

# **OTTAWA AREA INTERGROUP**

## **Minutes of April 7, 2009 General Meeting**

### **Welcome:**

- The Chair welcomed all Intergroup Reps and A.A. members to the meeting.

### **Housekeeping:**

- It was agreed that the Intergroup email list would be circulated as an attendance sheet with members attending this meeting identifying if they are voting or non- voting members.
- Members were asked to correct any errors on the email list and too add their names, group name and email address if they wished to receive copies of the minutes and reminders from the Intergroup Secretary.

### **Minutes of the February and March Intergroup General Meeting:**

- Lorenzo moved that the February minutes be accepted and Sasha seconded the motion.
- Hector moved that the March minutes be accepted and Anne seconded the motion.

### **Treasurer's Report, Questions and Comments:**

- The Treasurer is away at this time but will be present for the May Intergroup General Meeting.
- The Chair advised that there are a number of financial issues which will be dealt with at the May meeting.
- It was announced that the Vice-Chair has been charged to find an auditing authority to conduct a Financial Review of the 2008 finances of Intergroup. It is a requirement of the Intergroup Bylaws to conduct a financial audit on an annual basis. However, the Executive Committee of Intergroup agreed that a detailed financial review would satisfy Intergroup needs.
- The Treasurer will be providing a quarterly report for the first quarter of 2009 at the May 2009 Meeting.
- The Intergroup Rep for the Uptown Group advised that the Uptown Group would like Intergroup to cancel the Mastercard credit card since Intergroup has run up substantial debt of the card. The Chair advised that there is now \$8000.00 owing on the Mastercard.
- The Chair responded to this motion stating that input was required from the Treasurer who was not present at this meeting. He stated his concern at the heavy interest charges being paid on this card. However, he asked that the Uptown motion to cancel the Mastercard be deferred until the May meeting when the matter will be discussed in detail and the issue will be sent back to the groups for their group conscience.
- An A.A. member, who was the Literature Coordinator in the past advised why he felt a credit card was essential for literature purposes. He advised that he had to pay for literature on his own credit card to ensure rapid delivery. Otherwise it would take 3-4 weeks to get the required literature from New York to Ottawa.

- The Chair stated that we did receive \$2400.00 from the December 2008 Alkathon, that Intergroup does have a GIC for \$12,000.00, and that we also owe approximately \$3000.00 to Revenue Canada.
- A motion was moved by Hector and seconded by Suzanne in support of deferring the Uptown motion to the May meeting.
- It was agreed that the Vice-Chair would send a letter to groups owing Intergroup for literature asking them to pay outstanding balances.

### **Literature Report, Questions and Comments:**

- The Literature Coordinator advised he will be ordering Big Books and 12&12 and that they will be available to groups within a week.
- The Coordinator apologized to Intergroup reps stating he had ordered too many units of certain books and pamphlets and that this would not occur again.
- An Intergroup rep asked if we could return some of the excess literature to New York. He was advised by the Coordinator that shipping costs for books and pamphlets were high and that he did not believe this was the best approach.

### **TAS Report, Questions, Comments:**

- In March there were 80 slots for required volunteers. We only had 55% coverage with 35 slots passing without any volunteers present.
- Intergroup members asked how their groups could contact TAS if their group was able to fill empty slots in April. The Coordinator advised that the TAS telephone number is on our website and that he can be contacted through the website.

### **Newsletter Report, Questions, Discussion:**

- The Editor recommended to the Intergroup Reps that “ Our Primary Purpose” become a bi-monthly issue rather than a monthly issue. He advised that this would support improved quality of articles to support sobriety. There is also a possibility that the bi-monthly approach could provide some savings to Intergroup. The idea of potential savings was challenged since it is unknown if printing costs will increase with the increase in the number of pages, and potential additional number to be printed.
- Intergroup Reps supported the bi-monthly approach on the basis of enhanced quality of articles and information.
- It was agreed that any information that requires distribution to members between editions can be dealt with on the website.

### **Conference Reports:**

- The Chair advised that the Springathon was a success and that the dinner was fully booked.
- The Chair advised that the Chairman of the Fall Conference will be providing a report at the May Intergroup General Meeting.

**New Business:**

- The meeting was adjourned
- The date of the May Intergroup General Meeting will be **Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**.