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage*
- and AI-Anon preamble.
- A new reader is coming in 2023, focused on diversity.

7th Tradition break: Suggested donation \$10

Breakout Rooms: Using the business meeting as a tool of recovery.

1. Does your group have frequent business meetings?
2. Do you feel the meetings are successful?
3. How can they be improved?
4. How can you use skills developed in business meetings in other areas of your personal experience?

Some insights from the breakout rooms:

- Though some groups have no business meetings, regular business meetings monthly or quarterly is good idea.
- Group conscience is helpful as is knowledge-based decision making. Take what you want and leave the rest in personal life.
- Could do regular elections during the in-meeting business meeting and address bigger issues at a business meeting after the regularly scheduled meeting.
- You can't have a group conscience at work--there is a boss!
- Today's Reminder, a single meeting with four separate rooms, has sub-meetings which have monthly business meetings, and reps from those meetings attend a quarterly meeting of all of the sub-meetings.
- Having an assigned business chair helps with business meetings. It should be a service position with rotation
- Have a procedural process written out in the script, whether using knowledge-based decision making or Robert's Rules. Good to have it spelled out.
- Group inventory has been helpful.
- In day-to-day life, having a voice and being seen and heard is important.
- Business meetings help people develop patience.
- One member shared how important it was to have a reliable Group Rep there.
- Also mentioned the benefit of planning ahead what would be discussed at upcoming business meetings. Some meetings have a bitly or google account to give everyone access to the group documents.
- Participating in business meetings has been a valuable tool of recovery.
- Issues running a business meeting differ by group size.
- In large groups, they allow 30 minutes for the business meeting so not everyone gets to speak
- Sometimes the time has to be extended.
- One meeting limits it to 10 minutes with motions to extend.
- Can use a poll for online meeting elections.

New Business:

DRAFT

Move the IR meetings closer to the calendar quarters.

Proposed dates for next year's IR meetings, from 6:30 to 8, all on Tuesdays:

Jan. 31, 2022,

April 26, 2022,

June 28, 2022

October 18, 2022

-Next IR meeting is Tuesday, October. 26, 2021, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Meret shared her screen to show the "AI-Anon-Related Announcements" section on the Intergroup website. Members can suggest announcements so long as they relate to AI-Anon and NYC.

-Next Share a Day: July 31, 2021

-Next Intergroup Board Meeting: September 8, 2021

-Next Intergroup Representatives Meeting: October 26, 2021 -All meetings remain via Zoom through January 2022

At closing there were 26 participants.

Motion to close the meeting.

Seconded.

Closed with the Serenity Prayer.

7:55 Announcements