

Saint Paul & Suburban Area Intergroup, Council Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2023 7:30 PM

2023 Council

Eliot - Intergroup's purpose

- I. **Open** with the Serenity Prayer & Introductions
- II. **Meeting minutes**
 - A. Greg motioned to approve November meeting minutes
 - B. 2nd by Ricci
 - i. Motion carried to approve minutes
- III. **Financials** - Devin (*see Treasurer's Report for full details*)
 - A. November group contributions were significantly lower (by \$10,000) than last month due to recent one-time donation
 - B. Deficit is around \$2,000 compared to last year's deficit of \$5,425
 - i. Sue C.: How are we in the black if we have a deficit and how do we balance the budget at the end of the year?
 1. Contributions and sales are better this year than last
 2. We've been able to cut expenses, which are currently lower this year than last
 3. We have funds in the checking account
 4. Prudent reserve can be tapped into for large issues if needed
 - C. Prudent reserve is \$49,316, with goal of \$60,000
 - D. Budget discussion (in layman's terms):
 - i. In layman's terms:
 1. 2023 budget estimated we would lose about \$17,000 over the course of 2024, which would shrink our bank account
 2. Instead, we have \$21,000 at the close of November in checking account
 3. Actual numbers are compared to budget to make sure we're on track, don't have any extraordinary expenses, and that we're setting enough aside for the prudent reserve
 - E. 2024 budget presented last month for consideration
 - i. Ricci made motion to approve
 1. 2nd by Sue
 2. Motion carried to approve 2024 budget
- IV. **Office Report** - Frank N.
 - A. Might finish calendar year with a small profit
 - i. Thanks to member groups and individuals for the support and contributions
 - B. Thank you to reps for electing 2024 Board members at last month's meeting
 - C. More people have been oriented in the office and have signed up to help
 - D. Founders Day attendance was low this year
 - i. Sold \$750 in merchandise

- ii. Thanks to Board members Tom and Mary for their help
 - E. New staff member, Jacob, is exceeding expectations and offering new ideas
 - i. Largely responsible for getting Lifeline put together this month
 - ii. Suggestion to rearrange office furniture
 - F. Thanks to Night Owl committee members and volunteers to fill 150+ shifts/month
- V. **Night Owl Report** –Leslie (via email)
 - A. Thank you to the amazing volunteers, they are appreciated!
 - B. Still looking for more committee members; write-up will be sent with description of position
 - C. 2 shifts open: 4th Tuesday/month @ 5:30 - 10:00 pm & 4th Friday/month @ 10:00 pm - 9:00 am
 - D. Orientation is 3rd Saturday/month
 - i. Next scheduled: Jan. 20 via Zoom @ 10:00 am
- VI. **Website Report** - Jonathan
 - A. All meeting changes are in
 - B. Service opportunities are updated on the website
 - C. No MIA meetings
 - D. Always looking for more help from people with software engineer background/skills
 - E. Downtown open speaker meeting request: Please provide list of speakers to post online (send to webservant@aastpaul.org)
 - i. Sue C. question: Should we canvas for speakers from rep meetings?
 - 1. Not needed; this is for regular open meetings
 - F. Reps can utilize the 'alert' feature on the website if a meeting time/place changes
 - i. Notify webservant@aastpaul.org
 - G. Added QR code/ handle on contribution page for Venmo
 - i. Make sure to list which group donation is from
- VII. **Outreach Report** - N/A
- VIII. **Board Report** - Kelly
 - A. Switching office phone service to save money
 - i. Coordinating with Night Owl committee re: transfer process
 - B. Reinstating tradition of annual report
 - 1. Eliot and Frank will collaborate in January once 2023 finances are closed
 - 2. Board orientation
- IX. **Liaison Reports**
 - A. District 8: Dan S. - Nothing to report
 - i. Treasurer report - Finances are sound
 - ii. ASL committee staffing issues continue
 - 1. Shortages of AA-qualified ASL interpreters
 - a. Search continues to close that gap
 - b. Lots of Spanish literature has been approved and gone out
 - c. Request for Hmong literature
 - d. Add'l funds requested for medical and mental health offices

- e. Public info committee
 - i. Bus bench ad approved @ Snelling and Thomas
 - ii. Billboards will be put in higher traffic areas than last year - Awaiting approval
 - B. District 15: Nancy, River Rats - Afton rep
 - i. Held quarterly sponsorship forum on 12/13
 - 1. Well attended
 - 2. Sponsor and sponsee speakers
 - 3. 2 people reported they successfully matched with sponsor/sponsee
 - ii. Area 36 Chair attended event
 - 1. Recovery Unity Service Conference
 - a. Held @ Best Western Wyndym Burnsville on 01/19 - 01/21
 - 2. Area's Spirituality conference - Flier under events calendar
 - 3. Holding joint workshop/luncheon on writing for the Grapevine on 03/16/2024
 - 4. Request for chapters 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 to be rewritten
 - 5. Save-the-date flier will be sent to Jonathan soon
 - C. District 19: Rep not present
- X. **Events**
 - A. Founders Day (11/25) - Tom W.
 - a. Lower attendance than last year
 - b. Sold \$750 in merchandise
 - B. Board orientation
 - a. January 6, 2024 at Jonathan's house
 - C. No NYE event
- XI. **Old business** - N/A
- XII. **New business** - N/A
- XIII. **Group Announcements**
 - A. Midway Club (Sherburn & Dunlap) will be open for 24 hours from 12/24 - 12/25 and 12/31 - 01/01
 - B. Christmas party on 12/23 @ 5 pm (gifts for kids)
 - C. Reminder: Welcome to email webservant@aastpaul.org and staff@aastpaul.org to put club events on Intergroup website
 - D. New house liaison for Uptown House has been reaching out to treatment centers
 - a. Sign-ups are by inside the house by the fireplace
- XIV. **Agenda items**
 - A. Submit to secretary@aastpaul.org
- XV. **Grapevine Report** - Alex S.
 - A. December topics: Meetings in report areas / during holiday
 - a. Looking for opportunities and services
 - b. Importance of 12-step work in remote areas
 - c. Got to take a meeting to a jail on New Year's Eve
 - B. Volunteer for January: Dan S.

- XVI. **Concept 12 report** - John
- A. General service conference shall observe spirit of AA tradition
 - i. Should never become the scene of perilous wealth and power
 - ii. No conference action ever be punitive or incitive to public controversy
 - iii. Conference will always remain democratic and action
 - iv. Conclusion: People will get people-y and AA can't get people-y
- XVII. **Concept 1 volunteer** - Alex S.
- XVIII. **Mock rep report** - Eliot (49:00)
- A. We approved November minutes
 - B. Went through Treasurer's report, looking good, might even make a profit
 - C. Leslie shared there are 2 open Night Owl shifts (4th Tuesday @ 5:30 - 10:00 pm & 4th Friday - 10:0 pm - 9:00 am)
 - D. Jonathan gave website report, are looking for people with web service knowledge, let office know of meeting time/place changes; we can update online
 - E. Dan S. gave District 8 liaison report
 - F. Nancy gave District 15 report
 - G. Went over Founders Day event, good turnout, sold \$750 in literature
 - H. Upcoming orientation event for new Board members: 01/06
 - I. Ricci stated Midway Club is having open meeting-athon for Christmas Eve/Day and NYE/Day; gifts for kids and food
 - J. Garrett: Uptown House is looking for people to get connected with treatment centers
 - K. Alex S. gave Grapeline report
 - L. John gave Concept 12 report
 - M. Volunteer for January: Greg

XIX. **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	Mike O - Rule 62 St. Paul	Nancy T - Dist 15 Liaison	Paul C - 3rd edt. BB Monday 7:30
Judy - Gloria Day online	Sue C - Alt Women's Basic Text	Patrice - Women's Day by Day	Nancy R - Mendota Saturday 10:30
Leah - One More Added		Jon - West End	Greg K - Woodbury Wed noon mtg
Eric H - New Brighton BB	Jonathan L - Web Servant	Alex S - 2nd Sandwich	Steve - Basic Text
Devin - Alt Treasurer	Lauren - Fireside Women's BB	Tara - Women's Basic Text - STP	
Ricci - Midway Club		Kelly K - Alt Chair to Board	Tim W - Alt Intergrp Rep for Rule 62
Dale - SPT Sunday speaker	Dan - Intergroup Rep GSR Dist 8	Jacob - Intergroup staff member	Garret - Uptown House

Next meeting: January 19, 2024 at 7:30 PM