

OTTAWA AREA INTERGROUP OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
General Meeting Minutes for May 10, 2006

The meeting opened with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. John R. read the Twelve Traditions.

Welcome: The Chair welcomed all members in attendance.

Voting Members: 29

Non-voting Members: 10

Board Members: Michael C., John S., Chris Mc., George S., John W., Maureen C., Paul B., Doris Mc.

Agenda and Minutes:

On motion by Earl M., seconded by Bill P., the agenda was accepted as amended. The amendments were as follows:

- item 2: Review and acceptance of April/06 minutes, instead of March/06.
- last line announcing next meeting: changed to read June14, instead of May 10.

On motion by Joanne B., seconded by Dan L., the General Meeting Minutes for April 12, 2006 were accepted as amended. The amendments were as follows:

- the first item in the newsletter editor's report - a note was added explaining what was meant by the readership attention test. The "test" was to spot the mistake in the date. The year was printed as "2007" - an inadvertent typo.
- The missing names were added to complete the list of hosts for the McNabb meeting: June -- Lunch Bunch; July-- First Avenue to Recovery; also the October host, By the Book, was specified to be Friday Night By the Book.
- The report of the by-law amendment that had been passed in April made reference to "audited or account reviewed financial statements". "Account" should have read as "accountant".

Reports:

Chair: Michael C.

- Area Assembly: Michael's expenses for the two days in Kingston to attend Area 83's Spring Assembly came to \$176.81. This includes his expenses for hotel room, meals, banquet fee, gas.
- Meeting expenses: District 58 (Bytown) will no longer book a room in the Bronson Centre to hold its District meeting. It will use the Archives room for their monthly meeting.

Question from the floor: How long has Bytown not paid for its meeting space in the Bronson Centre? It was noted that District 52 (Ottawa West) donates \$600/year to Intergroup. Part of this money is used to defray expenses for meeting rooms. Chris Mc., our treasurer, answered that the Bronson Centre has just started in 2006 to charge for meeting rooms. In the past, these rooms were provided without extra charge. Given this change in practice, we (Intergroup) were asking District 58 (Bytown) for a monthly contribution to defray this extra cost.

- Gratitude Day: Note the flyers are out for Gratitude Day -- June 10, 2006.
- Fall Conference 2006: Michael has been attending their organizing meetings. Arrangements are progressing well. Most speakers and panellists are booked for Fall Conference 2006.

- Fall Conference 2007: Janet A, the vice-chair of Fall Conference 2006 and chair of Fall Conference 2007 has requested an advance of \$500 for Fall Conference 2007. This money is needed as a deposit for the premises. It is a common practice to book premises a year in advance.

Discussion: There was a suggestion from the floor that we should form a committee to find other less expensive premises, and the question was raised about the seed money that had already been advanced to the Fall Conference. Answer: The seed money advanced to this year's conference is already allocated to their expenses. This request from the hotel (the Crowne Plaza) for a deposit for next year was unexpected.

Moved by Greg K., seconded by Des B. that an advance of \$500 be given to the organizers of Fall Conference 2007 to book the meeting premises. Carried.

Michael asked if a voting member of Intergroup would like to follow-up on the suggestion from the floor and make a motion about forming a search group to find other less expensive locations for the Fall Conference. No one volunteered to make the motion. Accordingly, the matter was dropped.

Vice-Chair: John S.

- John has been attending the organizing meetings for the Springathon. All is going well.

Treasurer: Chris M.

- Pleased to report that April's receipts were almost equal to expenses (\$125 difference). Explained that some of the year-to-date figures look very large, but they reflect large one time only expenses (such as the audit expense).
- We have \$1,623 in accounts receivable (money that groups owe us). Some of this, \$618, is overdue. Some of this might have to be written off as bad debts. Would groups please double check that all their invoices from Intergroup are paid up? We have trouble going after some of the debtor groups as it is not always clear which group owes the money. Many groups have similar names and if the specific name was not recorded on the invoice, we don't know which group to contact.

Literature Coordinator: George S.

- An inventory was taken on April 22 and based on the inventory, a literature order will be placed with New York. An order for more medallions will also be made.
- Our previous New York order, faxed on April 10, has not arrived. Part of the answer as to why was a mistake that was made in using the wrong set of prices to create the order. Another part of the answer is that New York took our cheque and deposited it as a "group contribution". Sorting this out is in progress.
- Question: Do we sell chips to the groups? Answer: We carry medallions, but not the first-year progress chips. Private vendors sell these. If groups want to buy

something other than regular poker chips, we have the name at the Intergroup office of a vendor who sells coloured chips with slogans printed on them.

Newsletter: John W.

- The current edition is available for distribution. Note that it contains the program for this week-end's Springathon.
- Anyone wishing to volunteer as an apprentice to learn newsletter production, please see John or Danny M. The apprentice will learn how to format on the computer using Corel Draw. Please canvass your group members to see if anyone is interested.

TAS: Maureen C.

- Maureen pointed out that the schedule of this month's and next month's volunteers for telephone commitments is available. She listed some changes to the schedule.
- Maureen is currently updating the 12th steppers list and has been phoning the out-of-town people so far.
- Question: is it possible to have a meeting of the after-hours people about ways to find available people to take 12th step calls? After some discussion, it was clarified that the person asking the question had an out-of-date list. Maureen and Michael would make sure that a more up to date list would be made available.

Webmaster: Paul B.

- Website seems to be functioning without trouble. If there are any concerns, please contact him. Can e-mail him at Webmaster@ottawaaa.org.

Secretary: Doris M.

- Reminder to tick off attendance on the sign-in sheet and to check the accuracy of your information.

Archives Committee: George M.

- The April Archives Committee meeting was not held due to Committee members responsibilities for the April 19 performance of "Reflections"--the one woman show held at the Bronson Centre. The performance was well attended by 242 persons. Jean F. gave a marvelous performance as Lois Wilson and received a standing ovation at the end of the performance. Thanks to all the attendees and volunteers who made that evening a success. Intergroup Reps having money or remaining tickets from the show can see George M. after the meeting.
- Archivist Dan McD. attended the Area 83 Spring Assembly in Kingston at the end of March.
- Vice-chair Mary W. and Archivist Dan McD. attended an "Ask the Archives Advisor" half-day presentation held in Peterborough, April 8. This session was sponsored by the Archives Association of Ontario (AAO).
- There is still a requirement for another Intergroup rep and another member-at-large on the Archives committee. The requirement is two years of sobriety.

- Question: How successful was the "Reflections" evening monetarily? There was a surplus of \$2,338 over expenses. These plays and the long-timers luncheon are the main source of funds for Archives activities.

Fall Conference:

(see the Intergroup Chairman's report.)

Springathon: Lorna M.

- Reminder that the Springathon is this week-end. The schedule is in the newsletter. Note that meetings listed for room 212 have been moved to room 109. Consequently, all meetings will be on the main floor.

Old Business:

- McNabb Meeting Coordinator: Daniel L. has volunteered. Thanks Daniel.

New Business:

- No new business.

McNabb Meetings:

June: Lunch Bunch
July: First Avenue to Recovery
August: Alta Vista Open Door
September: Barrhaven
October: Friday Night By the Book.
December: Step by Step.

Coffee and Set-up next month: Fabio

Clean Up tonight: all.

Adjournment:

On motion by George M., seconded by Bill P., the meeting adjourned at 8:00. p.m. closing with the Responsibility Pledge and Lord's Prayer.

Next Intergroup Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bronson Centre