

Greater Toronto Area Intergroup

General Meeting - July 29 2008

The meeting convened at 8 p.m. with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. **Reading of 12 Traditions:** Woody K. (Willowdale).

THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT: Amazing Grace, Anniversary, Back to Basics, Bayview, Beaches, Bloordale, Bramalea Care & Share, Brampton Recovery, City Central, Credit Valley, Daily Reflections, East York, Erin Mills, Eventide, Fellowship, Fifth Tradition (Oakville), Glenholme, Golden Mile, Half Century, Hill, King City, Lakeshore, Leslie, Markland Wood, Midtown, Mount Dennis, Mount Royal, Newmarket, Pine Hills, Port Credit, Principles Before Personalities, Prince Edward, Reaching Out, Restoration & Recovery, Richmond Hill, Rox Glen Traditional, Royal York, St. Clements, Stepping Stones, Sunnyside, Thornhill, Tuesday Night Disc., Twelfth Tradition, Twelve Steps, Willowdale. **District Liaisons:** Districts 04, 06, 18, and 22. **Subcommittee Chairs:** Archivist, Access Ability, Public Information, Newsletter/Website.

Adoption of Minutes: **Motion** moved by Maire O'B. (Leslie Group), and seconded by Glen B. (Back to Basics). MOTION CARRIED.

Chairperson Opening Remarks: Reg S. (Melrose), Chairperson

John has stepped down due to person reasons, and I am stepping in his position. I came to this floor last October, and I am happy to serve here. Service has been very rewarding for me. Through your help and the help of God I pray we will have a good meeting.

7th Tradition: \$153.19.

Finance Report: Gregg W. (Rox Glen Traditional), Finance Chairperson

We are half way through the year -- a three month total and a six month total. The main thing that took place in June regarding finance is the moving of the Archives office. They are now in our office. There are costs involved in that which was \$1,700.00 but at the same time our rent will be cheaper. So, by the end of the year, this will work out. We are continuing to meet our budget target. Gratitude and donations have been up all year. We are very grateful for all the people at Intergroup and the groups have been so supportive. It is also showing at the IG meetings and interest as well.

Questions: Gerry M. (Fellowship Group): I have some difficulty understanding these spreadsheets. I kind of like the old idea with the year to date. I would like the bar graph report installed again. It was agreed that we would do that.

There was a question from the floor regarding rent. Why was rent higher than April and May?

Subcommittee Reports

Info AA Day: Jim A. (Leslie), Dist.18 Alternate DCM

This is a joint venture between 9 districts and Intergroup to provide information about the different subcommittees and what they do. A member from GSO comes up and gives a talk, and an address from our Area Delegate is also part of the day. There is a pot-luck lunch provided. **Next meeting:** Commences at 234 at 7:30 Sept 29th (last Monday of every month).

Ad Hoc: Lynn B. (City Central), Chairperson

We recently had another information meeting and Christine (Anniversary) will come up and give us a report.

Christine: We wanted to bring a fresh face to the Ad Hoc. I was surrounded by an incredible amount of wisdom. We had a spirit of a town hall meeting. We had a panel style; an informal format. The feedback was inviting and welcoming. The purpose was to increase clarity and take away confusion. What we needed to acknowledge was that perhaps we have inundated you with a lot of information and I hope this meeting brought some clarity to this. The core of all of this that it simply is someone's best intention to address the problem and return Intergroup back to its core purpose. The feedback was very good and questions did get answered and questions did get answered and there is no more understanding now more than before. **Next meeting:** Thurs. Aug. 7, 7 p.m. at 234. *A discussion ensued.*

Lynn – Process to consider the motion as presented and discuss at your groups. In Sept a discussion and debate will happen and very likely the motion will change with amendments. If this motion passes a simple majority on the IG Floor the motion then goes out to the groups for a vote.

Maire (Leslie) – I feel that the motion cannot be presented according to Robert's Rules. This was

Christine – with any motion with a business meeting a motion is often amended before the motion is voted upon. That is what we addressed at the special meeting.

Carol (Tuesday Night Disc.) – I thought you were going to have some material available to give out at this meeting.

Harold (Port Credit) - the reports were not ready as there were mistakes on the flow charts.

Jennifer (Eventide): Who is responsible for Sept meeting and who is running it? [Is it] Robert's Rules and the OC committee? I question whether it is not according to Roberts Rules.

Lynn: We have a precedent for this with our previous referendum.

Harold: Robert's Rules of Order [are used], then our own 'rules' from the P & G.

Lynn: oral report for Ad Hoc. There was a lot of debate and discussion about pulling the motion. But it was felt that there was too much work having gone into it.

Maire: I would like to echo this woman's comments and who ever chairs the Sept. meeting should become intimately aware of our P & G.

Accessibility: Donna M. (Sunnyside), Chairperson

At our July meeting had the chair from better times and it was so helpful to share information on the spot. It was great. New reps there are ASL interpreters available for meetings if you need one. There is no cost to AA. Call the Ontario Interpreters Service [phone 234 for phone number]. There is no need to worry about anonymity. These people are professionals. Please call Alexx at the office if you need an ASL signer and she will make a note. Please keep in mind Accessibility issues when you report an address change to your meetings. **Next meeting:** Sun Aug 17th at 11:00 at 234.

Archives: Maire O'B. (Leslie), Archivist

The committee has been in business since AA started in Toronto. We are having our 23 or 24th breakfast in Nov. This year Kay H. of the Thornhill group with 55 years is speaking. Ben W. with Thorncliffe Park group with 47 years is the other featured speaker. Tickets for the event will be available next month. An Archives National Work

shop will be held this year in Niagara Falls. The repository has been moved from the 5th floor to the 2nd floor. **Next meeting:** Fri. Aug. 15 at Maire's home (*all 234 for address and details*).

CPC: No report. **Next meeting:** Mon. Aug. 11 at 7 p.m. at 234.

Reception centre: Rick McC. (Six Points): 43 reps and 6 guests were present this evening.

12 Step: Harold Y. (Port Credit), **Past Operating Chair**

We are looking to do a better job of manning the phones; currently a ton of shifts are not covered. We are also looking at new scheduling software. Our aim is to get the phones manned on consistent basis. New training and call tracking are also being considered. We need to implement training on how to do a 12 Step call. Our data base needs to be fixed so we can get people to go out on a 12 step call. This process is slow and painful ...but we are getting there one baby step at a time. **Next meeting:** Fri. Aug.29 at 6:30 p.m. at 234.

Website/ Newsletter: Marvyn W. (Streetsville Action), **Chairperson**

Better Times: The August issue is out and is going fast. There is an article on the Mississauga Fall roundup and on Kaye H. of the Thornhill Group. I want to thank Bernadette M. (Editor) and Carolyn M. (assistant Editor) for all their help with the Newsletter. New Co-Editors are Elaine G. from Port Credit and Mary P from Restoration & Recovery Group. We want to welcome them. I would like to get a memorial type of page and have names submitted and comments from these people. This would be presented once a year. For Better Times – we need a new printer. We are looking for quotations or someone who would like to quote on printing our better times.

Website – met with 12 step committee; they do not have a committee page. They do now and we have it posted on the website. See our volunteer form. **Next meeting:** Sat Aug 9th at 1 p.m. All are welcome.

Bryan W. (Rox Glen Traditional), **P.I. Chair**, announced that the PI pamphlets will be ready in Sept. The pamphlets will be presented to the GSR committees and will not be presented to IG. We are still working out details. We don't meet in the summer.

Unfinished Business from Previous Meetings

Bryan W. (Rox Glen Traditional) mentioned that he has been on the PI committee for 4.5 years now; it has given him certain insights in Toronto IG and what happens there. He therefore brought the following Motion up for consideration:

NOTICE OF MOTION:

In regards to Toronto Intergroup Operating Procedures (revision date September 2007), Section 10.2.

MOTION: The Executive Secretary is to be a “nonalcoholic” much like a “Class A Trustee” at the General Service Board. Including the normal day-to-day duties, we should look for a man or woman with a genuine and demonstrated interest in AA, and the desire to work with alcoholics.

Our last Executive Secretary, Carole Keenan, was a “nonalcoholic”, and brought balance to the office of Intergroup. Another benefit of having a “nonalcoholic” in the office will be their ability to use their last name when dealing with the public (anonymity).

Carol from Tuesday Night Discussion seconded the Motion. *A discussion ensued.*

Comment from floor is that anonymity is an issue.

Comment that this might not be the time to do this as a current motion, as this position is about to change.

Harold Y. (Port Credit): I am not sure that we can hire a nonalcoholic according to the employment standards.

Jennifer (Eventide): The cancer society is able to state that they will only hire people that do not smoke.

Maire O'B. (Leslie): This is not to be debated at this time. Has to go back to the groups

Doug R. (St. Clements): There is a difference with the Procedures and Guidelines. The Guidelines can be changed by a simple vote on the floor. The Procedures require a motion to be taken back to the groups and voted in three months.

Reg S. (Melrose): I feel the motion should go back to the groups for 90 days. Then we can come back here for a vote.

New Business

Christine (Anniversary): A situation occurred in the office about literature. Our lit person at 234 handled the call poorly and our lit person was very upset. There was another comment that a group (Midtown) was cut off before the 30 days was up. *A brief discussion ensued.*

Maire – motion to close meeting; all seconded.

Meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Pledge.

NEXT GENERALMEETING: Tues. Aug. 26 at 8 p.m. at Glebe Rd. United.

