

## Minutes for the NEMDAA Intergroup Council Meeting on 27 February 2024

The Secretary called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm on 27 February 2024 with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. The meeting is posted on [www.NEMDAA.org](http://www.NEMDAA.org).

### Roll Call:

- **Attendance: Total = 15**
- **At the Intergroup Office (6):**
  - **Officers (1):** Secretary (Daily Reflections)
  - **IGRs & Committee Chairs and Members (5):** Bel Air Women's Big Book (2), Celebrate Sobriety, Just for Today, Three Legacies
- **On Zoom/Phone (10):**
  - **Officers (1):** Treasurer (Sobriety on Friday)
  - **IGRs & Committee Chairs (9):** Answering Service Chair/Ways & Means, Finance Committee Acting Chair (Good News Group), Office Coordinator, Emmorton 8:30 Group, Good Orderly Direction, Solution for Living, Spirit of Life, & a guest (joined late and group not identified)

### Officer & Committee Reports:

- **Chair's Report:**
  - The Secretary reviewed the Chair's report from the agenda, which is posted to the website, beginning with an announcement that last weekend's Bingo event was a huge success. Net proceeds were reported to be over \$4,500!
  - The Chair shared that the office has had heating issues; the property manager has been notified. The Intergroup also renewed its lease through February 2025 at \$625/month.
- **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary asked if there were any requested corrections or additions to January's meeting minutes, which were posted to the website for approximately one month. A motion was made to accept the January minutes as written. The motion was seconded, none opposed, and the motion passed.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer reviewed the January financials, which are posted to the website. The Treasurer noted that the Bingo revenue was mostly in February and will be reflected in the February report at next month's meeting. The Treasurer also reminded the Council that rent will increase beginning next month. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion seconded, none opposed, and the motion passed.
- **Office Coordinator:** The Office Coordinators shared that they are working on the office inventory and feel that they have a handle on it now, after some challenges. They are also concerned with the upcoming reprint of meeting directories – neither of the current office staff have participated in printing meeting directories and have been unable to reach the person who led the task in the past. The Secretary took an action to contact the Chair after the meeting to identify someone to help the office staff with this task.
- **Answering Service:** The Answering Service Chair stated that the Answering Service is doing well. The Answering Service is willing to take on up to eight (8) more groups. The Answering Service Chair and Office Coordinators also discussed the office not having a call waiting function on the phone – if the office staff are on a call, a new caller will be directed to voicemail. They also recently discovered that the existing voicemail recording is outdated and are working on how to update this. The Answering Service Chair is

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researching the options and costs to add a call waiting feature to the office's phone service, and will email the Intergroup with information once available.

- **Cooperation with the Professional Community / Public Information (CPC/PI):** No report this month.
- **Finance:** The Finance Committee Acting Chair shared that the Committee met in January and reviewed medallion prices (the office was previously losing money on medallion sales; this has been resolved) and options to be able to accept direct credit card payments in the office with a service such as PayPal or Square, rather than the current process which requires payment transfer via the PayPal website. The services being explored both work with QuickBooks and would make inventory and financial accounting much easier. The two services appear to be comparable in cost and features. The Acting Chair is going to contact each service to find out what pricing they will offer to nonprofits, as well as to confirm whether there is a monthly service fee that the Intergroup would incur in addition to transaction fees.
- **Institutions:** The Secretary shared the following report, which the Institutions Committee Chair shared via email:
  - There is a women's facility in Elkton, MD, that is looking for women to take a commitment into their facility. They have availability Friday through Sunday each week at 6:30pm. Those interested should contact the Institutions Committee Chair.
  - The Harford Memorial Hospital Behavior Health Unit (BHU) officially closed on 2/6/24, and the BHU has officially reopened in Aberdeen. The Aberdeen medical center is now resuming the AA commitments that were started at Harford Memorial Hospital. The Emmorton Group's IGR reported that their group is attending these meetings and, while the new facility is large and confusing, the meetings have been successful.
- **Ways & Means:** The Ways & Means volunteer shared the following upcoming events:
  - The Committee secured a venue for a Halloween event, to be held on 10/26/24 at Grove Presbyterian Church in Aberdeen. The Committee has some volunteers to host the event and is planning for this to be a free event.
  - The Committee is considering hosting a picnic that might be held at Aberdeen Festival Park or Perryville Park. More to follow – contact the Ways & Means volunteer if interested in supporting this event.
  - The Committee is also planning a Valentine's Day event next year, in February 2025. The next Bingo event will be held on 2/15/25, so the Committee is looking at hosting this event on 2/8. The Committee is trying to keep costs low and is currently looking for a DJ.
- **Website:** The Secretary shared a discussion item that was raised by a member of the Website Committee, though not necessarily a "website issue" – how the office handles death announcements in the bulletin for members of the fellowship. A motion was made that the Intergroup bulletin will include death announcements at the request of the member's family or home group. The announcement will be limited to identifying the member's first name, last initial, and home group. At the home group's and office's discretion, the announcement may thank the member for their number of years of service to the home group. The Intergroup bulletin will not include information about funeral arrangements or memorial services – members are responsible for contacting one another if they are interested in this information. Announcements of AA meetings

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held in memory of a deceased member of the fellowship may be printed in the bulletin. The motion was seconded, none opposed, and the motion passed

- **Archives:** No report this month.

### Old Business:

- Meeting Directories: This item was discussed during the Office Coordinator report.
- New Year's Eve (NYE) Dance: The Secretary reported information shared by the Chair, which is that total proceeds to the Intergroup from this event are \$200.
- Founders' Writings: Members asked if the Intergroup is coordinating any responses to the Area's request for member feedback on how to handle/maintain the Founders' writings. The Secretary advised that members interested in providing feedback who have not yet done so should reach out to the Area Delegate and/or Chair so that they have the feedback for the upcoming Conference Agenda Review Committee (CARC) scheduled for 3/23/24. The Finance Committee Acting Chair noted that the Area Delegate recently sent out an online survey requesting feedback, but the link states that the survey is now closed. The Finance Committee Acting Chair took an action to follow up with the Delegate for clarification on the survey's status.

### New Business:

- Spring Breakfast: The Secretary shared that she intends to serve as the lead for this event, which is scheduled for 4/21/24. The Secretary requested Council feedback on two ticketing items:
  - Ticket format: The group discussed that there are pros and cons to both paper tickets and online tickets. No one was opposed to making tickets available online, so tickets will be made available in both formats. The Secretary will email the Website committee with the information.
  - Ticket price: In order to come close to breaking even on the cost of the food and the hall rental, the Secretary suggested a ticket price of \$20 per person. The Council agreed with this price and noted that raffles and literature sales may offer additional revenue opportunities at the event.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm with The Lord's Prayer and the Responsibility Statement.