

GREATER TORONTO AREA INTERGROUP

GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2010

The meeting convened at 8 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Craig V. (Prince Edward) read the Twelve Traditions. **THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT:** A Place to Share, Agincourt Acorn, Aurora, Back To Basics (Richmond Hill), Bayview, Beaches, Bellamy, Bathurst, Bloor/Bay, Chartwell, Credit Valley, Deer Park, Don Mills, East York, Erin Mills, Fellowship, Friendly, Glenholme, High Park, Hill, K.F., Keep It Simple (Scarborough), King City, Kingsway, Lakeshore, Last Chance, Leslie, Living Sober, Markland Wood, Melrose, Mount Royal-York, New Anchor, Newmarket, One Day at a Time, Open Mind Discussion, Orleta (Polish), Pine Hills, Port Credit, Primary Purpose, Principles Before Personalities, Prince Edward, Rexdale United, Royal York, S.O.S., Saturday Morning Discussion, St. Andrew's Saturday Night, Streetsville, Sunday Northwestern, Sunnyside, Thornhill, Trial & Error, Tuesday Night Discussion, Twelfth Tradition, Vision of Hope, Welcome, Westmoreland, Weston Sunday Open, Willowdale, and Woodbridge. **District Liaisons:** Districts 02, 06, 10, 12, 14, 18, and 22. **Subcommittee Chairs:** Access Ability, Archives, Information AA Day, ORC, Twelfth Step, Website/Better Times, and Finance.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – February 2010: MOTION to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Judith (Bellamy) and seconded by Dee T. (Streetsville). MOTION CARRIED.

Chairperson's Opening Remarks – John C. (Half Century), Executive Committee Chair: John commented that the recent ORC event was a success. He then invited the event Chair, Jim B., to give a brief report:

ORC 2010 – Jim B. (Saturday Morning Discussion), 2010 Event Chair: Jim thanked all who attended and/or volunteered at the event. He stated that 2,914 were in attendance, and over 700 attended the banquet on Saturday night. The committee is currently working with the hotel on getting a final tally of the financials. All in all, it was very successful, and Jim appreciated all the support and hard work from committee members and volunteers.

FINANCE REPORT – Don M. (Hill), Finance Chairperson:

Finance Report for the month of February 2010 (all Finance Reports are Preliminary, Pending Year-End Adjustments for Both 2008 and 2009)

Summary:

	INCOME	EXPENSES	NET INCOME
February	\$13,624	\$12,159	\$1,465
Comparison to Budget	156	-4,403	4,459
February Year to Date	\$29,406	\$24,958	\$4,448
Comparison to Budget	117	-4,475	4,592

Group Donations were above budget in February, offsetting below budget Gratitude Donations. Sales were in line with budget. Therefore, total income before Operating Expenses was on budget. Total Expenses were below budget due to deferred expenses for Better Times, Info AA Day, and audit and office equipment.

Prudent Reserve as of February 2010 – Book Value + accrued interest: \$138,178.

Don also mentioned that there was a question as to why the phone expenses were a little higher; this was because we had taken on the extra phone line used for the ORC, and also there was the cost of forwarded phone lines during the building closure to facilitate extensive repairs (Feb.12,13, and 14). Margaret T. (Bayview) had a question about the

Prudent Reserve, and the yearly cost to run Intergroup. Don replied that our annual expenses ran around \$300,000. GSO recommends a Prudent Reserve figure at $\frac{3}{4}$ to one year's operating expenses.

Collection of the 7th Tradition, which totaled **\$169.55**.

MOTION to Suspend Regular Business to facilitate Election moved by Wendy (Willowdale) and seconded by Gord W. (Glenholme). **MOTION CARRIED**.

A new Executive Committee member is needed, due to the resignation of Amanda W. (Deer Park), who had to resign her duties due to time constraints. This position is a 9-month term, plus another optional year to serve. The requirements for candidates are 2 years of sobriety. John then called for nominations from the Floor. 2 members stood for the position; each gave a brief address to the Floor. *While the votes were being tallied, subcommittees continued with reports.*

TWELFTH STEP – Jim O. (Markland Wood), **Chairperson:** Jim requested members' help in recruiting new 12 Step Committee members to serve as Greeter Captains (1 month commitment/making sure all phone shifts are covered). The committee had a table at the ORC; all went well. At the last training session, 3 new people were trained. To work on the phones, volunteers need one year of sobriety and must attend a phone training session. There was an issue with members giving out phone numbers, which will be addressed promptly. Jim announced that he is stepping down as Chair, and thanked all his fellow committee members for all their hard work and support. ***A new Twelfth Step Chairperson is needed!*** This is a two-year term. You need one year of sobriety. Duties include: chairing monthly committee meeting, giving a monthly report to the General Meeting, attendance at the quarterly Joint Sharing Session, reporting to the Executive Committee, and standing in for the monthly Greeter Captain when necessary. *Please send Service Resumes to the Executive Committee c/o 234.* **Next meeting:** Fri. Apr. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at 234. **Next Training Session:** Sun. Apr. 18 at 1:30 p.m. at 234.

RECEPTION/LITERATURE – Glenn G. (East York), **Executive Committee Liaison:** Those in attendance this evening included 7 districts, 5 subcommittees, 48 reps, 13 alternates, and 5 guests for a total of 78. Glenn also announced that he is the Liaison for Literature, and that because of this service he is "grateful to get busy and get better!" A Literature liaison as listed in our current *Procedures and Guidelines*. Our Literature Department is at 234, and is well worth the visit. We offer books in other languages in addition to medallions and an engraving service. *All are welcome.* Hours of Operation: Tues. Wed. and Thurs. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We have a Literature items list available on the Website.

It was announced that **Sarah M.** (Don Mills) **was elected as the new Executive Committee member.** John thanked both candidates for stepping forward for the position.

MOTION to destroy ballots moved by Dan (S.O.S.) and seconded by Peter (Royal York). **MOTION CARRIED**.

ACCESS ABILITY – Donna MacQ. (Sunnyside), **Chairperson:** *Donna read the following report (hard copy on file):* The purpose of our committee is to help alcoholics with disabilities by providing access to meetings and literature [such as]: Blind and Vision-Impaired – Braille, large print, audio cassettes/CDs. Deaf and Hearing-

Impaired – videos with ASL, closed captioning, and voice/DVDs; also ASL Interpreters for open and closed meetings. Physical Disabilities – wheelchair accessible meetings (Must include washrooms). ‘Buddies List’ – people who are willing to drive others to meetings; also includes phone calls, visits, and e-mails. Besides attending AA Service Days, we also attend outside events such as Mayfest and People in Motion. Our best outreach to alcoholics with disabilities is often through the people who work with them such as home care, nurses, interpreters, etc. We welcome all members who wish to help us in this work (about one year sobriety is needed). **Next meeting:** Sun.Apr.18 at 11 a.m. at 234.

ARCHIVES – Glenn G. (East York), Executive Committee Member: Glenn welcomed a gentleman visiting us from NYC. The Archives display/Repository is located at 234, and features a history of AA in Toronto and Ontario. This committee facilitates the Annual Archives Breakfast Held each November. He also announced the upcoming East Toronto Archives Breakfast to be held on May 16 at Embers Banquet hall (*see or Website or Better Times for event details*). Archives will not be meeting in April due to a Workshop; **next meeting** will be Sun. May 9 at 10 a.m. at 234.

CPC: no report. **Next meeting:** Mon. Apr.12 at 7 p.m. at 234.

PUBLIC INFORMATION: no report. **Next meeting:** Mon. Apr.19 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

INFORMATION AA DAY – Phil M. (Bloordale), 2010 event Chair: The event will take place on Sat. May 29 all day at Lansing United Church (Yonge and Sheppard subway). Cost of the day is \$5, and includes a pot luck luncheon. This is a joint venture between Intergroup and the 9 service districts. Subcommittee panels will also be present. Event tickets/flyers were available for reps at this meeting. The 2011 event chair will be Vince (Welcome). **Volunteers needed for food/kitchen duties.** Please contact 234. **Next meeting:** Mon. Apr.26 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

WEBSITE/BETTER TIMES – Aaron K. (Yorkville), Chairperson: *Aaron read the following report (hard copy on file):* The Website **is still in need of a new Webmaster!!!** *If you are interested, please contact us.* The Better Times would like to thank Co-Editor Marrey P. (R& R) for her dedicated service over the last two years. Marrey’s efforts have been greatly appreciated by all members of the subcommittee and her cooperation on the Intergroup Floor has greatly helped our primary purpose. *Thank you Marrey!!!* Please have **submissions** in to the Newsletter **by the 10th of the month** for inclusion in the next edition. Notices sent to the Website will be posted promptly. The Website/Better Times receives information for upcoming events, puts together stories for issues, edits letters for publication, and is generally a voice in print for our members to share their experience, strength, and hope with each other. We meet on the second Sat. of each month at 1 p.m. at 234. **Next meeting:** Apr.10.

CORRECTIONS – Vince M. (Leslie), committee member: Vince outlined the various services that this subcommittee offers, such as providing Pen Pals; also, meetings are brought into institutions in the GTA by dedicated members (for example: there are 4 meetings a month in the Toronto Jail). The Corrections committee meets the first Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at 234 (next meeting is Apr.5). Members interested in carrying the message of AA into the jails need clearance from the police. Information on how to get clearance is available at 234 or members can contact the Corrections committee via the website about this procedure. There is also a ‘Bridging the Gap’ program for inmates: the committee will find an AA member close to where the inmate will be released and this member will be their temporary sponsor.

John thanked all members present this evening. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Pledge.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: **Tuesday, April 27 at 8 p.m. at Lansing United Church** (near Sheppard and Yonge subway).

