

Minutes for the NEMDAA Intergroup Council Meeting on 26 March 2024

The Chair called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm on 26 March 2024 with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. The meeting is posted on www.NEMDAA.org.

Roll Call:

- **Attendance: Total = 14**
- **At the Intergroup Office (8):**
 - **Officers (2):** Chair (Sunday Reflections), Secretary (Daily Reflections)
 - **IGRs & Committee Chairs and Members (6):** Bel Air Women's Big Book, Emmorton 8:30 Group, Fallston Early Saturday, Just for Today, Rising Sun Group, Solution for Living
- **On Zoom/Phone (6):**
 - **Officers (1):** Treasurer (Sobriety on Friday)
 - **IGRs & Committee Chairs (5):** Answering Service Chair/Ways & Means, Finance Committee Acting Chair (Good News Group), Institutions Committee Chair (Rule 62), Office Coordinator, Good Orderly Direction

Officer & Committee Reports:

- **Chair's Report:**
 - The Chair reported that the rough draft of the new meeting directory is posted on the website for Fellowship review through 3/31.
 - The Chair shared that the next event will be the Spring breakfast, with paper and electronic tickets now available.
 - The latest bulletin includes an announcement that the Intergroup will be holding elections for new officers in June. The Chair encouraged all attendees to spread the word to encourage members to step up to service.
- **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary reviewed the February meeting minutes, which were posted to the website for approximately one month. The Fallston Early Saturday IGR asked for a brief explanation of the Old Business topic of the Founders' writings, and other members explained the topic. There were no requested corrections or additions to the minutes. A motion was then made to accept the February minutes as written. The motion was seconded, none opposed, and the motion passed.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer reviewed the February financials, which are posted to the website. The Treasurer hailed February's bingo event as a "lifeline," having resulted in a net income of approximately \$4,400. The Treasurer suggested recognizing the primary Bingo volunteer's extraordinary service over the years with a gift valued at \$50 or less. The group discussed whether or not this would be in line with the bylaws and traditions and then took a vote, with 12 in favor and two opposed. The two dissenters then provided their minority opinion, and at least one member then indicated they were going to change their vote. In a second vote, 10 were in favor and four were opposed. The motion passed, and the Treasurer took an action to work with the Answering Service Chair to purchase a gift. A motion was then made to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion seconded, none opposed, and the motion passed.
- **Office Coordinator:** The Office Coordinator shared that they are coming up on quarterly inventory. One of the Office Coordinators announced their resignation effective April 5th.
- **Answering Service:** The Answering Service Chair stated that the Answering Service is doing well. The Answering Service now has 19 participating groups and is willing to take on up to six (6) more groups. The Intergroup Chair stated that there are currently no

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groups from District 11 participating in the Answering Service. The IGRs in attendance from groups within District 11 acknowledged this observation.

- **Cooperation with the Professional Community / Public Information (CPC/PI):** No report this month.
- **Finance:** No report this month. The Secretary noted an open action from February's minutes for the Acting Chair to contact the payment service providers (Square and Paypal) 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 Institutions Chair stated that there is no new information to report this month. They are working to update an Excel sheet with institutions contact information by next month's meeting. Additionally:
 - Two people reached out with interest in the commitment at the women's facility in Elkton, MD. The facility can still use additional support. They have availability Friday through Sunday each week at 6:30pm. Those interested should contact the Institutions Committee Chair. The Good Orderly Direction IGR expressed interest and sent contact information to the Institutions Chair.
 - An attendee asked whether the Belcamp homeless shelter has an active commitment. The Institutions Chair took an action to look into it.
- **Ways & Means:** The Ways & Means volunteer shared the following upcoming events:
 - The Committee confirmed the June picnic to be held at Aberdeen Festival Park. The Committee could use volunteers. The Office will be open to sell literature during the event, and there will be a speaker at 2pm. Next planning meeting will be held on 4/6.
 - The Secretary shared an update on the Spring breakfast. Online ticket sales are trickling in, tickets are available in the office, and several members of the fellowship have tickets to distribute. The Secretary will send the Office an email request to update the website and bulletin to reflect doors opening at 7:30am (instead of 8:00am) and the program to begin at 9:30am (vice 9:00am).
- **Website:** No report this month.
- **Archives:** No report this month.

Old Business:

- **Meeting Directories:** This item was discussed during the Chair's report, but at this point in the meeting an IGR asked what the printing cost would be. The office volunteer did not know. The Chair stated that the office budget accounts for printing meeting directories but there is not a specific line item in the budget just for the directories.

New Business:

- **Steering Committee:** The Chair made a motion for the Council to create a committee to manage office volunteers and paid staff to improve communication and facilitate regular, ongoing training. It was noted that the Intergroup "Steering Committee", as referred to in the AA Guidelines on Central or Intergroup Offices, is what NEMDAA refers to as the "Intergroup Council." To avoid confusion, it was suggested to use a different name for this committee – the Office Operating Committee. An amended motion was made using this name. The motion was seconded and passed with none opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11pm with The Lord's Prayer and the Responsibility Statement.