

MINUTES

SARA-MANA INTERGROUP MEETING

February 16, 2022 at 7 PM

Central Office & Zoom

[Zoom ID: 733 4126 4918 PW: 912785]

- Call the Meeting to Order: Ross (substituting for Matt)
 - Moment of Silence Followed by the Serenity Prayer: Ross
 - 12 Traditions: Todd
 - Quorum was established with 11+ members present
 - Welcome and Introduction of New Intergroup Reps: Judy, Gulf Gate Drive; Allen, Keep it Simple; and Brad, Noon St. Armand's Meeting.

- Reports
 - Chair Report: No report (excused absence)
 - Co-Chair Report: No report (excused absence)
 - Secretary Report: Melissa shared that the minutes from the last meeting were dispersed via email and asked if there were any questions or a motion to approve. Todd motioned to accept. Craig seconded. All approved.
 - Treasurer's Report: Craig reported the following for February 2022:
February-to-date
January 31 Balance: \$17,548.36 | Feb Donations: \$2,318.46 | Feb Expenses: \$1,072.40
New Balance: \$18,794.42 | Less Prudent Reserve: \$6,500 | Feb 14 Balance: \$12,294.42
Motion to accept Treasurer's Report made by Todd. Seconded by Donna. All in favor.
 - Committee Reports
 - Finance Committee Chair Report: Ross – Report was moved to the end of the meeting in Old Business
 - District Intergroup Liaison: Donna – No report (Attending District Intergroup meeting April 8 to 10 in Boca Raton.)

- **Helpline: Greg**

Last 30 days: A total of 85 calls were answered and call backs were made | 200 minutes logged | Zero no response complaints to central office

Volunteer Opportunity: Still in need of 12th step volunteers - men and women to team up for in person visit requests. Anyone interested email gregmiles1@yahoo.com.

- Gary asked about the status of the Spanish language hotline. Ross said last he knew they were waiting on Tommy to return to be able to fix the current issue. Matt may have more information at the next meeting.
- It was shared members with any length of time can volunteer for the Helpline and two years of sobriety are needed to volunteer for 12-step calls.

- **Where & When: Samantha**

- Samantha handed out copies of the new Where & When for January 2022 (salmon color). More copies are available at Central Office.
- She requested any changes be made by calling in to Central Office. The app and website can be updated and are always the most up-to-date.
- Donna asked how to report dates of sobriety. Ross indicated that that was for the newsletter and that the newsletter chair's contact is on the home page of AASRQ.org. (As it appears on AASRQ.org – "**Anniversaries:** Please submit your group member anniversaries for the upcoming month to info@asrq.org! They will be included in the newsletter the month after.")
- Gary moved to accept the Where & When report. Craig seconded. All approved.

- **Newsletter: No report. Absence excused.**

- Central Office Report: Greg
 - Facility improvements
 - The carpet repair is done, the new chairs arrived, and the old chairs were donated and delivered to the Sarasota Gratitude Club.
 - A part-time Central Office attendant has been added to allow for the bookstore to be open for the monthly service meetings and Central Office events.
 - A cordless phone has been added to the office system to avoid possibility of missed calls.
 - New audio-visual system is still in procurement
 - Central office will now provide it's reports to Intergroup and General Service monthly meetings by submitting an email to the secretary of their body rather than a live report.
 - Reminder at the end of meetings to please turn off the printer, turn down the A/C (not off), turns the lights out, and lock the back door.
 - Bob moved to accept the Central Office report. Craig seconded. All approved.
- General Service District 4 Report: Alan
 - District 4 meeting is being held this Saturday the 19th. Eight agenda items will be covered, including recent changes to the Preamble and changes to essays in the Twelve and Twelve. Please be sure that your home group's GSR is in attendance.
 - A chili cookoff is being held on Sunday, March 13th from 3 to 6 PM at the Farm Bureau (7289 Palmer Road). The flyer with more details can be found: [Chili-Cook-Off.pdf \(dist4gsaa.org\)](#) Please print and bring a copy to your homegroup.
 - Craig moved to accept the GSD report. Gary seconded. All approved.
- Current Practices: No past-chair representative. No report

- Old Business:
 - Bylaws: Ross indicated that an ad hoc committee was formed to review and update the bylaws, but that a chair was not formally nominated or voted on. He said Susan R. was willing to step up as chair.
 - Ross proposed the nomination for Susan to be chair of the ad hoc Bylaws Committee. Craig seconded. All approved.
 - Susan reported that she had reviewed minutes from previous meetings and reviewed other bylaws from other Area 15 groups. Gary had provided suggestions for a draft of the bylaws. She asked the group how the last bylaws from 2019 had been created so that she didn't need to reinvent the wheel. She also requested one or two more members to the ad hoc committee.
 - Ross said he had worked on the bylaws in 2019. At the time Intergroup representation was low and there weren't enough members to create an ad hoc committee. He said he was strongly in favor of bylaw review because of that reason.
 - Dave commented that it is unusual for Intergroups to be separate from Central Office in other districts and bylaws are usually shared.
 - Laurie offered to serve on the ad hoc committee.
 - Finance Committee Chair Report: Ross
 - Ross said that he did not get as much accomplished as he hoped due to illness over the last month.
 - Ross mentioned that Matt brought up elections in the last meeting and he suggested that the group pause on the election process until the bylaws were completed. Many of the officers – secretary, chair, etc. had not served full terms and those terms were not clear due to lack of participation and empty roles during the course of the last couple of years due to the pandemic.

- Dave said that officers are filling out and completing terms of former officers in those roles. That elections should take place based on the required timeline and that officers who are finishing out the past officers may or may not be elected into the next term.
- Ross agreed, but that with bylaws in review it would be important to follow new bylaws procedures thoroughly – such as nomination periods prior to an election.
- Jimmy added to the discussion asking if General Service terms are the same as Intergroup.
- Ross thought there was no specified start or end period to this current two-year term with a lack of cohesive practices due to the pandemic. He did agree that if all had gone as it should, the process for nominations should have started in September and ratified in November. He again requested that the group pause on elections until the bylaws were finalized.
- Laurie added that Matt had served a full term after Jim left in 2020. That elections should take place given the lack of harmony in Intergroup and she expressed an amount of bias in the secretary's minutes. She felt new leadership was needed.
- Susan shared the election process as it is laid out in the bylaws.
- JD proposed a motion that Intergroup clean up the most important areas of the bylaws including elections by the next meeting, so that Intergroup could move forward quickly with the election process.
- Susan said that the primary points were election and the non-profit registration status of the group. She expected that one month would be needed to work on the bylaws and a second month for review and then a vote on approving the bylaws. Gary added that groups would need to have input.

- Dave added that in the spirit of rotation, Intergroup should move forward and hold elections now.
 - Further discussion continued about the bylaws and Intergroup practices of the past 18 months (Dave). Jimmy suggested that the group move on from the past, end the rumors, and start from where we are.
 - A motion was made by Jimmy to allow the Adhoc Bylaws Committee to go through the review process, when new bylaws are approved, the group move forward with elections. Todd seconded. All approved.
 - Ross reported that there were no changes or updates with the IRS concerning the penalties due to his illness last month.
 - He reported that he discovered that the BMO Harris bank account is non-interest accruing and that a non-interest accruing account avoids monthly fees.
 - Ross asked if groups had reviewed the bullet points regarding the non-profit registration status of Intergroup. He asked if there were any questions.
 - With none, Jimmy motioned that Intergroup leave the status as at 501C4. Brendon seconded. 15 voted to approve, 6 opposed. The motioned carried.
 - Jimmy asked about the vote to purchase books and materials for H&I with the 2021 divestiture. Ross said that H&I sent him a list of literature requests. The City of Sarasota jails require electronic versions of literature and Grapevine subscriptions for each tablet. A plan for vote will be in place by next month once the details are understood.
- New Business: Ross
 - No new business
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 - Motion to close was made by Jimmy. Craig seconded. All were in favor. Meeting closed at 7:56 PM. Next meeting March 15, 2022.

