

GREATER TORONTO AREA INTERGROUP

GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 25, 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:** Agincourt Acorn, Amazing Grace, Anniversary, Aurora, Back to Basics (Richmond Hill), Bayview, Beaches, Bellamy, Bathurst, Bloordale, Brampton Recovery, Credit Valley, Crossroads Big Book, Deer Park, Eventide, Erin Mills, Golden Mile, Happy Valley, High Park, Hill, K.F., Keep It Simple (Scarborough), King City, Kingsway, Kipling, Lakeshore, Last Chance, Leslie, Maple, Markham Village, Markland Wood, Melrose, Mississauga, Mount Dennis, Mount Royal-York, New Life, Open Hands, Orleta (Polish), Primary Purpose, Prince Edward, Royal York, Saturday Morning Discussion, St. Andrew's Saturday Night, Streetsville, Streetsville St. Andrews, Sunday Northwestern, Sunnyside, Thornhill, Twelfth Tradition, Unionville, Welcome, Weston Sunday Open, Willowdale, Woodbridge, and Yorkville. **District Liaisons:** Districts 02, 04, 06, 10, 12, and 18. **Subcommittee Chairs:** Access Ability, Archives, Information AA Day, ORC 2010, Twelfth Step, Website/Better Times, and Finance.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – April 2010: MOTION to accept Minutes as presented moved by Larry F. (Bathurst) and seconded by Christa (Sunnyside). MOTION CARRIED.

CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS – John C. (Half Century), Executive Committee Chair: After sharing on how the Traditions work in his personal life, John commented that he was happy to be sober, and added "thank you for understanding me".

A collection of the 7th Tradition was taken, which totaled \$151.36.

FINANCE REPORT – Don M. (Hill), Finance Chair:**Finance Report for the month of April 2010**

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

Summary:

	INCOME	EXPENSES	NET INCOME
APRIL	\$132,038	\$124,197	\$7,841
COMPARISON TO BUDGET	119,467	101,537	17,930
APRIL YEAR-TO-DATE	\$169,913	\$163,210	\$6,703
COMPARISON TO BUDGET	113,594	91,893	21,751

ORC income and expenses are reflected in this month's financial results. ORC income exceeded expenses by over \$13,000 and a cheque will be presented to Toronto Intergroup. Donations in April were in line with budget. Year-to-date donations are 12% below budget and 20% below last year. Other income for April reflects ORC revenue. Sales were 12% below budget for the month, 6% below budget year-to-date and compared with last year. ORC expenses account for the major overrun in April Total expenses and year-to-date. Offsetting the impact of ORC, expenses generally were below budget due to deferred expenditures for computers, software and furniture. **Prudent Reserve as of April 30, 2010 – Book value + accrued interest: \$234,242.**

Contributions for the month were on budget; however, we are behind budget in donations for the year so far due to the shortfall at the beginning of the year.

Questions: Joy (Welcome): How do you come up with the Prudent Reserve amount? How do you decide? Don: There are specific recommendations for Prudent Reserve amounts for Central Offices from GSO. It is recommended to have 1 year's Operating Expense. Also, GTAI has included literature expenses into our PR amount. Don noted that our PR has not been increased in some time (until recently).

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCESS ABILITY – Cathy Z., incoming Chairperson: *Cathy read the following report (hard copy on file):* I would like to say thank you for everything Donna has done for the last three years. We are all very grateful for all her hard work, and glad she will be staying on as an active member. We also have a new volunteer (Daniel from District 10).

It is the busiest time of year for our committee. We had a booth for the day at Mayfest on May 14. Mayfest is an annual festival at St. Lawrence Market which showcases organizations and services for the Deaf community. We had ASL volunteers interpreting at the table (all from George Brown College). There were a lot of visitors to the booth, and we handed out several meeting books. Some people who came by said that they had tried to come to meetings in the past and got discouraged attempting to follow along without an interpreter. They were pleasantly surprised to find out there is a government-sponsored program that will pay for their interpreters, and that many groups now welcome ASL interpreters to their closed meetings.

We will be at People in Motion on June 4 and 5. People in Motion, which caters to people with mobility issues, is a large event held at Exhibition Place. It is always well-attended and also us to connect with many people who are interested in AA for themselves or for people in their lives. **Our next meeting will be on Sunday, June 20 at 11 a.m. to 234.**

ARCHIVES – Glenn G. (East York), Executive Committee member: The current Archives Chair, Roy R. (Trial & Error), has tendered his resignation after serving for 5 years. *Resumes for this position are welcome; please have resumes in before the next Executive Committee meeting (Tues. June 22).*

On October 3, there will be an event showcasing the many AA-related materials lovingly preserved and collected by the late Bob D., longtime member of the Fellowship group (location to be announced later). The upcoming annual Archives Breakfast will be on Sun., Nov.7. **Next meeting:** Sun. June 13 at 10 a.m. at 234.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES – Sarah M. (Don Mills), Executive Committee member: Sarah reported that all is going well; however, she requested on behalf of this committee that *more District CF Chairs please attend the table*. **Next meeting:** Mon. June 7 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

COOPERATION with the PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC): no report was given at this time. **Next meeting:** Mon. June 14 at 7 p.m. at 234.

INFORMATION AA DAY – Phil M. (Bloordale), 2010 Event Chairperson: The event is set for this Saturday (May 29). Doors open at 6:30 a.m. for set-up. The cost is \$5 for the day (tickets available at the door). 2011 Chair is Vince R. from District 10. **Next meeting** will be held in July.

ORC 2010 – Jim B. (Saturday Morning Discussion), 2010 Event Chairperson: Jim thanked the Executive Committee for the opportunity to chair this year's ORC. The bills have been paid and signing authority will be switched to the 2011 committee promptly. This year's committee is recommending a secure online registration option for future ORC events. This committee is giving Intergroup a donation of \$13,325.

Questions: Bill (Anniversary): Could there be a daily rate available for future ORCs? Jim: This will be for future chairs to consider. Our committee felt that the \$30 registration fee was an excellent rate for three days. It might get too complicated to have one, two, and/or three-day separate rates. Debbie (Beaches): Is there accountability regarding the ORC with Intergroup and AA as a whole? Jim: We on this committee have signed on as trusted servants. Don M. (Hill), Finance Chair: It is clear cut: The ORC is independent, but this committee has the responsibility to report to Intergroup on a regular basis, and has done so monthly. Responsibility is delegated to the ORC committee.

PUBLIC INFORMATION: no report was given at this time. **Next meeting:** Mon. June 21 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

RECEPTION – Glenn G. (East York), Executive Committee member: 49 reps, 10 alternates, 5 district liaisons, 5 committee Chairs, 8 Executive Committee members, and 2 staff were present this evening.

TREATMENT FACILITIES – Trevor O. (Mississauga), Executive Committee member: *Trevor read the following report from the TF Chair, Elaine H. (hard copy on file):* Good evening friends, I am a grateful alcoholic, a member of the Streetsville Group, have the honour and privilege of serving as the chair of the GTA Treatment Facilities Committee and my name is Elaine.

Treatment Facilities is active with current TF Chairs in all districts. The last meeting was held on May 20th with Districts 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 18 and 22 in attendance and a report submitted by Districts 4.

TF is active in all Districts in supporting meetings in hospitals, detox, treatment centres and shelters and providing literature as required with support from districts. New meetings established in the last 6 months at Peel Region Shelter in District 06, CAMH in the withdrawal management unit (District 10), re-established at Branson Hospital (Districts 4 and 14) and at Scarborough Hospital - Grace following the relocation of the Scarborough Hospital psychiatric division are doing well. Districts are sharing resources in terms of supporting meetings that are on District "borders".

All Districts are currently signing up new Bridging the Gap Temporary Contact volunteers and the Committee is focusing on carrying the Bridging the Gap message into GTA facilities. The TF Committee will be present with a display at Info AA Day on May 29th. Lastly, the Committee will continue to meet during the summer months. **Next meeting:** Thurs, June 17 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

TWELFTH STEP – Jim O. (Markland Wood), Chairperson: Jim reported that the May Greeter Captain issue had been rectified and shifts are running smoothly. The committee will have a table at Info AA Day.

Jim announced that he will be stepping down as Chair. **Resumes for this position are welcome; please have resumes in before the next Executive Committee meeting (Tues. June 22). Volunteers for the phones are needed!** To volunteer for phone duty, members must have one year of continuous sobriety and must have attended a phone training session. **Next phone training session:** Sun. June 20 at 1:30 p.m. at 234. **Next committee meeting:** Fri. June 25 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER – Aaron K. (Yorkville), Chairperson: The Website/*Better Times* welcomes your submissions and ideas. Please have your articles in by the 10th of the month for the upcoming issue, and can be sent to the website anytime at www.aatoronto.org. **Next meeting:** Sat. June 12 at 1 p.m. at 234.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS from Previous Meetings

John mentioned the **previous Motion made last month with regards to installing a toll-free number to our helpline.** John and the Executive Committee have, as promised, made inquiries. It looks like we could obtain a

number for under \$100/month. We can choose a plan that fits our requirements. *At this time, John asked that the Motion be re-read to the Floor:*

MOTION TO GTA INTERGROUP that the GTA Intergroup implement a no long distance fee telephone number [at a cost of no more than \$125/month], for the use of those outside the 416 calling area, to enable them a no-cost access to services offered by the GTA Intergroup. *Motion moved by Tom W. (Aurora) and seconded by Wendy (Willowdale).*

A lengthy discussion ensued. Members expressed concern as to how to get this new number out to the public. Suggestions included using our website, business cards, and on the front of our meeting directory. Also suggested was getting the number in the White Pages in the outlying areas and utilizing community (municipal) information directories. We can also contact organizations to update their computer links.

MOTION to call the question (end discussion) moved by David Z. (Saturday Morning Discussion) and seconded by Dee T. (Streetsville). **MOTION CARRIED.**

John then **called for a vote:** 49 for Motion; 1 opposed; 2 abstentions noted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, June 29 at 8 p.m. at Lansing United Church.