

OTTAWA AREA INTERGROUP
General Meeting Minutes for November 12, 2008

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

Welcome: The Acting Chair welcomed all members in attendance.

Voting Members: na **Non-voting Members:** na No count available as Chair decided to dispense with the voting/non voting aspect of this bylaw requirement since he trusted the reps. An Intergroup rep stated that it was a bylaw requirement.

Note: During the identification roll-call most members did state whether they were voting or non-voting but not all.

Meeting clean up: Lorenzo and Luc

Set up and coffee for December Meeting: Don Mc. and Jean F.

Agenda:

Motion: Mike G., Seconded by Ernie O
That the agenda be accepted.
Carried. Unanimous

Oct. 15, 2008 Minutes:

Motion: Derek ., Seconded: ?
That the minutes be adopted as written.
Carried. Unanimous

Burning Issue: None

McNab Meeting: The Heritage group has signed up to chair the December meetings.

Old Business and Business Arising:

CHAIR: Heather H absent

BY-LAW REFORM, Ron reported, for Harry. that there was nothing to report but progress was being made

LITERATURE: John presented his new price list. He indicated that there would have been a difference in revenue during the period Jan 1..Sept 30 of minus \$2,200 as a result of a majority of items having reduced prices. A number of members unofficially audibly indicated their approval. In response to a question John stated that the prices would be posted on the Intergroup web site.

TAS: There were only 6 volunteers for the after-hours period but there are only 14 open slots, which is much better than at the beginning of the year. If someone comes in and needs a key, it is available at St. Vincent Hospital. Most volunteers had indicated to Peter that they liked the take-a-message system being utilised. Peter asked the members in the general meeting to OK the cancellation of the On-Line service.

Moved by Gord H, seconded by Chuck M. to terminate the On-Line service. Approved with 1 opposed.

The other two options of voice mail and AM volunteer calls, and of remote call forwarding will be discussed in December.

WEBMASTER: Jeff L. asked that members please send him AA related links for the website. He was asked if retreats could also be posted on the Intergroup website. The meeting was told this was not being done since most retreats are not strictly AA retreats.

Motion: The Intergroup website should post web retreat information Moved by Gord H., seconded by Raymond B. ?,
Motion defeated.

SPRINGATHON:

By 8pm the discussion concerning the continuation of Springathon had yet to really begin. The Acting Chair Brian said he didn't believe in this "horseshit" of speeding through a meeting to finish by 8pm or as close as possible, so long as AA issues were being discussed the meeting would continue. If members didn't like that, they could leave. A number of Intergroup members took him up on his offer and left.

Derek R., past chair of Springathon said he wanted to say his piece concerning the resignation of this year's initial Springathon Chair, Willy P. as discussion began on Springathon. Brian said he had to wait.

Note: This in reference to an article in the October newsletter.

Intergroup received 2 email notes on the group conscience discussion. Both wanted Springathon but wanted it not to be just like the Fall Conference, but lower key. One was OK with the Bronson Centre, the other wanted something higher tone but not necessarily at a hotel.

The Acting Chair then called for a vote on yes or no, and it was unanimous to proceed with a Springathon. Brian then called for a discussion as to what kind of Springathon. At this point Derrick was allowed to speak. He refuted the \$8,000 charge to reserve rooms for the Travelodge Hotel and said it would not be charged if we could guarantee 300 dinners. He also said that no one was refused access to a meeting because they couldn't afford to pay the minimum cost.

Note: No supporting documents were filed.

The discussion of group consciences then resumed with about 10-12 persons reporting. All wanted to have a Springathon, and almost all said that it should be lower key than the Fall Conference. A number (3 or 4) said the Bronson Centre was OK and that we shouldn't have discrimination in our conferences by having only "suits" conferences. John of Alta Vista said that the Bronson Centre was not acceptable and that having both as complete conferences was fine, and that Derrick's explanation of the \$8000 issue answered his group's major concern on having a Springathon like this years, next year. Derek moved that the Travelodge be approved for this year's Springathon, for a two day conference, no Sunday. It was pointed out that he did not have the right to make a motion since he was not a voting member of Intergroup.

Motion: Dave C. moved, and Freddie G. seconded that the Travelodge be approved for this years Springathon. A vote was done and the motion passed by 20-7.

Note: Minority opinion was not called for.

No Springathon Chair was considered. That will be done at the next meeting.

New Business:

1. 2009 Intergroup Executive NOMINATIONS: Jean F. reported that so far only 1 nomination had been received, that being John G. for Literature.

Jean F. should be contacted by those willing to run. Her email is maritimerjean@sympatico.ca

The positions are: Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Literature Coordinator, Telephone Answering Service Coordinator, Secretary, Web Master, Vice-Chair of Fall Conference, Vice-Chair of Springathon, and Editor of Primary Purpose

Jean also mentioned that she wanted to advise members of the meaning of right to decision, and that perhaps it should be addressed in the future.

2. Changes to Intergroup: Pat reported that the renovations arising from the Archives co-location would be completed by the end of November. In order to facilitate work, old furniture was being moved out, and once the work was done it would be replaced by new furniture, floor work, and re-painting. He also reported that up to \$6,000 had been recommended by the Executive at their meeting to carry out these changes.

Motion: Moved by Don Mc ?, Seconded by Beth ? that up to \$6000 be approved for the Intergroup Office renovations.

Passed: 1 opposed

Note: No supporting documents were submitted.

3. McNab Meeting: The coffee pot at McNabb is broken. Boots H. will look into it

4. TAS Saturday/Sunday volunteer: Intergroup was asked to approach their group memberships for anyone willing to serve as a volunteer all day during Saturdays and Sundays, as is done from Monday through Friday.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m. closing with the Responsibility Pledge and Lord's Prayer.

The next Intergroup Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bronson Centre

Heather Hay, Intergroup Chair

Ron Kellestine, Intergroup Secretary

Note: From Heather Hay to recipients of the minutes. The chairperson wishes to point out to the Intergroup Reps that in the future they must comply with the ByLaw requirement to state their group name, and declare their voting or non voting status (Article 34).

Appended reports:

From: "JEAN F"

To: "RON K"

Subject: Minutes of Nov 12, 2008 Intergroup - thanks, Please add my report.

Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 21:34:47 +0000

Hi Ron,

Thank you very much for your minutes, what a wonderful job you did in capturing the essence of the meeting. I would like to summarize what I said at the meeting as I did primarily quote from the service manual. If you don't mind, I would ask that you include it in the November minutes to be submitted in December.

Thanks again,

Jean F., Nominating Committee for 2008 Ottawa Intergroup officer elections,
not-voting

Report to be added to the minutes:

Hi, my name is Jean and I am an alcoholic, it is my privilege to chair this years nominating committee for Ottawa Intergroup officer elections. So far only Pat B., current treasurer and John G., current Literature officer, have put their names forward for next months elections to serve a second term in their respective positions, depending upon the outcome of the elections.

It has been raised several times during this meeting that members are uncomfortable about voting on decisions for which they have not had an opportunity to discuss with their groups. This is because their group reps had not attended previous Intergroup meetings. Thus these reps do not know how to vote as they do not know their group's consensus. I would like to point out that although it is ideal that Intergroup reps vote according to their group's consensus, every AA member on a service commitment does have a "Right of Decision" as outlined in Concept III (p. 13 in the second part of the Service Manual) that allows them to vote without group consensus, when necessary.

From the service manual: "the instructed Delegate (and Intergroup rep) Who cannot act on his own conscience in a final Conference vote is not a "trusted servant" at all; he is just a messenger". Although the job description of an Intergroup Rep is to represent their group, they are "primarily the world servants of AA as a whole" and should cast their votes "according to the best dictates of their own judgment and conscience at
Ottawa Intergroup Minutes – November 2008

that time”.

This is as long as all actions that take place during the Intergroup meeting are communicated to the Ottawa fellowship as a whole. Concept III further cautions us that the “right of decision” should:

“never be used as a reason for constantly exceeding a clearly defined authority, nor as an excuse for persistently failing to consult those who are entitled to be consulted before an important decision or action is taken.”

During the Intergroup elections next month, you will not be voting with your group’s consensus on who is the best person for the various Intergroup positions. Thus there are times when you must make a decision, yourself. In making your decision on who to vote for next month, I would like to point out that the long version of Tradition 9 states:

"All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness."

Finally, the heart of all decisions in AA service are to be based on whether this decision assist in carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. I strongly believe that, in our hearts, all of us who have a desire not to drink, do know how this can be done in service.

To summarize, Intergroup Reps (and GSRs) are not just messengers, they are also servants to AA as a whole, with the right to vote with their own heart, conscience and judgment, to vote for Intergroup officers who are trustworthy, experienced and respectful, to always vote on issues that affect the still suffering alcoholic. We are to trust each other and ourselves on this service journey, as it is the same road for all of us towards sobriety, gratitude, freedom and happiness.

Thank you.

Jim Teahen

To Whom It May Concern

RE: AA Springathon '09

Due to Willy P. resigning as the chair of Springathon 2009, Jean F. stated that we will need nominations for chair and vice chair for Springathon 2009. I stated that I believe that we are still welcome at the Travelodge. I told Jean that I would check it out.

The Travelodge said we are welcome and offered a proposal (attached) and tentatively reserved April 3 and April 4 until they get confirmation.

Sincerely, in the fellowship,

Jim T.



**Hotel & Convention Centre
Ottawa West**

FUNCTION CONTRACT

1376 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K1Z 7L5
Phone: (613) 722-7601
Fax: (613) 722-7737

**** Proposal ****

Booking: 12988

Date Printed: Friday, October 24, 2008
Booked Oct 1, 2008

Alcoholics Anonymous

14 Westdale Ave
Ottawa, ON
Canada K2H 5S3

Tel: (613) 828-7459

Contact: Jim Teahen

Tel: (613) 828-7459

Nigel Quildon - Sales Manager
Patrick Quirouette - Director of Sales & Marketing

Post As: Spring Banquet

Centennial Ballroom

1 @ 0.00 = 0.00

Saturday, April 4, 2009 7:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Notes: No fee for room rental

Function: Meeting 7:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Layout: Rounds

Res: 300

Notes: 9am - registration

10am - start/coffee

1pm - coffee break

3 pm - coffee break

5:30pm - sit down for dinner

6pm - dinner starts

7:30pm - meeting/speak

9pm - 1am - Dance

Audio Visual Requirements

*To be Provided & Billed by Frischkorn Audio Visual
(613) 722-8300 or e-mail favrott@frischkornav.com*

Setup Requirements & Time

Registration Table

in foyer

Speakers Table

Podium & Microphone

on risers

Refreshment Break 9:30 AM

Coffee (per cup)

150 @ 2.50

50 decaf 100 regular

Refreshment Break 2:00 PM

Coffee (per cup)

250 @ 2.50

50 decaf 200 regular

Dinner Service - Plated 6:00 PM

To be Determined

300 @ 28.00

Rolls and Butter

chef's Choice Salad

Tax Inc

Chef's Choice:
 Fish Entree
 Chicken Entree
 Vegetarian Entree

 Chef's Choice dessert
 Coffee / Tea

+ Dinner overflow into adjoining Room no charge For Room April 4-09

+ Centennial Room Friday 7 AM TO 11 PM \$800. Less if 5 PM TO 1 AM

Re. "Spring Banquet" or Springathon

Presently Reserved For April 3 + 4 AM 09.

AWAITING CONFIRMATION.

PATRICK QUIROUETTE

DIRECTOR OF SALES + MARKETING

Jim T.

Payment Information: To be determined

<i>Current Booking Total</i>	
Food Items	7,524.27
	=====
SUB TOTAL	7,524.27
PST	601.94
GST #R872326194	432.65
Service Charge	1,128.64
	=====
NET DUE	9,687.50

The above prices are exclusive of taxes and gratuities unless otherwise noted.

Customer is responsible to provide menu selections a minimum of 1 week prior to a meeting event; 2 weeks prior to a banquet event.
 Customer is responsible to provide a guaranteed number of guests for meals no less than 72 business hours prior to the function date
 otherwise, the expected number is charged.

Authorized Signatures:

Jim Teahen
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Date: October 24, 2008

Date

Nigel Quildon
 Travelodge Ottawa Hotel & Conference Centre

Date

FUNCTION TERMS & CONDITIONS

Menu Selection:

Please submit your menu selection to the Catering Department at least 14 days in advance of the function date. Limited dietary substitutions may be made in advance.

All Food & Beverage requirements to be served in the function rooms are exclusively supplied by the Travelodge Ottawa Hotel Catering Department. No food and beverage is to be brought in or removed from the Travelodge Ottawa Hotel. No food items may be left in the function room for more than a period of 2.5 hours

Guarantee numbers required 72 hours (3 working days) prior to the function date.

A final amount or guaranteed number of guests is to be given to our Catering Department no later than 72 hours (3 working days) prior to the function date. The master account will be charged for the guaranteed number or the number of guests served, whichever is greater. If the guaranteed number of guests has not been advised, the expected number of guests will be charged. The Hotel reserves the right to provide an alternate room should the size of the group change.

Deliveries:

Contact Catering Office for assistance, all deliveries must be clearly labeled with the name of the organization, contact name, date of the function and meeting room name. Receiving hours are 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday via the loading dock. Packages left with Hotel after 14 days will be disposed of.

Cancellations and Changes:

Cancellations of meeting rooms before 14 days of the function are subject to a cancellation fee of 50% of the rental charges. Cancellations 14 days or less before the function are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of rental charges. Cancellations not received 72 hours before the function are subject to an additional cancellation fee, equal to one third (1/3) of the cancelled event's estimated Food & Beverage revenues and the total rental charges. The rental fee for the meeting room is based on the set up, teardown and cleaning of the area. If the agreed setup is modified within 24 hours of the event, labour fees will be applicable to the room rental

Liability:

The convenor agrees to indemnify and save harmless Travelodge Hotel and Convention Centre Ottawa-West against any and all claims and expenses presented by any person, firm, or corporation attending the function for loss or damages sustained in the areas of the hotel designated for the holding of the function. No Hotel employee can assume responsibility for, or is liable for property or equipment brought into or delivered to the Hotel. It is forbidden to hang signage on the walls and furniture using any type of adhesive, tape, nails, pins or any other material

Beverages Alcoholic Beverages:

The sale and service of alcoholic beverages are regulated by the A.G.C.O. As a licensee Travelodge Hotel & Convention Centre's Catering Department is responsible for the administration of these regulations. It is a policy therefore, that liquor cannot be brought into any function room from outside sources, which includes all donated liquor.

Additional Goods & Services:

In the event of additional guests at your function, or your desire to order more food, extend bar hours or add any goods or services at the last minute, the hotel has the authority to do so upon the verbal approval of the convenors of the function, and provides clearance for collection of the additional charges not previously signed for on the Function Contract.

ALL FOOD AND BEVERAGE CHARGES ARE SUBJECT TO PST AND GST AND 15% SERVICE CHARGE.

Credit Policy:

Clients requesting credit must apply to our Credit Manager and must allow three weeks for processing and establishing credit. Payment on all accounts is net 30 days. A deposit is required at the time of booking for all social functions. 95% of the balance is due 72 hours before the function. The balance is to be paid in full on the day of the function.

Prices are subject to change due to market conditions. Guaranteed prices will be given 60 days prior to the event.

S.O.C.A.N. Fee:

We are required by law to collect a fee on behalf of the Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada, royalties when copyrighted music is played (whether there is dancing or not).

Restaurant Reservations:

For your convenience our catering department would be pleased to make a Group reservation for The Village Dining Room which can be charged to your function room.

I acknowledge that the above terms and conditions meet with my approval