

Minutes Full Board of Trustees
Tuesday April 23, 2019
5:30 p.m. (time in Minnesota)
Conference Call # (605) 472-5304
Participant code: 488333#

1. Call to order/Serenity Prayer **at 5:23 p.m.**
Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. John moved, Colleen seconded.
Unanimous approval
2. Old Business
 - a. Healthy group education activities (strategic plan)
 - i. The Connection will include articles/stories about how to have a healthy group in two editions **Colleen will write article in June on her reflections of her group's review of the group inventory**
 - ii. Existing materials on healthy groups will be reviewed and updated
 - iii. Healthy group resources will be made available for free twice during the year. **Will make #6 & 7 available for free during the month of June. Will send emails, website posting and in the May connection.**
 - iv. Materials will be reviewed and revised to eliminate suggestion of 'leaders' in meetings **Being done as it can be**
 - b. Pamphlet update process outsourced **\$400 for 5 pamphlet revisions. Scott commented that having two versions of the same piece can be confusing and would like a way to describe the benefits of the new pamphlets – in particular the discussion questions.**
 - c. # Scholarships **None recently**
 - d. Language change response to EA Action Group **Elaine sent out a response on 4/22. Additional information was requested by the group. John wants EAI to communicate with all groups about the changes rather than have the EA Action group leading this. Scott would like the entire membership to understand the time this has required and is concerned about the effect on The Loop's membership. Colleen asked about whether we could solicit feedback from groups around the world and could we 'hit the reset button' at this time. Scott suggested perhaps removing the changes on the website but the board stands by its decision and announcing to the membership that we want to talk about this change and ask for input by the groups in the next 4 months. John suggested that we readdress this and review the feedback in September at the board workshop and then bring it to the annual membership meeting. Elaine pointed out that 2018 bylaws do not require any ratification. IT was suggested that perhaps unity isn't our primary focus but the focus is reaching the most people who need our help. In the next couple of weeks we will determine how to explain this issue and the decisions and ask for the feedback. Colleen suggested we also communicate more about how the organization operates to encourage transparency.**

- Elaine
3. Review of finances*

- Scott

We have been in the black the past two month however the overall annual finances are still in arrears. Elaine is getting a contribution letter out in May.

4. Nominations for Board members - Elaine
 - a. Paul N. application
 - b. Lynn A. application
 - c. Notices by email, on website, in May Connection
 - d. Missed notification deadline in bylaws of Feb 15
 - e. Deadline for applications (bylaws: April 1) – move to June 1? **No – we'll keep these dates.**
 - i. Revision of bylaws for nomination/application deadlines
Elaine will send applications to the board for all to review. Board members will follow up by phone. Any further applications will be sent to the board as they come in. Current applicants will vote via email.
5. Officer elections for current Board - Scott
Colleen asked if we could add an ad hoc committee to review the bylaws made up of both board members and from the membership. This could be part of the overall effort to gather input from the membership.
Scott presented the slate:
President: Scott
Vice President: John
Treasurer: Derita
Secretary: Colleen
Slate was presented by Scott, motion by John, seconded by Derita. Unanimous vote.
6. Approval of revised pamphlets - Scott
Scott presented the pamphlets. Derita has not read them and Colleen requested another chance to look at them. Board will hold an email vote by Scott on May 1st with a response required within 48 hours.
7. Revision of starter kits – materials/discount - POI - Elaine
Contents and pricing changed.
8. Book and Literature committee update - Scott
 - a. #67 Admin Concepts revisions
Scott made some changes to address the leader language but that will be postponed for now.
 - b. Updates on published materials - Elaine
 - i. Meditation book - **two submissions came in. Colleen recommended that a flyer go out in the next month with orders asking for submissions.**
 - ii. Welcoming Spirituality
Scott asked about signing over the copyright. Elaine will check on that. Elaine has a quote from the publisher and will get it into production.
9. Board orientation date - Elaine
Elaine would like to hold off until the new board members get on board before setting a date.
10. Choose Connection writing dates and topics - Elaine
It is helpful to know who will be writing on what topic ahead of time.
11. Language – email from a member:

While you're updating the EA literature and removing God, please remove the word unnecessary in the Just for today's which reads 'we will not engage in unnecessary criticism'. All other 12 step programs do not allow for necessary criticism, whatever that

is. Also, one of the original promises from AA is 'Fear of people and of economic insecurity will leave us' is not in EA's promises list. This was replaced by "our relationships with other people improve" which is OK but very weak.

The majority of EA members in Orange County, CA are requesting these changes be made. Please advise. BTW, I believe a survey sent to all members on these matters would be of great value to the program and to newcomers. We continue to believe removing God from the literature is a mistake

Taken under advisement. Scott is willing to respond to this once Elaine sends the email.