

Northeast Florida Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes, Saturday, February 2, 2013

Mike M., Intergroup Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 9:46am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

- The Twelve Traditions were read by Linda.
- The Responsibility Pledge was recited in unison by all.
- The new Intergroups Representatives were given welcome package.

Mike M. gave an update of Beth's improving condition and asked for prayers by all.

Secretary's Report – Minutes read by Teri H., Recording Secretary

- Motion to accept with change of Tom M reporting on 2013 Convention, accepted.

Treasurer Report – Mike M. Vice Chair reporting

- The Seventh Tradition basket was passed.
- The treasurer's report was read and submitted. Ruth R questioned line 51 for a water leak and Kea verified that JEA will issue a credit of \$366.81.
- **Office Report** – Kea read and submitted the office report. Randy volunteered to move old copier. There is a place on Phillips Hwy. that will recycle.

Steering Committee Report – Don P. read Steering Committee Report. Vickie questioned as to whether part time position had been filled. A candidate has been chosen from the resumes received.

Add-A-Line – Kea B. reporting, Quite a few announcements this month. Steve, Grapevine Representative, has his contact numbers in this month's printing, please give him a call if you want to help sustain this vital link to A.A.'s around the globe. The Birthday Club is special recognition for your years of sobriety. A donation to Intergroup for each year you are sober is all it takes to have a tribute to your ongoing journey of sobriety in the monthly newsletter. The deadline for your submission of articles, birthdays, etc. is the 20th of each month for the following month's printing.

Archives – Kevin G. reporting, Kevin presented information on current group histories. He encouraged all groups to get with him to see if the archives contain records on their groups and if not, to update as necessary. Monday, February 4th at noon there will be an Archives Committee meeting. Junius Cotton was one of the founders of A.A. in Jacksonville. We will be reviewing his story, and all are welcome to attend. Three more interviews with old-timers are scheduled: Ben W., Ed M. and Alice P. Kea B. presented two rare finds for the archives. One was a first edition of "The A. A. Way of Life" which was scheduled to be trashed by the Salvation Army. The other was an original Big Book from Jax Men's Group signed by all the group founders. Once again, Kevin invited the body to Intergroup to see what the Archives has to offer.

Corrections – Doug S. reporting, There will be a Corrections orientation on 2/11 at the Pretrial Detention Center. Open hours are anytime between 4:30pm and 7:00pm. Must have at least 1 year sobriety, and 5 years of no incarcerations. Information will be listed on the neflaa.org website. Pink cans for Collections for Corrections are available at this meeting, please see Kea. The monies donated to these cans helps to carry the message to those behind bars. Peggy brought up the importance of autonomy when dealing with the "Bridge the Gap" program.

CPC/PI – Holly C. reporting, The committee is Co-operation with the Professional Community/Public Information. There were two events scheduled in January and both of them cancelled. There are many ways to get the message out – through treatment centers, health fairs, churches, hospitals, mental health professionals, youth organizations, etc. We need to get the whole A.A. community involved in spreading the word – ideas on any way to get the information to the public are appreciated.

Grapevine – Steve absent, no report.

Treatment – Rick went before the Steering Committee in pursuit of the chair for this integral part of bringing the message to newcomers, and was approved.

Phone Army – Kea B. reporting, John R. has resigned due to family health issues so we are looking for a new chair for this committee. Holly C. stepped up to cover in the interim until a new chair is chosen. Vickie questioned what the chair responsibilities were. Kea stated that the person would conduct the once a month training of new volunteers, coordinate the schedule and cover slots when volunteers called out, and to oversee the smooth operation of the Phone Army. Volunteers are needed. Please let your groups know of the opportunity for this indispensable service work. This could be the only point of contact for the still suffering alcoholic. We are in good shape with the schedule right now as the current one runs through the end of March 2013. We will be planning the next quarter schedule in early March. If you are interested in the chair or a volunteer position, please contact the Intergroup office.

2013 Florida State Convention – Lon reporting, Register and encourage others to register early. Currently we are at 500 room nights, over half of those being booked in the past 30 days. We need 1700 total to complete block with the hotel. You can use a credit card to hold the room without a charge until the day of the convention.

FCYPAA – Jesse absent due to Space Coast Roundup & YPG Olympics.

Finance Committee – Walter reports all running smoothly. Committee will meet 2/19.

Old Business – Don P. stated that a special edition of the Add-A-Line composed of the proposed changes to the by-laws was made available to the body. Some members perceived concerting changes in some of the proposed revisions. We need informed decisions and the jargon in the bylaws is difficult at best.

Clarification of the revisions was the topic of some conversation. Kevin G. reiterated that the proposed changes are open to the fellowship, and that the goal is to make the bylaws easier to read but not to lose the intent of purpose. Ruth R and Vicki offered to assist with presenting a clearer picture. Linda commented that Don's hard work and his sense of duty were appreciated by the fellowship. Ruth pointed out that Don has put in many hours, and Vicki agreed saying that it was a monumental task. Mike M. stated that the changes are to be of the consensus of the body and that there are no absolutes. There has been controversy on the bylaws for some time now and all would like to see the issue resolved. Holly C. suggested concerns and suggestions be emailed to the Intergroup office for a common arena for the voice of the body to be heard. Mike M. suggested that after all concerns were submitted that a date would be set for Ruth to meet with those members who needed further clarification at the Intergroup Office. The Intergroup office can report to the Steering Committee who will ultimately report to the body. Laurie stated that way we can have discussion points ahead of time, be more organized, and talk about at a future Intergroup meeting. The idea of deadline to submit your thoughts was brought up and will be announced on the website. Don reiterated that the issue is not to be forced by the March or even the April meeting, if more time is needed so be it. Everyone has a right to be involved and heard.

New Business – Brian C. submitted proposal to the body for the "Anonymous Prom" fundraiser. Lori questioned as to whether idea had been approved by the Steering Committee, which it had. The venue would be the Church of 11 22 which will hold up to 1,100 people. We would need a deposit of \$700.00 to hold the space and approximately \$300.00 for ticket printing, decorations, and promotions. Conversation followed as to level of interest from the groups, liability for providing babysitting service, amount of food, price of tickets, type of A.A. focus, time constraints, and fixed vs. variable expenses. Motion was made for the \$1,000 disbursement, after contract with church has been approved by the Finance Committee 2/19. Motion passed with one in minority. Final approval by the INTERGROUP representatives for a spring Prom with an AA function attached to be addressed at the next meeting. Thanks to Brian for taking the lead in promoting a new source of fundraiser. Ad hoc committee needed to help with event.

Announcements

- We still need a chair for the Fall Gratitude Banquet, please pass the word to your groups.
- Mike – Fernandina Beach Group is having a get together on 2/16 with a speaker, dessert contest and a 50/50 raffle in the Amelia Room. He will email information to Kea to post on website.
- Bonnie – Keep It Simple Group is changing to a speaker meeting Monday's at noon and would like to exchange speakers with other groups.
- The next Intergroup Business meeting will be held on 3/2/13 at 9:45am at Gateway.
- The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on 2/26 at 5:30pm in the INTERGROUP office.
- The next Archives meeting will be held 3/4 at 12pm in the INTERGROUP office.
- The next Finance Committee meeting will be held 2/19 at 5:30pm in the INTERGROUP office.

Motion to adjourn; seconded/passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 with the Lord's Prayer.