

Saint Paul & Suburban Area Intergroup, Council Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2023 7:30 PM

2023 Council

Eliot - Intergroups purpose (see site)

- I. **Open** with the Serenity Prayer & Introductions
- II. **Meeting minutes**
 - A. Steve motioned to approve October meeting minutes
 - B. 2nd by John
 - i. Motion carried to approve minutes
- III. **Financials** - Devin (*see Treasurer's Report for full details*)
 - A. October contributions were significantly more than September (\$9,000+)
 - B. Total contributions are over total \$14,000 ahead of last year; still under budget
 - C. Operational expenses are just under budget, but still ahead of last year by \$5,000
 - D. Operating cash is just under \$21,000
 - E. Prudent reserve is \$49,597, with a goal of \$60,000
 - F. Deficit is \$800.19, down almost \$12,000 from last month (improvement)
- IV. **2024 budget** - Bill C.
 - A. Finance committee worked on 2024 budget, was Board-approved tonight
 - i. Presented to reps to take back to their groups in hopes for December approval
 - ii. Narrative
 1. Current staff model used (PT office manager + 2 PT staff members)
 2. Total revenue is budgeted up 7% from 2022 at \$136,000 for 2024
 3. Sales are budgeted even with 2022 and 2023
 4. Contributions budgeted at \$96,000, just slightly more than 2022
 5. Expenses budgeted at \$141,000, 15% over 2022
 - a. Anticipate having full office staff for full calendar year
 - b. Reductions made in recurring expenses (Comcast, AT&T, copier)
 - c. Did not budget for any add'l office equipment purchases
 - d. \$2,500 misc. expense in place if needed
 - e. \$5,319 deficit forecasted, might break even
 - f. Outreach expenses include Lifeline and events
 - g. Recommend adding budget item to send office manager to annual Intergroup office seminar
 - i. Good way to network and interact with other office manager
 - h. Propose that as an unresolved item in the 2024 budget and include in 2025 budget
 - i. Mary motioned to Board-approve the 2024 budget
 - i. 2nd by Frank
 - ii. Unanimous motion carried to Board-approve the 2024 budget

- V. **Office Report** - *Frank N.*
- A. PT staff member hired - Jacob F. (doing a great job!)
 - B. Revitalizing the look of the office
 - C. Trying to make office and online store more accessible (online store has a shipping change issue that's work in progress)
 - D. Lifeline newsletter will be ready for mailing this week
 - E. Venmo account set up **@spintergroup**
- VI. **Night Owl Report** -*Leslie (via email)*
- A. 'Hoots' article for Lifeline might be revived
 - B. 1 shift open: 4th Friday/month, 10:00 pm - 9:00 am
 - C. Contact us anytime at nightowl@aastpaul.org
 - D. 6 shifts to cover in December
- VII. **Outreach Report** - *Tom W.*
- A. No MIA meetings on our website
 - B. 1 inaccurate meeting time removed/corrected
- VIII. **Board Report** - *Kelly*
- A. Gratitude Night was a success!
 - B. Founders Day is coming up (11/25); our turn to sell materials
 - C. Jacob added as PT staff member
 - D. Reinstating tradition of annual report
 - i. Elliot and Frank will collab in January once 2023 finances are closed
- IX. **Liaison Reports**
- A. District 8: Dan - nothing to report
 - B. District 15: Nancy, River Rats - Afton rep
 - i. 12/13 @ 6:30 pm @ Christ Lutheran Church in Lake Elmo; sponsorship forum, discussion, Q&A
 - ii. Contacted by Area 36 about taking a meeting into a senior living center
 1. Started in early November
 2. Treatment & Accessibility Chair take a meeting in The Lakes, a Stillwater senior residence
 3. Goal is to be self-sustaining without district facilitation
 - C. District 19: Rep not present
- X. **Old business**
- Gratitude Night - 11/18** - *Mary U.*
- A. Thank you to hosts, volunteers, and speakers!
 - i. 130+ attendees!
 - B. Recommendations for 2024 Chair:
 - i. Using former delegates as speakers
 - ii. Enforce better basket-counting and money-counting for next year's event
 1. Secure and count donations at the end of basket-passing vs. letting them sit out under watch
 - iii. Use updated version of AA Preamble
 - iv. Have a non-employee make the fundraising ask for greater impact and present *prior* to basket-passing
 - v. Recommend past Board Chair Judy H. to make that presentation

Founders Day (literature only - 11/25) - Tom W.

- A. Held at Bloomington Doubtree, \$25 registration online; \$80 buffet dinner
- B. Purpose: Celebrate the beginning of AA in MN
- C. St. Paul Intergroup will be selling literature
 - a. Mary & Tom will work with Frank and Ken to transport literature (6 boxes)
 - b. QuickBooks swiper will be used to collect donations

XI. **New Business**

B. Elections - Bruce M.

- a. Read 3rd Legacy Tradition
- b. People other than reps can present nominations, but can't vote
- c. **Alternate Board Chair nominee (description read, 3-year commitment)**
 - 1. Ricci G. is nominated and voted in as Alternate Board Chair
- d. **Alternate Treasurer nominees**
 - 1. Brittany G. and John K. are nominated
 - 2. Brittany is voted in as Alternate Treasurer
- e. **Secretary nominee (1-year commitment)**
 - 1. Alex S. is nominated and voted in as Secretary
- f. **Member @ large # 1 nominees (position explained, 2-year commitment)**
 - 1. John K., Nick, G., Brandon H. and James C. are nominated

Reps voted by majority to make an exception to the by-laws at this election only to allow more than 2 members of any one home group to serve on the Board (by-law 4.1.b. under Service Limitations)

Would anyone like to speak to the minority opinion?
No takers, exception passes.

- 2. John K. is voted in as Member @ large # 1

g. **Member @ large # 2 nominees (2-year commitment)**

- 1. Nick G., Brandon H., and James C. are nominated
- 2. Brandon H. is voted in as 2024 Member @ large # 2

XII. **Agenda items**

- A. Submit to secretary@aastpaul.org

XIII. **Grapevine Report** - Eric H.

- A. Stories about gratitude
 - a. First Thanksgiving Sober story
- B. Volunteer for December: Alex S.

XIV. **Concept 11 report** - Nancy

- A. Discusses general service office and its staff, including general manager, various Boards of AA services, Grapevine, Inc.

B. Started out with 5 committees, has expanded

XV. **Concept 12 report** - *John*

XVI. **Board orientation for new members**

A. Details to come

XVII. **Close** with the Responsibility Statement

Attendance:

Eliot W - Board Chair

Frank N - Office Manager

Keith I - Advisor to the Board

Leslie - The Night Owl

Sonja A - Int Secretary

Ken S - Como Park BB

Tom W - Member @ Large

Melissa - Builders Big Book - IGH

Bill C - Treasurer

Hendrie G - Main Idea

Nancy T - Dist 15 Liaison

Paul C - 3rd ed. BB Monday 7:30

Chris L - OMD

Sue C - Alt Women's Basic Text

Kim R - Pocketing our Pride

Nora H - Happy, Joyous & Free

Jon C - Third Edition

Dina - Hole in the Doughnut

Kim B - West End

Nancy R - Mendota Saturday 10:30

Eric H - New Brighton BB

Jonathan L - Web Servant

Alex S - 2nd Sandwich

Greg K - Woodbury Wed noon mtg

Devin - Alt Treasurer

Lauren - Fireside Women's BB

Tara - Women's Basic Text - STP

Steve B -

Ricky - Midway Club

Mary - Member @ Large

Kelly K - Alt Chair to Board

Tim W - Alt Intergrp Rep for Rule 62

Dale - SPT Sunday speaker

Bruce M - Election moderator

Next meeting: December 19 at 7:30 PM