

**OTTAWA AREA INTERGROUP**  
**General Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2008**

The meeting opened with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer followed by the twelve traditions.

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed all members in attendance.

**Voting Members:** 31      **Non-voting Members:** 12

**Cleanup:** Lorenzo, Luc, Sharon

**Agenda and Minutes:**

On motion by Frank V. seconded by Heather M., the agenda was approved with the following changes:

- to remove consideration of the Ottawa Archives.

**Burning Issues:**

- o Mary Wimbush will replace Ron K. as Acting Secretary, effective next meeting, while Ron recovers from illness.
- o Maureen C. from the previous Intergroup Executive will briefly address the Intergroup Meeting to thank them for the support given to the TAS during her time as TAS coordinator.
- o Terry Currie, Archivist for the Ottawa Archives has tendered his resignation with regret, effective end of April 2008.

**Reports:**

**Chair:** Heather H

- o 2006 Financial Statements completed.
- o By-law revision report will be presented in April
- o Pat, Intergroup Treasurer, has been doing a good job with Office Administration. He will take April off.
- o Alkathon has not yet prepared its final report but has decided that any surplus funds will be divided with 50% going to Intergroup; 25% to Al-anon and Alateen.

**Vice-Chair:** Brian L. No report

**Treasurer:** Pat B.

- o An arrangement has been made with Revenue Canada to cover off payroll deduction that had not been submitted.
- o Expenditures will be up over the next month, and offer a slightly distorted picture of monthly spending which will be averaged out as the year proceeds. Expenses exceeded revenue in February.
- o The Treasurer alerted the Executive to a coming bill for insurance.
- o There will be no Treasurers report in April. It seems he will be out the country on vacation. George S.? will cover off as necessary.
- o A question was asked concerning why Intergroup needs to hold onto its reserves when the GSO office in New York is in need of funds.

Pat B., Treasurer and Heather H., Chair, addressed the question by pointing out that the current reserves were now \$12,000 (down from \$26,000 of "liquid reserves" the previous month) after the making of investments approved by the Intergroup meeting last month, and that Ottawa Intergroup had outstanding bills come due over the last month (examples: auditors; insurance; and Revenue Canada payroll deduction bills)

**Newsletter:** Paul P.

- o Due to a computer crash the newsletter was not available yet. It is being worked on and will be available soon in the Intergroup office.
- o A question was raised concerning the availability of both this month, and next month's issue at the next Intergroup meeting. It was agreed this would be possible.

**TAS:** Peter G.

- o The after hours call list needs help. It is now down to 7 persons. The 12-Step After Hours service requires 2 years sobriety, other slots 1 year.
- o If there are no persons for a time slot, after 3 months it will be taken off the schedule.
- o There are 14 open slots in March. So far in the month of March there have been 9 no shows.
- o Both the 7-10 and the weekend shifts are well available for volunteers.
- o A question was asked concerning the nature of the no-shows. Peter replied that Individuals were predominant but that groups were involved too.

**Webmaster:** Jeff L.

Jeff has been working with representatives in Kingston and Pembroke to address some inactivity on their websites and expired domain names. It is likely that the two areas will directly take over responsibility for site activity themselves. This is seen as a good move that will benefit AA members in Kingston and Pembroke.

**Literature:** John G.

- o Literature services will be provided on every second Saturday or perhaps every Saturday for the next 3 months on a trial basis. John will canvass his volunteers to determine the frequency is most possible. It will be discussed next month
- o Pricing is still to be reviewed but will likely be somewhat higher in general as prices are balanced between publications.
- o International Directory not yet available from the GSO.
- o Work is proceeding on the Catalogue.

**Secretary:** Ron K.

Mary Wimbush will replace Ron K. as Acting Secretary, effective next meeting, while Ron recovers from illness.

**Fall Conference:** No report

**Springathon:** Derek R.

- o There have been some adjustments to the speakers with Sandy Smith now slated for Saturday morning, and Paul Welch of Rideauwood substituting for the treasured Sister Louise of Serenity Renewal on Saturday afternoon.
- o Approximately 170 meals for the banquet have been sold as of the meeting date. This is good news as it means that the Springathon has passed the break even point.
- o There were a total of 30 hotel rooms available, but 15 are now gone.
- o Toronto AA is helping with Alkathon publicity, and the Springathon Chair will be at the Ontario Regional Conference in Toronto.

**Old Business:**

- o The 2006 Financial Statements are finished.
- o By-law Reform is proceeding. Report to be presented next month.?
- o Intergroup now has a credit card which is its responsibility, not the Treasurer's.
- o The GST/PST rebate application will be applied for at the end of March.
- o Pat is doing a good job with Office Administration duties.
- o The McNabb meeting was having difficulty getting an April sponsor and will be discussed at the full meeting.
- o Some discussion ensued concerning whether the April meeting would be cancelled if there were no sponsoring group. A member felt that it would then be the responsibility of the Intergroup Executive. The Executive pointed out that the meeting was the responsibility of Intergroup (which is the group membership as a whole) and if the membership did not come forth the Executive would not step in.

**Secretary's note:** A group has come forth for the April meeting.

**New Business:**

- o The Area 83 Assembly will take place in the last weekend in March in Kingston.
- o Heather H. is preparing a History of Ottawa Intergroup with pictures and anecdotes (with assistance from Derek R.) for presentation to the Area Assembly.
- o Financial support for Archives is currently not being considered by Intergroup as a result of the vote taken on the by-law amendment proposal at last month's Intergroup meeting.
- o It was agreed to give an advance to the Intergroup Chairperson for Area Assembly expenses. Moved by Beth S, seconded by Gord H., approved.
- o The monthly newsletter will be made available online as a PDF format file, and be downloadable for printing out. Moved by Frank V. seconded by Nathan W., approved

**McNabb Meetings:**

February 2008	Early Birds
March 2008	West End group (to be confirmed)
April 2008	Step by Step ?

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m. closing with the Responsibility Pledge and Lord's Prayer.

**Next Intergroup Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bronson Centre**