

MARCH INTERGROUP MEETING MINUTES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

**March 1, 2007 Meeting Minutes Westchester United Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Meetings 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30PM**

Attending: Roberta M (region 6 Delegate; Bryant Avenue Monday); Jan G (Corresponding Secretary); Larissa M (Hotline); Carol B (Public Information) Wendy (for Margaret B (Thursday Yorktown Meth Ch); Kim D (Treasurer); Anne B (acting chair); John B (acting vice chair); Jmel W (Temporary Sponsor Bank); Beth T (Webmistress); Carol H (Mt. Kisco); Cathy A (Tues WP St. Matthews); Louise B (Thurs Hartsdale)

Read: Preamble; 12 steps; 12 traditions; 7-12 rules of service; sign in sheet & basket passed

Approve February Minutes:

Motion: Approve Minutes from February

Vote: All approved

Jan G. volunteered to take minutes this month.

Problem in Intergroup / Conducting Inventory on Effectiveness

Discussion:

Kim D led discussion on her inventory research. She reached out to someone who had done inventory in past to strengthen intergroup. His recommendation was an inventory should be done every year and conducted like a 10th Step to look at ourselves as a group at a deeper level.

His past experience as to why intergroups have become less functional:

- Internal strife.
- People want to keep their program separate from Intergroup
- Lack of abstinence
- People believe that Intergroup service won't give them a higher level of service
- We need to ask why we are repelling people rather than attracting people to Intergroup
- We need to not only take an inventory, but also to **TAKE ACTION** on the result of our inventory.

Discussion on potential WIG Inventory Process/Format:

- Inventory should take place during a monthly meeting.
- We should only get necessary work done and then dedicate time to inventory.
- Need a moderator (Kim volunteered to moderate or scribe)
- Need a Scribe
- Need not to get caught up in minutia
- Establish group conscience on topics
- Establish an Action Plan
- Start Inventory next month
- Possibly put inventory questions on the web site
- Suggested we should publish findings and also put out broadcast to OA at large (Westchester) that we need help to do this. **Please come and help us.** This message will generate attraction to Intergroup. If people hear that the job of intergroup service is a higher, more elevated level of service that would be attractive. The message is: the more recovery we have, the more service we need to do. In recovery, we need to increase our levels of service.
- Kim offered to transcribe questions she had for a Meeting Inventory and Beth will try to scan these questions onto the web site.

Motion: To pursue doing an inventory

- Continued discussion on what format the inventory might take. Con was raised that we already know the problems and know the reasons.
- Question raised that the problem on Intergroup attendance might be because of location of the meeting. We might need a more central meeting place than Pleasantville.
- Question raised on the question of recovery. Is it the individual or a specific group's recovery? This isn't clear.

Vote: On the motion to do an inventory (without knowing what format this inventory would take at this time).

Favor: 10; Opposed: 1; Abstain: 3

Further discussion on Format (Distribution / Legality):

Motion: Both formats should be distributed (intergroup inventory format and individual meeting format) and we will see which best meets our needs.

- Con is time constraint.
- Inventory formats are copyrighted materials that need to be paid for and should not be posted on the web.
- In the past, these materials were copied and used as part of the process.
- Someone will call World Service for clarity.
- Carol B. will get copy of Intergroup inventory questions
- Kim will find out about using AA materials (Group Inventory).
- Jan will transcribe questions and distribute to intergroup reps via e-mail.
- We will use one of the two inventories

Amend Motion: It will be distributed with the possible combination of the two

Vote: Favor 8;Opposed 0;Abstain 2

Motion: Dedicate two meetings to do whole thing

Vote: Favor 13;Abstain 1

Recommendation: Our Intergroup by-laws indicate that alternates can take the place of main rep. Recommend that when group discusses inventory, everyone should be present.

Motion: Kim moderates Inventory

Vote: Approve 14

Motion: Start Inventory at 8:00PM both months

Vote: Approve 14

Motion: Scribe will be ad hoc

Vote: Favor 12;Abstain 1

Items of Business:

Review results of Intergroup vote for World Service Proposals

- Eight reps responded – all proposals were approved for discussion by WIG

Newsletter Discussion

- How should the newsletter look
- This service can be outside the Intergroup
- We need to get the message out at the meetings (telling all OA members how great doing this service can be)
- Having an announcement sheet is important
- Question raised that the reps need to know how it is done so they can intelligently discuss in meetings about what it means to edit the newsletter
- Anne B will provide direction on how to accomplish producing a newsletter
- We need a person or committee to say yes they will do it

Meeting List

- Per prior decision, we will need 600 copies of the March/April Meeting List. We also need to update World Service address on meeting list.

Treasurer Report

- **Feb Financial Report.**
 - We did get money earmarked for Public Information

Motion: File financial report for audit

Vote: Approve 13; Abstain 1

- **Budget:**
 - Basically, if money was going to be the same it was mirrored in this budget from last budget.
 - Added money to Corresponding Secretary line
 - Changed Public Information to 2000
 - \$45 to Special Needs
 - New Business Concept was raised: Money for struggling meeting?

Motion: Move funds from WSBC delegate fund to Public Information (\$1,350)

Discussion: Are we absolutely sure we don't have a delegate? Kim needs to close budget and not keep it open just in case there might be a possibility of this money having to be moved back to the delegate fund. Clarification made that this change is just for this year. It is March, and we don't have anyone identified for the conference. We want to do a diner placement in the public information area and this would give us the money to do it. Region 6 is not doing a convention this year. They don't have the money to do a PI blitz for the convention.

Vote: Favor 13; Abstain 1

Motion: Approve 2007 budget with two these changes:

- Corresponding Secretary raised 400
- Move \$1,350 to PI
- Correct budget will be reflected in March

Vote: Favor 13, Abstain 1

Report of WUIG chair & corresponding secretary regarding World Service Business Proposals (Anne B. & Janet G. March 2007)

The tally of votes received for the proposals was as follows:

- Proposal A: YES DISCUSS (seven yes/one no)
- Proposal Item 1: YES DISCUSS (eight yes)
- Proposal Items 2 - 6: YES DISCUSS (seven yes/one no)
- Proposal Items 7-8: YES DISCUSS (seven yes/one no)
- Proposal Items 9-10: YES DISCUSS (five yes / three no)

Results were faxed to World Service on Feb. 27

Report of Temporary Sponsor Bank (Jmel W.)

Unlike previous months, the temporary sponsor bank had no requests for a sponsor during January.

Web Site Report - March 2007 (Beth T.)

The website continues to be updated as new information comes in. Please have meetings submit anniversary info as well as any meeting changes, openings or closings. Any other pertinent information regarding OA or meetings can be submitted for posting. Please encourage this. It would be great if the Reps could take a look at the site and make sure there are directions to their meeting posted and that they are accurate.

We did not receive any requests via e-mail this month. We received information via the website regarding Nassau Intergroup Marathon. A couple of e-mails were sent out to our distribution list with current information updates including information on the WUIG March Marathon on Prayer & Meditation. The Feb 2007 minutes, Jan. Financial Statement, Estimated Budget and current Meeting List were e-mailed to the distribution list and posted to the website. The proposed New Business Motions and By Law Changes for the upcoming 2007 World Service Board Conference and the survey were posted to the website. The distribution list has been updated.

Please continue to announce that the new, easier to remember address is www.oahelps.org. However, you can always get to our site via

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www.oawestchestser-ny.org. You can now use either address to get to the Westchester website. Please spread the word and feel free to use www.oahelps.org on any literature you print.

In December, by approval of a motion, I was given the ability to research and change our website host if I find that it is economical. Our current web host is paid through June so I am not making any changes until that time. I will research the best route to take in the next month. I worked with the current web host, BestWeb, to have them move the website to a server which can be updated using Frontpage software (which is how I was updating it) or by using any ftp software. This makes it easier for us to make changes to the website without having to have the Frontpage software on the computer you are working from. This did not cost anything and I am hoping it will streamline the updating process going forward.

All e-mails continue to be directed to the general web address. Following are the list of positions which have e-mail forwarded to them through the site.

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman
- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Treasurer
- Regional Representatives
- WSBC Delegate
- PI Chairman
- Newsletter Editor
- Speakers' Bank Chairman
- Sponsors' Bank Chairman
- Hotline Chairman
- Webmaster

As I have stated previously, I have posted some information to the Committee Pages; however, most of them still need more information. If you are a Chair, please visit your page and decide what you would like to do there. Please continue to update on a regular basis.

If there is anyone among the fellowship who has an understanding of website maintenance or is very computer literate, I would appreciate help in maintaining the site and working on improvements to it. Please contact me at bklied@mac.com or 914-777-1829

WRITTEN REPORTS FROM MARCH 2007 BUSINESS MEETING

Public Information Report 3/1/07 (Carol B.)

The committee met this past month and discussed the following:

Movie Ad:

We know that the movie ad did help to “carry the message” because at least one new person joined OA due to seeing the movie ad. She had never heard of the existence of OA until she saw the ad.

At this point, we decided not to pursue getting the pamphlets displayed in the movie theater since we only had a few weeks left and needed corporate approval from Mass.

On the whole, we think that this is an excellent form of carrying the message and look forward to doing another 3 months when we have enough funds.

We are aware that Region 6 is not in a position to provide funds this year for a PI Blitz. We are looking into the possibility of asking if individual groups would like to set up a special fund for future PI projects with the intent of not limiting their regular donations to WUIG.

Diner Placemats:

We would like to pursue this media when we have sufficient funds. We have approached a company and have received a 50% price reduction. The cost is \$900 for 3 months reaching 5 diners in Central Westchester including the Eldorado in Elmsford and the Eldorado West in Tarrytown. We discussed the wording of the ad, reviewing the WSO print ads, and decided to use the movie ad that we had developed.