

Minutes, NYC Greater Al-Anon Intergroup Meeting, via Zoom

6:30 pm October 27, 2020

IR Sign-in and Quorum

Opening

Serenity prayer

CAL reading: Courage to Change, October 2nd, page 276

IR question: "Should we be recording this meeting?" A group conscience was taken and though there was a not a majority against it, the Chair decided that there were enough "no" votes that a recording would not be made.

July 2020 minutes: Accepted 24 Yes, 3 Abstentions

Introductions of IRs and Board members

New Business:

New Idea: possible Member Page, on our website. Something fun to put together, and to read. Could include a crossword puzzle or word game with a program theme. Any IRs who like this idea and/or want to work on it were encouraged to put names in the Chat.

Proposed Dates for 2021 IR meetings, Tuesdays in 2021 :

January 26, March 27, July 27, October 26. Dates were accepted by IR's.

Meret O did a tour of the NYC Al-Anon Intergroup Website. Emphasis was placed on the Home page and News page for finding new information. The Alateen page now reflects all Alateen meetings in the New York South Area.

7th Tradition break: Suggested donation for tonight of \$10, which should be reimbursed to you from each group's treasury.

Intergroup Fundraiser letter was shared, IRs can share with Groups:

"Just for today I will live through this day only, and not tackle all my problems at-once. --Courage to Change p.19

During these uncertain days as we are all still impacted by the Covid-19 virus, the Board members wanted to reach out to our Al Anon members to deeply thank you all for your support both financial and spiritual. These difficult times challenge us all to live "one day at a time." We are all living with constant stress and constant needs. At Intergroup we have been encouraged by the constant support of our members. We strive to be a constant resource for all, who seek the support of the Al Anon program. We maintain up to date meeting lists. Our Conference Approved Literature is well stocked. Literature can be ordered online and shipped to you or picked up from the lobby at our midtown location. This year we launched our education committee, which researches topics brought to us by the Intergroup Representatives. Our two presentations are available at our website nycalanon.org/News. The Board recently set up a new email account to provide you with an easier way to reach the Board. A constant concern for us at New York City Al Anon is continuing to cover all our costs. Our organization remains fully self supporting solely from group and individual donations.

We need individual donations. Any level of donation helps; whatever you might have put into the basket during the time since meetings went online. For those who can, please consider donating to NYCAlanon.org now. Please announce this urgent request at the 7th Tradition break in your meetings.

We also need group donations. If your group can donate even a fraction of its customary amount, Intergroup needs it.

Al-Anon participation is crucial during stressful times when we still have to cope with personal and family difficulties. In this time of isolation at Intergroup we are working to provide our members with the tools and the guiding hand of Al-Anon. Money is an important part of what keeps us going but we also seek members for the Intergroup Board. The energy, creativity and the recovery of our fellow members are our greatest resources. The only criterion is that you be a member of Al-Anon for two years. [Reach out to us](#) and we'll include you in our next virtual board meeting.

Group and individual donations can be made [here](#), or by check or money order payable to AFG and sent to the above address. [Any level of support helps](#) us continue to assist our members with the vital tools of the Al Anon program.”

Breakout Rooms Topic: How are your Groups doing now?

Breakout Rooms Reports and Discussion:

-Groups are comfortable staying online, some concerns about going back to f-2-f meetings, of safety, online is thought of as convenient.

-Participation is up, having international attendance. There are concerns about consistency and non-comfort around anonymity, and in the 7th tradition workarounds. Serving newcomers is harder--there's not an official electronic Newcomers Packet to give to them.

-Some meetings outdoors while some are staying small and private. Manhattan meetings are “robust” in attendance, most members love using Zoom.

-One meeting still paying the church, one group uses free conference call. There are three in-person meetings, How can we get beginner packets to newcomers?

Answer: in Chat, post the link to WSO homepage and click on Newcomers tab for newcomer information: <https://al-anon.org>

Also, the free downloadable literature link at WSO: <https://al-anon.org/formembers/members-resources/literature/downloadable-items/>

-Women in Spirituality use Soundcloud is a resource to record willing speakers so members and newcomers can listen to past “Qualifications”

-Use of Zoom has created new service positions and a need for ways to receive money electronically. Is there any description of these positions in the Service Manual? Does Intergroup have a description of these positions or any guidance? *Answer:*

Reports

Administration/Office (Julie)

We are offering free shipping on orders under \$10.00 while we can afford it, since our office hours are limited. Pickup is from the security area in the lobby of 4 West 43rd street.. slides from October seminar downloaded on our News page. We are seeking fellows to join our education committee and participate in special events. We want to stay connected with our members. We have set up a new email,board@nycalanon.org so members can reach the board members directly.

Treasury (Bill) We continue to have strong and increased cash flow compared to the prior year. The checking account is showing \$21,211 in cash as of October 21, 2020. We carried \$10,300 in cash from the prior year. We continue to pay our bills in a timely manner. The Savings Account shows \$50,419 in assets which includes a Prudent Reserve of \$21,000 (3 ½ months of expenses). We have given financial information to Kevin Sunkel, CPA, to prepare our 2019 tax return. The tax return must be submitted by November 16, 2020.

Website (Meret)

We are maintaining and updating a list of virtual meetings. When/if a meeting decides to return to f-2-f, we include it in the virtual meeting list "Physical." Almost none are physical. We will re-visit this policy as the Covid situation evolves.

Old Business:

Report on Face-to-Face meetings Seminar-presentation. Smaller attendance than at the Zoom Seminar, but the discussion was much appreciated. The slideshow has been posted to the website. The recording of the Seminar must be edited before it can be posted.

Announcements: please, **SHARE WITH YOUR GROUP**

- Next Share-a-day , November 21, 2020

- Next IR meeting, January 26, 2021
- Now forming: an Intergroup Zoom Tech-host list: any members who'd be willing to be the Zoom co-host at our IR meetings and/or our Intergroup Information Seminars. A great way to do a tiny bit of service beyond the group level. Go to the Intergroup Homepage, scroll down to the "Volunteer" button, and fill in your info.
- Seeking a member for Board Service, especially with Bookkeeping/Accounting/Finance experience. We encourage members with these skills, or other skills, to learn more about this Board Service. We practice rotation of leadership. When current board terms end, we want to make sure new board members are "in the pipeline" so NYC Intergroup continues to function smoothly.
- Gentle Reminder: there's a "Volunteer" button on the Intergroup homepage. Please announce this at 7th Tradition breaks and encourage members to check out the volunteer options, and maybe suggest new ones.
- Proposed dates for Intergroup Representative meetings. All meetings will take place Tuesday evenings @ 6:30-8:00pm. January 26th, April 27th, July 27th, and October 26th.

The Meeting closed at 8:00 with the Serenity Prayer and Al-Anon Declaration

The Zoom "room" was open for fellowship for 10 minutes.