



Minutes: Board of Trustees  
**Wednesday, May 3, 2023.**  
11 a.m. CT

## AGENDA

1. Call to order/Serenity Prayer - Paul  
*Present: Paul, Colleen, Elaine, Kathleen, Fred*  
*Absent: Behzad, Carolina, Kelsey*
2. Approval of past meeting minutes - Paul  
[March](#)  
*Motion to approve by Colleen Seconded by Kathleen*
3. Open vs. Closed meetings - Kathleen  
*Held conversations on this topic with other members. Rationale for closed meetings - for members or prospective members. Open meetings are available to the public but must follow the Concepts if they want to share - could be speaker meetings or retreats - more informational and not a Step or Topic meeting. Will have more conversations with the group to recommend a clear definition of what constitutes open and closed meetings by the next Trustee meeting. Could be a topic for the Membership Meeting in the fall.*
4. [Recent Survey Findings](#) - Elaine  
*Reviewed results. Introduced a new Serenity Card as a result. Other ideas: survey asking how people want to volunteer - link to how they can now. How do you put your 12 Steps into action?*
5. Finance review - Paul  
[P&L March](#)  
[Cumulative P&L](#)  
[Balance sheet](#)  
*Elaine will remind folks to include EA in their estate plans - mainly from IRAs - in weekly emails.*
6. Board recruitment and retention - Paul  
[Board terms](#)  
*Note on email and website encouraging applications*  
*Several trustees' terms are ending in June.*
7. Communications Committee update - Colleen  
*Cmt met April 19. Discussed a new pamphlet on being an effective group - will consolidate all current materials on having healthy meetings - both virtual and in person. Might be a 4-column pamphlet with references to the other publications. The new book continues to proceed. Requests for material needs more information/guidance and Colleen will host an informational meeting on May 20. Plan is to publish by the end of this year.*

8. Mission statement revision

- Elaine

[Worksheet for ideas](#)

Perhaps EAI is due for a refresh of the mission statement - this is a way to frame mission revisions. Add ideas at the bottom of the sheet prior to the board meeting.

*Good as is. Perhaps a review of it at a later date at an Annual Membership meeting.*

*Need to announce it on more materials etc right now.*

Other comments:

*Fred's meeting has gone to a conference call format. Get people from all over the country. Someone wanted verification of attendance at this meeting but we don't track individuals who attend. They have created the following information about the meeting that is shared. The trustees will review it at the next meeting.*

*At our meetings we use first names only. Comments made here are treated confidentially to uphold the tradition of anonymity. Anonymity assures us that only we have the right to make our membership here known to others. **Our EA group is not a class, it's not therapy – it's a support group where we help each other with emotional challenges through sharing personal experiences and using the 12-step program. No one tracks attendance or progress; no one issues report cards or certificates;** we do not give advice on personal matters. Criticism and argument are avoided to ensure easy and open-minded discussion.*

*A voice-over artist reached out to Colleen to discuss volunteering for something. Kathleen has had inquiries about how to use our literature - that using literature is not the same as holding an EA meeting.*

*At the next meeting the trustees can discuss what an EA meeting is/is not.*

*Next Meeting: June 7, 2023*