

## Ottawa Area Intergroup Meeting Minutes

For

July 15, 2009

### Welcome:

The meeting was opened with a welcome to all Intergroup reps and AA Members present.

### Voting Intergroup Reps and Non-Voting AA Members Attending:

26 Voting Members  
2 Non-Voting members

### Executive Members:

Chair - Brian M. - Heritage Group:  
Vice-Chair - Shaun D. - Venture Group and Lunch With Bill  
Secretary - position vacant  
Treasurer - Pat B. - Beacon Hill  
Webmaster - Mark W. - Serenity Group  
Literature Coordinator - John G. - Back To Basics  
TAS Coordinator - Rich W. - Lunch With Bill ( not present)  
Newsletter Editor - Ozzie L. - Beacon Hill

### Housekeeping:

- The Intergroup Email list was circulated requesting those present to identify if they are voting or non-voting members.
- AA and Intergroup Reps were reminded by the Chair that only Intergroup Reps are allowed to vote on motions. Intergroup Reps were asked to stand to be identified.

### Minutes of the July 15, 2009 Meeting:

- The Chair opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer.
- The Chair thanked all present for their financial and moral support.
- One correction is that the book Language of the Heart is available in hardcover and softcover.

### Approval of Minutes of the June 10, 2009 Meeting:

- Francis made a motion to approve the minutes and Frank seconded the motion.
- No business arose from the minutes.

#### **Literature Coordinator's Report:**

- Big Books and 12&12s are in stock in the Intergroup Office and the Coordinator assured the Reps that the out-of-stock situation will not occur again.

#### **Website Coordinators Report:**

- The website is being kept current with announcements of upcoming conferences and other events.
- All DCMs would like links to the Intergroup website.

#### **TAS Coordinator's Report:**

- The Chair presented this report since the TAS coordinator is unable to attend because of working hours.
- There were 76 slots available for the month of June. Of these 9 were open and 30 were missed. This gave TAS coverage of 61% for the month of June.
- The TAS also had 2 volunteers drop their commitments. However, 2 new volunteers were picked up. Out of a total of 90 slots on the TAS schedule, there are currently 13 available time slots.
- The TAS Focus Group hopes to have a survey ready in the near future that will be distributed to groups and members in the districts served by the Ottawa Area Intergroup to help refine a proposal and to hopefully improve the coverage of TAS, making it feasible for more members to assist TAS.

#### **Newsletter Report:**

- Anniversary dates need to be submitted by August 20<sup>th</sup> latest to be included in the next printed version of the Newsletter.
- The Editor has developed an online ongoing update so that anniversary dates submitted after June 20<sup>th</sup> can be viewed online at the AA Ottawa website. It is a large file and people with less than high-speed will require patience downloading the Newsletter.
- All anniversaries can be sent to the email address of our Editor, Ozzie L, or directly to the Ottawa AA website.
- 1200 copies of the Newsletter were printed. In total 132 anniversaries from 27 groups which adds to 1684 years were announced in the Newsletter.

- Intergroup should consider copying a New York City approach which uses the Newsletter to announce the names of speakers at upcoming meetings. The Newsletter could offer an online version.
- It is the decision of each individual AA group as to whether AA birthdays are announced in the Newsletter only after the AA birthday has occurred or a month or more prior to a birthday occurring.

#### **Fall Conference Update:**

- The Chair of the Fall Conference advised that the planning and organizing of the Conference is going well. They are presently working hard on registration.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

- The Treasurer advised that as of June 30<sup>th</sup> cash on hand and in the bank totalled \$16,614.70. Our cash position has improved by \$26,000 in roughly 5 months. This is a result of having the Springathon pay back the advance they received from Intergroup plus a cash surplus from the Springathon for a total of \$5000. Another \$10,000 of this increase in cash came from cashing in the GIC. The remaining \$11,000 comes from sales of literature and group contributions. By Year end, Intergroup should have a good cash balance.
- In 2008 Intergroup made two decisions resulting in large savings as follows: 1) The professional TAS answering service was cancelled saving \$4500 in 2008 and about \$7000 in 2009; 2) The Treasurer assumed the position of Office manager saving \$6000 in 2008 and \$6000 in 2009.
- There will be a new invoicing system enabling Intergroup to transact their business by email.
- Questions were raised regarding the fact that expense items such as Audit Fees and Leasehold Improvements were being shown as Expenses for the 6 months ending 2009 when in fact these items were paid for in 2008.

#### **Other Business:**

##### **Pamphlet for Newcomers:**

- A vote was taken as to whether Intergroup should proceed with the suggested BC pamphlet for Newcomers. The motion was defeated.

##### **Audit for 2008:**

- The Vice-Chair announced that the audit for 2008 will proceed. He will personally select the firm to conduct the audit and the cost is estimated at \$2500.00
- A member who is the owner of a large accounting firm in Ottawa has volunteered his firm's services to conduct the audit out of gratitude. It

was group conscience that it would be best to seek an audit firm without any personal connection to AA.

**Publishing Group Donations in the Newsletter:**

- The motion was defeated which would have required individual AA group contribution to Intergroup to be published in the Newsletter.

**Sunday Morning McNab Meeting:**

- Intergroup is requesting AA Groups to volunteer to put on the McNab meeting for the months of September, October, November and December 2009.
- Groups can contact Shaun D. at [vicechair08@ottawaaa.org](mailto:vicechair08@ottawaaa.org) for details.
- Friday Night by the Book Meeting has volunteered for the month of August. The Heritage Group has committed for the balance of July.

**Next Intergroup Meeting:**

- The next Intergroup meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 7PM. The meeting was closed with the Responsibility Pledge.