

Northeastern Maryland Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

Intergroup Council Monthly Meeting

Date: June 24, 2025

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Serenity Prayer. The roll call followed.

Attendance: Total: 15

In-person:

Officers (2): Chair, Secretary (IGR Emmorton Group)

Intergroup Representatives (IGRs), Committee chairs, and members (5): IGR Rule 62, IGR MH Noon, IGR North East Friday Night, IGR Solution for Living, Archives Committee chair (IGR Plug in the Jug), Pet

On Zoom/phone:

Officers (1): Treasurer

IGRs, Committee chairs, and members (7): IGR Good News Group, IGR Pursuit of Happiness, IGR Sobriety on Sunday, Answering Service Committee chair (Alt IGR Sunday Reflections), Events Committee chair, Institutions Committee chair, Office staff (Morning Group)

Secretary's report: The secretary presented the May minutes and noted one amendment: The "visitor" listed under Zoom IGR attendees was the IGR for North East Big Book. The secretary asked for any further amendments/corrections. There was a motion to accept as presented and a second. May minutes accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's report: The treasurer presented a summary of the council's financial reports as of May 31, 2025:

Account balances are:

- Operating Account: \$8,197.75
- Prudent Reserve Account: \$23,810.97

Revenue:

- Group Contributions thru May is \$11,901.45
- Individual Contributions & Birthday Plan thru April is \$1,079.10
- Office Events total \$11,221.00
- Literature & Medallion Sales total \$7,089.72
- Interest income totals \$5.23

Total Revenue is \$31,291.27 which is 48% of our budgeted revenue for 2025.

Expenses:

Through May, we have paid out a total of \$29,863.90 which is 45% of our budgeted expenses this year.

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

Office coordinator report / Office Operations Committee: The Council chair reported the office staff is doing really well with the loss of an employee. The Events Committee chair and treasurer have been helping to cover. According to the Events Committee chair, the three are scheduled to cover all the office hours through the month of July.

Per the Council chair, the office averages just less than 2 phone calls when open and almost 4 visitors. The Events Committee chair also created a Pivot table using the Council chair's statistics, which can be compared directly with the Inventory when we have those numbers.

Standing and ad hoc committee reports

Finance (standing): (position open)

Answering service (standing): The committee chair found the instructions for signing onto answering service on the phones needed adjustment, so improved the instructions. Found out this week the group scheduled for the holiday period can't do it. Seeking other groups or individuals to cover the time.

From last intergroup meeting to the day of current intergroup meeting, there were 116 phone calls total; 7 total missed; 6 on answering service time and 1 in the office.

Institutions (standing): The chair reported that they received a case of *Inmate to Inmate* and pamphlets as ordered for distribution to Cecil County Detention Center. The chair reached out to the point of contact for Harford County Detention Center, as well, and was told that HCDC is good for literature and the point of contact will reach out if they need any.

The chair has received 0 inquiries from bulletin announcement seeking help in Cecil County. The chair asked that the request remain in the bulletin.

Website/technology (standing): The chair was unable to attend but provided a report. The Council chair read the committee chair's report, as follows:

Intergroup Inventory:

As of today, 6/24/25, we've received 41 responses (39 individuals, 2 groups). Hopefully we can push to get at least 50 responses by next week when the survey closes. Please spread the word in meetings! I will prepare a more detailed summary of the results for the July meeting.

Website Activity:

There has been less website downtime since our last monthly meeting. Just prior to the May meeting, the webmaster doubled our server capacity to keep the website running smoothly after a large website software update. After the May meeting, he also implemented a monitoring tool that auto-restarts the database if it goes down. For the last month, we had doubled server capacity plus the monitoring tool. The webmaster is going to test reverting our server capacity back to the original level to see if the monitoring tool works as effectively before we make a recommendation about the long-term server capacity requirement. We were paying \$27/month to operate our servers at the original level, and this month's Amazon bill will be about double

due to the increased capacity - so, we want to assess whether the additional cost is necessary / adds value or if the monitoring tool alone will meet the Intergroup's needs.

The IGR Rule 62 noted they have 15 paper copies of the survey to submit.

The Council chair answered a question from the IGRs:

Q: Is there more weight with a group response versus individual response?

A: There is no greater weight. It's up to the group. Out of the 41 responses to 6/24, we've had 2 groups submit and 39 individuals.

Events (ad hoc): Committee chair noted the sober hike was June 21 but was lightly attended. The picnic had about 100 people, and the committee chair has leftover supplies that they will use for the luau.

Sign up for Rock N Bowl will be open until July 4.

There is a casting call for Rocky Horror Puppet Show puppeteers, stage crew, lighting, and sound and costume help. Once casting is filled, they will start rehearsals every Monday at Grove church from 6–8 pm beginning July 7.

What	When	Where	Cost
HIKE	Sat - June 19th, 9am	Elk Neck State Park, NE	Free
Auditions - RHPS	Mondays - July 7 th , 6pm	Grove Church, Aberdeen	Free
Rock N Bowl	Friday, July 12 th , 7-9:30pm	Harford Lanes, Aberdeen	\$20
LUAU	Sat - August 23 rd , 11-4pm	Deer Creek Picnic Area, HdG	\$20
Putt Putt	Sun – Sept TBD*, 2pm	Churchville Mini Golf	\$7
Rocky Horror	Sat – Oct 25 th , 7pm	Grove Church, Aberdeen	\$20
Rock N Bowl	Fri – Nov TBD*, 7-9:30pm	Harford Lanes, Aberdeen	\$20
NFL Watch Party	Sun – Dec 14th, 1pm	American Legion, HdG	\$15
Breakfast	Sun – TBD*, 8-11 am	Elks, HdG	\$12

*TBD = To be determined

The Council chair will talk to the individual who scheduled the hike and see if they are interested in trying again. Thinks it is a good fellowship idea and perhaps in cooler months attendance will increase.

CPC/PI: The Council chair noted that this is an open Committee chair position.

Archives (ad hoc): Committee chair thanked Events Committee chair for leaving a donation for archives at the office. The Events Committee chair stated the materials came from the treasurer, out of the office

closet, and some from the office staff. The Committee chair noted they have started inventorying what we have.

The committee chair answered a question from the Events Committee chair:

Q: There are two more boxes of receipts, do we have to keep those?

A: During the inventory, archivist found a drawer of receipts. The inventory will look over the items on the list then make recommendations to the council of what to keep and what not. Receipts don't need to be kept so long.

Old Business

None presented or discussed.

New Business

Group Input & Suggestions:

The IGR North East Friday Night presented an issue occurring with their home group location, North East Methodist Church. The church is asking AA groups meeting in the church to have liability insurance of \$1 million liability coverage. So those meetings are in flux at the current time.

The IGR North East Friday Night shared some history on this and what's going on and noted this may be an issue we come across going forward.

North East Friday Night is in discussions with the church regarding signing a new usage agreement to include \$1 million of liability insurance structured so the church is held harmless. The church would not make a provision to add the group to the church's own policy. The church itself seceded from the Methodist church and is now a standalone church which brought about this issue of such changes.

The church is also requiring individuals go through the Safe Sanctuary program, a nationwide program related to child protection, that requires background checks. The program is for any third party holding activities in the church. Individuals can find more details about the program on the web.

The North East Friday Night Group met with the church to negotiate some of this and got nowhere.

The IGR North East Friday Night shared they had done some research, and there is an Intergroup in California that purchases insurance coverage to cover all its participating groups. It is \$80 for the whole year.

So far, the IGR North East Friday Night is unaware of any other group in Cecil Co. being asked to provide insurance.

The IGR North East Friday Night asked that Intergroup allow them to research the issue, gather information, and report back findings back to the Intergroup Council for further discussion and potential action.

Further discussion was around the following questions:

Q: Has anyone reached out to GSO for information?

A: GSO's answer was conservative and lead to materials regarding treasurer activities and working with churches.

Q: Was the \$80 paid by the home group or by the Intergroup?

A: The IGR North East Friday Night was unsure.

Q: Who is responsible should something happen? Who signs off on the church policy?

A: The IGR North East Friday Night, as an individual, signed off on the original policy with the church.

Q: Is Safe Sanctuary just related to children—if you have children involved in the meeting?

A: It's for everybody. The IGR North East Friday Night researched it with some info via YouTube. It is specifically for churches.

Q: Who pays for the Safe Sanctuary background checks?

A: The IGR North East Friday Night was told it was about \$10 and the church said it would pay for the first time around. The requirement is that 2 people must be certified who are present at all times. And anyone under 18 is considered a child. This is a deal buster for the group.

Friday night big book study group has already moved.

Q: How are the Boy Scouts doing the insurance?

A: The IGR North East Friday Night didn't know but also didn't think they actually meet there anymore.

The Answering Service Committee chair volunteered to confer with the Intergroup's current insurance broker, with whom the committee chair arranged the office insurance policy, for information on a potential rider allowing groups to purchase coverage under the office policy.

The Council chair asked if we were open to having the IGR North East Friday Night and the Answering Service Committee chair do this research and reporting for us. None opposed and the research will proceed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm and closed with the Responsibility Statement followed by the Lord's Prayer.