

Northeastern Maryland Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

Intergroup Council Monthly Meeting

Date: January 28, 2025

The Council chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm with the Serenity Prayer. The roll call followed.

Attendance: Total: 23

In-person:

Officers (3): Chair, Secretary (IGR Emmorton Group), Treasurer

Intergroup Representatives (IGRs), Committee chairs, and members (8): IGR Celebrate Sobriety, IGR Emotional Sobriety, IGR Just for Today, IGR Northeast Big Book, IGR Rule 62, Website/Technology Committee Chair (IGR Rising Sun Big Book), Area 29 Alternate Delegate (Visitor), Area 29 Secretary (Visitor)

On Zoom/phone:

Officers (0):

IGRs, Committee chairs, and members (12): IGR Forest Hill Friday Night, IGR Newcomer Men's Meeting (virtual), IGR Pursuit of Happiness, IGR Saturday Fallston Men's Group, IGR Solution for Living, IGR (group unconfirmed), Alt. IGR Fallston Early Saturday Group, Office Staff, Answering Service Chair (Alt IGR Sunday Reflections), Archives Committee Chair (IGR Plug in the Jug), Institution Committee Chair, Visitor (Forest Hill Friday Night – interested in CPC/PI Committee position)

Council Chair report: The chair announced new office hours (Tues thru Thursday—10 am to 3 pm; Friday—10 am to 5 pm; Saturday—10 am to 2 pm) and noted that based on tracking office activity, we've been getting more activity over the past month since extending the hours.

Secretary report: The secretary presented the December minutes and asked for any corrections. There was a motion to accept as written and a second. December minutes accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's report: The treasurer presented a summary of the council's financial reports as of December 31, 2024:

Account balances are:

- Operating Account: \$6,192.88
- Prudent Reserve Account: \$23,805.74

Revenue:

- Group Contributions thru December is \$26,579.51
- Individual Contributions & Birthday Plan thru December is \$4,266.93
- Office Events total \$22,144.00
- Literature & Medallion Sales total \$15,041.95
- Interest income totals \$23.85

Total Revenue is \$68,032.39 which is 104% of our budgeted revenue for 2024.

Expenses:

Through December, we have paid out a total of \$66,395.00 which is 105% of our budgeted expenses this year.

The treasurer answered questions from IGRs:

Q: On the Budget vs. Actuals sheet, Contributions, as well as on the Statement of Activity, Contributions, what are “institutions”?

A: Groups give money and specify it is for the Institutions Committee.

There was a motion to accept the report as presented and a second. The treasurer’s report was accepted unanimously.

Office staff report: No report beyond what the Council chair shared about office hours and activity.

Standing and ad hoc committee reports

Finance (standing): The committee chair officially resigned. The position is open.

Answering service (standing): The committee chair is updating the 12 Step call list. Trying to reach out to everyone on the list and tighten it up a bit. Next activity is to streamline online access for the Answering Service so it is easier for the groups on call.

Institutions (standing): Cecil County Detention Center (CCDC) is holding re-orientation March 5 for those already cleared to take in meetings and new-volunteer orientation March 6. Anyone interested needs to complete and submit CCDC’s required paperwork two to three weeks ahead for processing.

The committee chair wants to look into taking meetings to the Elkton hospital’s behavioral health unit. IGR Pursuit of Happiness will reach out to the hospital.

The committee chair held a meeting with those interested in distributing pamphlets. One of the individuals is contacting GSO to get guidance and info on the process and which facilities to target.

Website/technology (standing): The committee chair shared that earlier in the month someone attempted to hack our website, which caused the site to be disconnected from the server. Our web master was able to increase security on the site but the server interruption disconnected our link with the Meeting Guide App (run by AA World Service). The web master connected with Meeting Guide people and the service is operational again.

The committee chair will chat with treasurer after this meeting regarding updating the website to allow groups/individuals to state who a contribution is coming from, which can’t be done with the current PayPal setup. The committee chair needs PayPal account info from the treasurer to make headway.

The committee chair noted that the Archives Committee chair requested updates on the website’s Archives Committee page and the chair will have it done by the end of the week. The committee chair requested that any other committees needing updates reach out.

The committee chair answered questions from IGRs:

Q: The Archives Committee chair asked about the possibility of having audio files (MP3 etc.) on the site. Is it still possible?

A: The committee chair will look into it.

Events (ad hoc): The secretary shared the following report on behalf of the Events Committee Chair.

JAN POTLUCK - 40 people turned out, lost \$50. I believe e1 had a good time, will rethink having a potluck in Jan, may use the same venue for a football party during the regular season. Leftover food will be used for the Picnic.

FEB BINGO - see Howards notes. Requesting help to sell tickets.

MARCH ROCK n BOWL - by request I have made a sign up for Rock n Bowl. March 1st in Aberdeen. Will post to bulletin this week.

APRIL BREAKFAST - asking AA for help to make baskets for raffle. Planning mtg starts 22 Feb. Flyers available at the Bingo.

JUNE PICNIC - Susquehanna Park

AUGUST LUAU - same venue as Picnic? Doug's place is unavailable.

OCT HALLOWEEN - Rocky Horror Puppet Show

The secretary also emphasized that bingo ticket sales are not where we want them and we need assistance selling tickets. Members can get them at the office.

CPC/PI: (position open) A member from Forest Hill Friday Night introduced themselves and declared their interest to be the CPC/PI Committee chair. The member has 4 years active in the program; was formerly a member of Sunday Morning Now but is currently a member of Forest Hill Friday Night.

A question arose from the IGRs:

Q: What is CPC/PI?

A: Cooperation with the Professional Community and Public Information

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously accepted.

We now have a CPC/PI Committee chair.

Archives (ad hoc): Committee chair is trying to boost online presence for the archives on the committee's service page. Committee chair has contacted Harford County Library to see if anyone in their trustee network would be interested in being on the committee. Archives in AA is unique as the positions, even archivist, do not need to be AAs. Because of their expertise, individuals outside the fellowship can be involved. Committee chair has done some testing and is on the edge of doing longtimer interviews. For the next meeting will prepare and provide the interview questions, as suggested by AA World Service, to ask the longtimers.

Last item was really a question for guidance. Just today the committee chair received an email from the American Catholic Historical Society. They will be having a speaker present on Father Dowling and Dowling's involvement with AA. Because this is not AA, can a bulletin announcement be made about it?

The IGRs discussed the idea and the Council chair requested that additional IGRs be asked as well as taking the issue back to the groups. The committee chair will draft a potential bulletin announcement

and the secretary will distribute the announcement via the Intergroup Council distribution list for comment.

Old Business

Intergroup inventory update: The Council chair, Website/Technology Committee chair, and Intergroup secretary worked on this for over a month to get to something appropriate to present to the larger review group. The chair aims to present for IGRs' review next month.

New Business

Conference Agenda Review Committee (CARC): The Area 29 Alternate Delegate shared on the General Service Conference, briefly, and explained the Area 29 CARC process for informing and preparing the Area Delegate for the conference. The basic premise is getting the members in from all across the state to provide input via regional meetings – CARCs – Conference Agenda Review Committees. The Alternate Delegate provided a flyer for the regional meeting that the northeast Maryland counties are part of. The flyer is for a March 3 (Monday) planning meeting designed to be low key and hosted and prepared by the Area Registrar. Everyone is invited to be a part of the planning meeting. The actual CARC meeting with the Delegate and Alternate Delegate will be Sunday, March 23, in Parkville, 2pm., and will last a maximum of about 2 hours. The Alternate Delegate is expecting three big topics this year: changes to the *Living Sober* book, and two more discussion topics about the founders' writings and how to handle those going forward. One item would amend the General Service Conference charter so there could be no further changes to the founders' writings, and another item would require a super majority to amend any of the founders' writings. The Area website will be updated in the next week or two with all the CARC information.

Meaning of "donation" on event tickets: The office staff asked for clarity about what our perception of "donation" is when printed on event tickets. For example, when the event ticket reads \$7 followed by "donation."

The Council chair and others explained that the amount on the ticket is the price of the ticket. There is no variation if someone doesn't want to pay that amount. It is a matter of raising funds for the Intergroup, and the term "donation" indicates the cost is a donation to a nonprofit.

A motion to close the meeting arose, was seconded, and had no opposition.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm and closed with the Responsibility Statement followed by the Lord's Prayer.