

## Greater Toronto Area Intergroup

**GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010**

The meeting convened at 8 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Wendy (Willowdale) read the Twelve Traditions.

**THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:** Amazing Grace, Anniversary, Aurora, Back to Basics (Richmond Hill), Bayview, Beaches, Bellamy, Bathurst, Beyond Belief, Bloordale, Bramalea Care & Share, Chartwell, Credit Valley, Danforth, Deer Park, East York, Erin Mills, Fellowship, Glenholme, Hill, K.F., Keep It Simple (Scarborough), King City, Kingsway, Kipling, Lakeshore, Leslie, Markham Village, Markland Wood, Miracle, Mississauga, Mount Royal-York, One Day at a Time, Open Hands, Orleta (Polish), Pathfinders, Pine Hills, Port Credit, Primary Purpose, Prince Edward, Restoration & Recovery, Rexdale United, Richmond Hill, Royal York, Saturday Morning Discussion, St. Andrews Saturday Night, St. Clements, Stepping Stones Discussion, Streetsville, St. Andrew's Sunnyside, Thornhill, U of T, Unionville, Welcome, Westmoreland, Weston Sunday Open, Willowdale, and Yorkville. **District Liaisons:** Districts 02, 04, 06, 12, 18, and 22. **Subcommittee Chairs:** Access Ability, Archives, ORC 2010, Public Information, and Finance.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES – March 2010:** MOTION to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Vince M. (Leslie) and seconded by Judith (Bellamy). MOTION CARRIED.

**Chairperson's Opening Remarks – John C. (Half Century), Executive Committee Chair:** John announced that there needs to be an election for one new Executive Committee member, as Elaine G. (Port Credit) needed to resign due to personal reasons. He also shared that he was glad to see so many members here this evening...thanks for your attendance and support!

There was a **collection of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition**, which totaled \$182.62.

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

**Finance Report for the month of March 2010**

**ALL FINANCE REPORTS ARE PRELIMINARY PENDING YEAR END ADJUSTMENTS FOR BOTH 2008 AND 2009**

**Summary:**

	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>NET INCOME</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	\$8,323	\$13,567	-\$5,244
<b>COMPARISION TO BUDGET</b>	-6,136	-5,657	-429
<b>MARCH YEAR-TO-DATE</b>	\$37,829	\$39,017	-\$1,188
<b>COMPARISION TO BUDGET</b>	-5,919	-9,640	3,771

Donations, both group and gratitude, were under budget in March continuing a trend that has resulted in total donations being 17% below budget year-to-date. Sales were also slightly below budget. Loss in market value of Prudent Reserve investments makes up most of the under run in March Income before Operating Expenses. Group donations below budget make up the rest of the under run in year-to date Income before Operating Expenses. March Total expenses were below budget due to deferred expenses for Better Times. Year to date expenses were reduced by deferred committee expenditures and audit, computer software and office equipment. **Prudent Reserve as of March 31, 2010** – Book value + accrued interest: \$234,242.

Don elaborated on the above numbers, stating that the trend of lower than expected group donations and Gratitude donations continues.

**Questions arising from report:** Someone from the Floor had a question regarding the annual expenses amount (cost to run Intergroup). Don replied that it is around \$300,000 a year. This includes out-of-pocket expenses at around \$281,000, plus literature expense and the ORC.

Mimy (King City) had questions specifically about rent cost, tax rebate, the amount of time left on our lease, and also inquired if we could break the lease. Don answered that there are three items regarding our rent: Hydro costs, Property taxes, and the actual rent amount (about \$3,500 a month for 2,000 sq.ft.). This amount is very reasonable for the area. We have the current lease until 2012. There would be penalties arising from the breaking of our lease. Don also added that there has been some discussion among Finance Committee members about the ideal location for our office; it was a consensus that it was vital that we have ready access to both public transit and/or have easy access to major highways around the GTA. Mimy (King City) asked if our rent amount will go up in the next two years; Don replied that it goes up every year.

Roger (Fellowship) had a question regarding our Prudent Reserve: is the market value declining? Don explained that our Prudent Reserve investment is made up of a) bank-preferred shares, and b) coupons in provincial government. These will go down in value as interest rates go up. For protection against rate increases, short-term investments are better right now.

There was also a question about the Prudent Reserve increased by \$100,000. It was explained that \$100,000 was taken out of the bank and invested in government and B.C. coupons.

**MOTION to suspend regular business to facilitate elections** moved by Davis B. (Lakeshore) and seconded by Dan W. (Willowdale). **MOTION CARRIED.**

John explained that we need to fill the vacant position on the EC. The term would entail serving the rest of this year and the candidate can serve an additional year if desired. After John described and clarified the sobriety/service requirements, he called for nominations. Two candidates were nominated and asked to give a brief address to the Floor. Ballots were distributed.

*While the votes were being tallied, the following reports were given:*

**RECEPTION** – Glenn G. (East York), **Executive Committee member:** present at this meeting tonight were 5 districts, 4 subcommittee chairs, 53 reps, 10 alternates, 2 staff and several guests.

**ACCESS ABILITY** – Donna MacQ. (Sunnyside), **Chairperson:** *Donna read the following:* This is my last report as Chair of Access Ability. Cathy, who is here tonight, will be taking over in May. The ORC: it was a terrific Conference as far as speakers, meetings, agenda, etc. Unfortunately, there wasn't much attendance at the [Access Ability] table. Doors were open between the rooms, but most people were just passing through. We thank the Twelfth Step Committee for having large print Big Books available. We hope we can move back into the hallway next year. Upcoming Events: Mayfest and Info AA Day. **Next meeting:** Sun. May 16 at 11 a.m. at 234.

**ARCHIVES – Roy R.** (Trial & Error), **Chairperson:** The committee was present at two events: the Area 83 Eastern Ontario Archives Workshop and the Hamilton Archives Breakfast. Upcoming events: the Annual Archives Breakfast in November, and a new event; ‘50 years of AA Toronto through the eyes of Bobby D.’. This last event will be happening in October and will feature a collection of 17 binders of material that Bobby kept over the years. **Next meeting:** Sun. May 9 at 10 a.m. at 234.

**CORRECTIONS – Trevor O.** (Mississauga), **Executive Committee member:** the ORC event went well. Volunteer applications were received there for Corrections work. *Volunteers still needed*, particularly for the “Bridging the Gap” initiative. There was a recent article about the Corrections committee in the Better Times, written by Marrey P. (Restoration & Recovery). **Next meeting:** Mon. May 3 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

**CPC:** no report given. **Next meeting:** Mon. May 10 at 7 p.m. at 234.

**INFORMATION AA DAY 2010 – Jim A.** (St. Andrews Saturday Night), **DCM Dist.18:** Jim proceeded to give the Floor an itinerary of the day (Sat. May 29 at Lansing United Church):

- 6:30 a.m. – Setup
- 8:45 a.m. – Early Bird Speaker
- 9:30 a.m. – Chair’s Opening Remarks
- 10 a.m. to 12 noon – Committee Service Panels
- Noon to 1 p.m. – Pot Luck Lunch
- 1 p.m. - Area 83 Delegate’s Report
- 2 p.m. – GSO Speaker Address (Jim M./Corrections)
- ‘Ask it Basket’ with 2011 Chair, Vince R...event closes at 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$5, available through group GSRs or Intergroup Reps. **Next meeting:** Wed. May 26 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

**ORC 2010 – Jim B.** (Saturday Morning Discussion), **event Chair:** Jim thanked everyone for their support. He reported that the committee has pretty well cleared up the financials for the event, and it looks like there’ll be a \$12,000 (or higher) donation to Intergroup in future. Bob (Weston) asked if there are contingencies in place for a possible ‘disaster’ (i.e. low attendance at a future ORC due to a storm, etc.). Don M. (Hill), Finance Chair, stated that there is a contingency in our Prudent Reserve.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION – Vivien C.** (Fellowship), **Chairperson:** The committee is still waiting to here on the status of the vetting process for the Toronto District School Board (so the committee can be given the ‘green light’ to give future presentations to the students). The Workshop for the U of T Medical Students given in March/April by Vivien and the P.I. events coordinator, Bryan W. (Rox Glen Traditional) went well. They had 18 students in attendance. One of the assignments given was for students to attend 2 open AA meetings (one downtown, one uptown). Interesting feedback was received. Several Districts have been busy with P.I. work, especially the York Region. Some districts are not

represented at the table; Vivien will follow up. *Volunteers* interested in speaking at schools encouraged. The committee will be present at the upcoming Dist.22 Service Day on Sept.25. **Next meeting:** Mon. May 17 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

**TREATMENT FACILITIES:** no report given. **Next meeting:** Thurs. May 20 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

**TWELFTH STEP COMMITTEE:** no report given. **Next meeting:** Fri. May 28 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

**WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER:** no report given. **Next meeting:** Sat. May 8 at 1 p.m. at 234.

*At this time, John announced the results of the Election: Dave B. (Lakeshore) is the new Executive Committee member.*

**MOTION to destroy ballots from the election** moved by David Z. (Saturday Morning Discussion) and seconded by Reg (Bramalea Care & Share). **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **Unfinished Business from previous meetings**

At a previous meeting, there was an inquiry about the possibility of installing a toll-free 1-800 number to our helpline. To this end, a Motion was introduced to the Floor

#### **MOTION TO GTA INTERGROUP**\_\_\_\_\_

That the GTA Intergroup implement a no long distance fee telephone number, for the use of those outside the 416 calling area, to enable them a no cost access to services offered by the GTA Intergroup.

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Motion made by Tom W. (Aurora) and seconded by Mimy C.-K. (King City). (*Hard copy of Motion on file*) There was a brief discussion on this item. John stated that he will get some facts and cost figures on this idea and will bring this information to the next General Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Pledge.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, May 25 at 8 p.m. at Lansing United.**