

## Intergroup Meeting Minutes: April 11, 2018

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### Meeting Chair: Sandy K., Intergroup Chair

- Meeting opened at 7:00 PM with a Moment of Silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer
- Reading of 12 Traditions by Steve C., Lunch Bunch
- Sandy welcomed all the reps and invited the new reps to introduce themselves.
- Introductions from the floor. Groups in attendance: By the Book, Search for Serenity, Lunch-Bunch, Discovering the Big Book, Carp Fellowship, Hull Liberty, Awakening, West End, Stittsville Second Chance, Ottawa South, Women in Step, Maitland Step Group, Labyrinth, Step Sisters, Westboro Big Book Study, Alta Vista Open Door, Friday Night Chelsea BB Study, Pinecrest, New Day, Sunday Night Big Book, Orleans Hub, Lunch with Bill, Sobriety, Step by Step, Podium / Hill, Heritage, Stepping Ahead, Vanier, Back to Basics
- 29 voting members present and 5 non-voting members (excluding 6 Executive members; absent Executive, Harry B., Mickey R.)
- Minutes were accepted as presented.
- Jean H. asked for the addition of need for new Intergroup CPC liaison be put on the agenda. The agenda was accepted.

### REPORTS

#### CHAIR PERSON: Sandy K.,

1. The Office Administrator position was posted in the April OPP. A few more applications have come in, thanks to the Reps mentioning this item to their groups.
2. The executive sees the newsletter, in part, as the face of AA in Ottawa. The board wants to come up with some guidelines for the editor position. These guidelines might include working knowledge of the Traditions and length of sobriety as well as other possibilities. As well the board would like to set up a nominating committee to find some candidates for the Newsletter Editor position. A question was asked if someone could stand even if they hadn't been approached by the nominating committee and the response was yes.
3. Harry did follow up on the references for Andre Pion, an acquaintance of Sandy K. who has agreed to do the Financial Review of the Intergroup accounting records without charge. The references are very favorable. Doris M., suggested we may want to offer him an honorarium as AA is self-supporting through our own contributions.
4. A Young Peoples Big Book Study organized by Sheera S will be starting on April 26<sup>th</sup> in the main room of the Intergroup Office from 7:30 to 10 pm. Sheera will be assisted by Shana MC. The group has offered to take the phone commitment for that evening while they are there.
5. The Traditions evening will be held May 17<sup>th</sup> at ROH in the Assembly Hall. The doors will open at 6 and the meeting will be from 7-9. Debbie D, from Concord, CA will be the presenter. There will be coffee and cookies available.
6. Posters for the Vanier Roundup are on the side tables.

#### VICE CHAIR: Harry B. (absent)

#### SECRETARY: Anne D.

1. Anne asked new reps to complete the contact information form and for all reps to sign in on the sheets provided.

#### TAS COORDINATOR: Mickey R. (absent)

#### **TREASURER: Stephen C.**

1. Stephen presented the March Profit and Loss statement and balance sheet. The Accounts Receivable is \$4300.41 as the City of Ottawa literature order was picked up. The Alkathon donation of \$3000 was in February so is included in the year-to-date figures. Literature sales are up due to City of Ottawa sale. Depreciation is up as we have begun to depreciate the renovations done to the Intergroup office. Paul B, Step by Step, noted that the group donations are actually down as the Alkathon \$3000 donation is included in the total. Stephen agreed. Office rent is up about 1%.
2. A question was asked as to why there is still no income showing in the Net Conference account. Stephen explained that sales are happening, only the Stripe income from credit card sales had not been deposited into the Intergroup bank by the end of the month.
3. Joe D, Search for Serenity mentioned he had been at the office when the City came to pick up the literature order. There was nothing for the person picking up the order to sign and no list of items that they were to take. Sandy and Stephen thanked him for bringing this to their attention.
4. Stephen reported that the total sales by credit cards to date is \$1260.40. The fees for those sales is \$37.05. Currently 15% of all literature sales are purchased using a credit card. Doris M made the comment that cheques cost people to use. Nigel L. commented that there is approximately a 20% gross profit.
5. Stephen would like to discuss the situation with the Executive and come back to the Reps with a plan of action.

#### **LITERATURE: Marie G.**

1. Marie was not at the last executive meeting. She is learning the ropes, now has the Literature email and will be attending the next Executive meeting.
2. The Ottawa Carleton Detention Centre also placed a big order and that is why we are out of Big Books.

#### **WEBMASTER: Carolyn O.**

1. Carolyn has set up the Spring Conference website. She also was overseeing the TAS while Mickey was away.

#### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

1. The OPP was on the table!

#### **12-STEP COORDINATOR: Caterina C.**

1. Caterina has added the First Nations and Inuit Hope to the 12-Step list. Their people speak 4-5 languages including Cree, Inuit and Ojibway. If AA gets any calls from people requiring their assistance they are happy to assist. They will also refer people to other services, if needed.
2. Residential School Survivors has also been added to the 12-Step list as an organizational contact.
3. Daniel M. reported that many towns up north don't have meetings due to too much talking

#### **SPRING CONFERENCE: Duane S, vice chair**

1. Everything is in line. They have 2 speakers from Ontario. Tickets are available for distribution to groups. There are food options for vegetarians. Tables are getting booked. Panels have been chosen. They have a strong committee. Al-Anon and Alateen are participating.
2. The Hospitality Room will be on the opposite side of the main meeting room. Banquet tickets are \$55 (includes attendance). There is the convenience of an on-line ticket purchase for \$12.00. Event tickets are \$10 ahead of time and \$15 at the door.
3. Hospitality is looking for food donations. If you can bring them in in the morning, that would be helpful or through the day is appreciated.
4. They are still looking for volunteers for some positions. You can register on-line for those positions. St. Anthony's got some industrial coffee makers. They couldn't believe how much coffee was consumed last year.

### ALKATHON: Travis (incoming chair)

1. The Alkathon will be holding an inventory this coming Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> in Room 106 of the Bronson Centre at 1 pm. Mike B will be chairing the inventory. All are welcome. One idea to consider will be coming under the Intergroup umbrella. There will not be a vote as there is no committee at this time.

### CPC/PIC Intergroup Liaison:

1. Jean H. has to resign as CPC/PIC Intergroup liaison. This position involves a monthly meeting. Nigel L has been the chair.
2. Nigel L reported there are only himself and the liaison from District 62 left on the committee. Nigel needs to step down. Nigel asked Reps to let their groups know people are needed for the CPC and PIC.

### HIRING COMMITTEE:

1. Doris M, Discovering the Big Book, nominated Ray N, Ottawa South to be the Rep to sit on the Hiring Committee. Ray told the group he has worked in an office environment for 25 years as an Operations Lead for a business. He has a few staff members. As there were no other nominations from the floor, Ray was acclaimed to be the Intergroup Rep on the Hiring Committee.

### MCNABB MEETING:

1. Sandy mentioned there had been an error with the meeting time when the last contract was signed. It has now been rectified. We have the room from 10:30 to 12:30.
2. Jeff F., Maitland group presented the report on the March 2018 commitment. There were 4 meetings with an average of 20 people. He has given the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition to Stephen.
3. McNabb group commitments: March 2018 – Maitland Group; April 2018 – Parkwood Hills. Search for Serenity has volunteered for May, Step by Step volunteered for June and West End Group volunteered for July. Hull Liberty has volunteered for September and Stittsville 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance has volunteered for November. We need volunteers for August, October and December 2018. Groups are to bring meeting lists, coffee supplies, chips, to print out and take the McNabb meeting format which is available on the Ottawa AA website, etc. to the meeting.
4. **Reminder: During the Intergroup meeting in the month after a group's commitment, the Intergroup Rep is asked to report on the McNabb 7<sup>th</sup> tradition, attendance and any issues that may have occurred. The monthly rent for McNabb is \$80.17.**

### OLD BUSINESS: Safety in the Rooms

1. A number of members shared their group's experience regarding safety in the rooms. Many are now reading the cards. They shared how they are handling the situations that have arisen.

### NEW BUSINESS-MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT & FUNDRAISING

1. Jeff F., Maitland Group had brought this topic up at the last meeting. He said currently there are about 20% of Ottawa's AA groups who are participating in Intergroup. His group is wondering what our strategy is to engage other groups.
2. The Chair suggested that every board in the past has made efforts to get out to all the groups to let them know the importance of what Intergroup does for Ottawa AA. At the upcoming Spring Conference the Executive will host an Intergroup table for people who don't understand the service Intergroup provides to the Fellowship nor the support to the groups to allow them to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic may ask questions and get answers.
3. Here are some ideas the Executive have been thinking about to encourage membership engagement: Newcomer Meet and Greet, Film Night, Traditions Play, Bake Sale, Drunk Junk Garage Sale, fly in a speaker. Sandy mentioned that according to GSO guidelines groups are not encouraged to fundraise as it gets in the way

of the primary purpose. She sees Intergroup as being more in position to fundraise so to assist the groups to carry the message.

4. Many reps spoke of their concerns regarding the lack of participation by the membership. Opinions expressed related to sponsors not telling sponsees how things work in AA, in the past at Intergroup arguments that drove people away, people don't want to do anything, education needed for all, McNabb used to be the only fundraiser for Intergroup, but that has changed. It was suggested that the current Reps when they attend other meetings could speak about Intergroup, what it does and what it needs, "if you can't send a Rep, send money."
5. Sandy expressed an interest in having an outreach committee created to assist in membership engagement.

#### **COFFEE VOLUNTEER FOR MAY.**

1. Carrie D., Heritage Group has volunteered to make coffee for the MAY meeting.

**Motion to adjourn Meeting by:** Daniel M., Hull Liberty, John G., Back to Basics seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed at 8:45 pm with the Responsibility Pledge

**Next meeting: May 9, 2018 at 7:00 PM, Mac Hall, Bronson Centre.**