

SATURDAY NITE LIVE GROUP
STEERING COMMITTEE AND BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2011

- Group Chairperson opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Serenity Prayer
- A member read the short form of the AA Traditions
- The Group Secretary called Steering Committee roll
- Read last month's minutes and they were passed by the group
- The 7th Tradition basket was passed

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORTS

GROUP CHAIRPERSON: (John H.)

- STOP program works, but if you have a problem, call 911 for threats or illegal activity.
- Three people are on the STOP list: Victor, Omar W., and AKA-“Gunnies Girl”
- Suggestion box was loaded with cleaning the room comments.
- Regardless of help offered, the meeting secretary is ultimately responsible for clean up
- An important point on new business proposals...once a motion is made by a member and the motion is accepted by the group, that person no longer needs to stand in front of the room during group discussion. At that point, the motion now belongs to the group as a whole and is up for discussion amongst the members to form a group conscious.

GROUP SECRETARY: (Sheila D.)

- Added Secretaries' Workshop and Website Policy to the addendum of the IGCD
- Added Website Coordinator and Assistant Website Coordinator positions to IGCD

TREASURER and CO-TREASURER: (Kim and Fran)

- We had a very low August income of \$4960.51
- Expenses much outweighed income at \$5633.51
- As a result, we went into our reserve \$673
- Basket income severally dropped in August
- If you need to be reimbursed for money spent, the treasurer must get a receipt. Otherwise, no reimbursement will be made for your expenses.
- A member noticed that baskets have been passed a variety of ways at meetings. The concern is that this may not allow for consistent contributions as the basket didn't always reach all the seats for contributions.
- Another member shared that it has been up to each secretary how they manage baskets.

FINANCE COORDINATOR: (Colleen)

No Report

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE and ALTERNATE (GSR): (John C and Jennifer)

- Attended area Assembly where discussions about anonymity in internet was a big topic

- The Assembly spoke at length about the Traditions #3 and #5. There's a fine line between upholding traditions and using them too rigidly.
- Unity Day in Milpitas was a success. A huge highlight during the group countdown was that our SNL member, Manny, stood for his sobriety for the first time since being in the hospital. ***Manny stood for his sobriety!!*** It was a very powerful moment for AA and the group was very moved by his strength and example!

INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVE and ALTERNATE (IRG): (Jeremy S. and KC)

- *The Coin* is looking for people to send in articles on topics
- *The Coin* is a useful source for activities, including a calendar listing upcoming events
- Palo Alto is celebrating its 70th Anniversary with a special event on Sept. 16th
- "In Our Own Words" play contributed \$8,700.....a BIG success for our area in AA

HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTATIVE (H&I): (Ramon)

- Lots of service opportunities are available!!.....See postings on the side board
- Where to sign up?....4th Tuesday of every month at 7PM (and 6:30PM orientation) at the First Congregational Church, 1980 E. Hamilton Ave., S.J.
- Show up early because service positions do get filled up at this meeting and go fast

PUBLIC INFORMATION/COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COORDINATOR (PI/CPC): (Jonathan)

- A DUI presentation was made....it was *Off the Hook!!*.....*Jonathon is STILL fired up!*
- We need more people in service
- Where to sign up?....2nd Saturday of month, 10AM at Central Office

BIRTHDAY COORDINATOR: (Mara)

- Forgot to pass the basket at the August Birthday night
- The basket was passed during the Business Meeting for chip money

EVENTS and ALT-EVENTS COORDINATORS: (Rachel)

- Not sure if "Day on The Gravel" will take place due to the possible need for permits
- Chairperson stood in to elaborate on the issue.....
- PD is familiar with our activities and is in full support
- The issue is with the FD who requires permits when using tents in cooking areas
- We're working with city officials to clarify our intention of a potluck with a separate BBQ area. We hope to work this out so that the day can go on as planned

REFRESHMENTS COORDINATOR: (Phil)

- The two month \$80 increase has been a big help but the budget is still tight
- We're still relying on the very generous donations of old time members to make up for group needs
- Coffee Kiosk update.....
- The estimates are almost complete and we're considering various configurations

- FYI, the group soon needs to have to discuss on how we'll operate the area and who is responsible for managing it during meetings
- We may want to consider an elected position as an added service opportunity for members who want to run the coffee kiosk
- Please think it over and if you have ideas let Phil or the group know
- Once agreed on, we'll also need to add new procedures to the Secretaries Workshop

FACILITY COORDINATOR: (Tom B.)

- Much hard work has been done by members to remove the old carpet and grout
- We're grateful to have a member donating soap, dispensers, and cleaning supplies
- On it's way....bathroom fixtures and paint on the front door
- Another sober tree sprouted in the room and needs to be replanted as things take shape
- We're working hard to get this place cleaned up....please be a part of and get involved

ANNOUNCEMENT COORDINATOR: (Tom H.)

- Last Report.....“No Report,” said Tom.
- Big applause, laughs, *sighs*.....AND “Thank You’s” from the group for Tom’s service!

GROUP ARCHIVIST: (Gary)

Not Present

RECORDING COORDINATOR: (Wilimina)

- No Report
- There was discussion to ensure that the position is filled during Speaker meetings when the Recording Coordinator is not able to be present
- This position requires a good amount of training
- Perhaps an alternate is needed and some kind of tracking list with contact #'s to refer to when a trained replacement is needed.
- A general comment for any trusted servant position was that communication needs to take place when we can't carry out our commitments so that the group's needs can be met in our absence

SPEAKER COORDINATOR: (Mario)

- SNL needs to be in *The Coin* with a list of upcoming speakers
- John H. will follow up on the above

LITERATURE COORDINATOR: (Sarah)

- Sarah said “Thank You” for letting her serve.
- She did her service commitment without a car but she's back on the road again!
- Proof that literature service CAN be done without a car!

FEMALE SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR: (Breanna)

No Report

MALE SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR: (Jason)

- Will be looking into having a group Sponsorships Workshop
- The sponsorship box is being misused
- We got 3 slips from the box and 2 hook-ups with sponsors. Good stats.....bravo!

SECRETARY WORKSHOP COORDINATOR: (Chuck)

- Six people signed up for workshops and all went well without any concerns
- Chuck declared, "I'm doing *really well* in my position!"
- For shits and giggles, he thinks everyone with service commitments should read the IGCD and understand their responsibilities which ARE listed in the document.
- It is noticed when people show up for various commitments with no knowledge of their responsibilities. This could be avoided by reading the IGCD
- It takes him off the hook when things go bad and it's not his responsibility. So take yourself off the hook and read the damn thing.

NOON MEETING COORDINATOR (8:30am, 10am, noon): (John B.)

- To add to Chuck's statement, one thing the IGCD states is that Meeting Coordinators "attend the first meeting of a new secretary to provide guidance and assistance" as well as, "ensure the new secretary receives the room key from the outgoing secretary."
- He's committed to following what is written for his service commitment
- Finds that the IGCD is important to follow, making things run smoothly
- Most important, individuals as well as the group are supported in their recovery

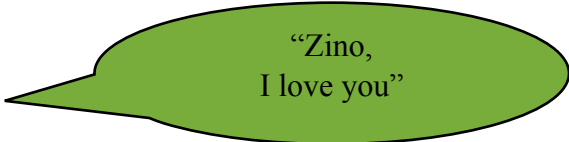
6PM MEETING COORDINATOR (2pm, 3:30pm, 6pm, 6:30pm): (Geno)

- No Report

EVENING MEETING COORDINATOR (7pm, 8pm, 8:30pm): (Chris W.)

- Some secretaries are showing up without actually taking the Secretaries' Workshop or their workshop was a good amount of time ago with no service in between
- Should we require workshops to be repeated after significant periods of time without a service commitment?
- Do we need to come up with a way of tracking when workshops were done?
- It was pointed out that attendance is currently recorded in the Secretaries' Workshop Coordinator's binder located in the Secretaries' closet
- Recommended that we implement some kind of check before elections to make sure workshop requirements are met
- ** With special request to be heard and recorded in the minutes.....**

Chris said,



"Zino,
I love you"

MIDNIGHT MEETING COORDINATOR (and marathon meetings): (Kristopher)

- Got a call for a fight.
- As the Meeting Coordinator, he got involved and one of the two people ended up getting a sponsor and *got sober!*
- A big applause ensued!!
- Maybe fights aren't such a bad thing after all.....You never know where service leads

OLD BUSINESS

Update on changes to the Newcomers Meeting format

- Still working out the timing of the new format
- A motion was made to allow the new format to continue to be used until the October Business Meeting.....Passed

Proposal: **“Change Secretary Election months for 4 Meetings from (April, August, December) to (January, May, September)”**

- Since this proposal would change the IGCD, it must pass two consecutive 2/3 votes to implement a change. It passed a vote by 2/3 in the August Business Meeting.
- It passed a second vote by 2/3 again in September
- The following secretary election months will be changed in the IGCD: Tuesday 6PM, Wednesday 8PM, Saturday Noon, and Sunday Midnight.

Discussion: **Change the meeting format to state, “Comments are made by AA members only.”**

- References from AA literature were reviewed in support of singleness of purpose
- Some members felt exclusion was suggested in the comment
- One member said he likes the tradition of SNL being a place that welcomes all sorts of people. He sees nothing wrong with the way meetings have been run and stated he would leave if we changed our SNL traditions.
- Some members didn't see that the proposal stopped nonalcoholics from attending SNL meetings, but more of who can share during a meeting from the microphone
- A member pointed out the denial of alcoholism that keeps people from identifying
- A member referenced the group's IGCD, stating that sharing was to be on experience as it relates to the recovery from alcoholism through the use of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. The member referenced that the primary purpose of meetings is to carry the message of recovery from alcoholism to the alcoholic who still suffers. The member asked, without a desire to stop drinking (Tradition #3) or identifying as an alcoholic (Step #1) are we satisfying the groups primary purpose when sharing from the mic?
- A newcomer was very grateful she could stay in AA and get sober from alcohol regardless of other recovery platforms visited. Alcohol was her reoccurring problem.

- A member did not see a need to add additional language to our meeting format for the following reasons:
 1. Our format already states, “When called upon to speak, please confine your sharing to the topic introduced as it pertains to the recover from alcoholism.”
 2. IGCD (section 2.2) provides guidance that we welcome those who may have dependencies on other substances, but we as a group only offer a solution to alcoholism.
 3. AA literature has discussed that early members had a fear of loosing their sobriety and fellowship. Who determines membership?
 4. “Drug-a-logs” and other disruptive influences will not go away – they are consequence of our own success.

Reached the 5:30PM automatic tabling deadline.....[IGCD 6.2.1 (Meeting Agenda)]
 The Group Chairperson tabled discussion for “Old Business” until October’s Business Meeting.

5 MINUTE BREAK

NEW BUSINESS

(No new business in September)

NEWLY ELECTED POSITIONS

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name</i>
Announcement Coordinator	Rebekah
Literature Coordinator	Eric
Monday Noon	Nia (Appointed)
Thursday Noon	Lee
Thursday Midnight	Zino
Saturday 2PM	Laura
Sunday 2PM	Sarah (appointed)
Saturday 6:30PM (Partial Term: Missed election when due in August)	Anne-Laure

WHAT’S ON YOUR MIND?

- If you see something that a secretary is doing that you don’t like, call the meeting coordinator and they will deal with the issue. A lot of complaints are heard, but few calls are made.
- Be a trusted servant, not a bleeding deacon

- A member understands the importance of meetings for parents with children and is very sensitive to that. With that being said he would like feedback from the group because he's not sure what to do about disruptions related to children in meetings.

Questions for the group to mull over.....

1. Should we do something like a sign or announcement on how the group wants children to be managed in order to avoid disruptions
 2. Is the group concerned about whether the newcomers are able to focus on the message or if their focus is on the disruptions not being managed in the room?
- In our SNL group, all views are listened to, considered, and used to form decisions.
 - When presenting issues that need to be resolved in the group, it's suggested that we should use the same tools we've learned while working our program for sobriety (talk to people, be open minded, pray, work the steps and traditions)

Respectfully Submitted,
Sheila D. (Group Secretary) ▲