

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, January 27, 2020

The Chairperson Laura M welcomed the Advisory Committee and started the meeting with the SERENITY PRAYER.

ROLL CALL - Ralph T. – Ralph T. reported there were 30 AA Group members in attendance enough for a quorum and making the January 27, 2020 Advisory Meeting official.

MINUTES: Laura M asked for Approval of October 29, 2019 Advisory Meeting Minutes. The Advisory Committee approved the October 29, 2019 Advisory Minutes as previously read.

Chairperson Laura M. (Area 3) asked Operating Committee Members in attendance to introduce themselves: Pam L (Area 7), Rob N (Area 11), Dave S. (Area 4), Brian B. (Area 8), Joe T. (Area 6), Joe H. (Area 10) and Quinsetta M. (Area 2) introduced themselves to the Advisory Committee. Laura then asked Ruth D. to introduce the staff members of the CDO. Ruth welcomed the Advisory Committee and introduced staff member Jason M., David G., Ralph T. and the CDO archivist Bob McK.

Chairperson asked for Committee Reports – Laura M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Financial - Ruth (Tim C, Rob N, Dave S.) Ruth gave a Financial Summary for the year ended December 31, 2019. The CDO collected pledges of \$308,140 a decrease of \$2,608 from 2018. Ruth said that the Intergroup office in Cleveland is very lucky because our members really look out for us. Many offices struggle financially, have to hold fundraisers, cut staff, and cannot offer the services the CDO can provide because of the generosity of our members. Ruth went on to explain that the CDO tries to keep literature costs as low as possible. Our only goal is to break even on literature because we want the groups to be able to carry the message at the lowest cost possible. We have been breaking even on literature but at the end of 2019, we had to adjust our literature inventory for the last two years. The accountant who usually adjusts our inventory at the end of the year did not complete this task. The CDO had to make an adjustment on inventory for two years. The adjustment meant a \$4,500 decrease in literature revenues. Ruth reported between the Indians Game and the Goodtime III, the CDO lost \$1,500. These events are not fundraisers; they are events to promote group unity but we cannot afford to lose money. Ruth reported that the CDO decided not to have the cruise next year. The first Indians Games the CDO had was very successful and we sold all our 50 tickets quickly. Last year we bought 100 tickets and we sold 75. In 2020, we are going to go for 75 tickets. Ruth said the CDO is not sure why these events were not successful. Ruth thought that two reasons were 1) we do not have the right secretary and 2) the secretary does not always read the newsletter to their groups. Ruth reiterated how important it is to have the right secretary so the groups can get the information about what is happening in the AA community. Ruth went on to say the CDO had a good year and we are very grateful to our AA members for their generous support.

Corrections Mike A. – The Corrections Committee meets the first Monday of every month at 6:30 at the CDO.

Activities: Ruth asked the Advisory Committee to think about what activities they would like to see the CDO sponsor.

Communications: Joe T. Pam L. –Quinsetta M. NEW GROUP/SECRETARY WORKSHOP will be held on Saturday March 14, 2020 at the CDO.

Archives - Bob McK., CDO archivist gave a talk on Writing of the 12 Steps

The next Advisory Committee meeting will be the Annual Advisory Meeting: Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 7:00 pm

Elections for Operating Committee Representatives from Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be held at the Advisory Annual Meeting. We will have a slate of nominees running for Operating Committee representatives from those areas. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. You must live or have a home group in the following zip codes as well as have at least three years of sobriety and be nominated by a member of your home group.

AREA/TERM 1: 44021 Burton, 44022 Chagrin Falls, 44023, Chagrin Falls, 44046 Huntsburg, 44056 Macedonia, 44062 Middlefield, 44065 Newbury, 44072 Novelty, 44080 Parkman, 44087 Twinsburg 44128 Cleveland, 44139 Solon, 44146 Bedford, 44202 Aurora, 44231 Garrettsville, 44234 Hiram, 44236 Hudson, 44237 Hudson*, 44241 Streetsboro, 44255 Mantua, 44265 Randolph and outlying area:
Nominee: Gary S.

AREA/TERM 2: 44101 Cleveland*, 44103 Cleveland, 44113 Cleveland, 44114 Cleveland, 44115 - **Nominee: James T.**

AREA/TERM 3: 44104 Cleveland, 44106 Cleveland, 44120 Cleveland, 44122 Beachwood, And 44127 Cleveland **Nominee:**
Nominee: To be announced

AREA/TERM 4: 44109 Cleveland, 44129 Cleveland, 44133 North Royalton, 44134 Cleveland, 44144 Cleveland, 44212 Brunswick –
Nominee: Nominee: Vlad V.

We also need a member from Area/Term 5: 44102 Cleveland, 44107 Lakewood, 44111 Cleveland, 44189 Cleveland

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was ended with the Lord's Prayer.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday June 24, 2020 – 7:00 pm.

The Chairperson Joe T. welcomed the Advisory Committee and started the meeting with the SERENITY PRAYER.

ROLL Call: Dave G. reported that there were 36 participants in the meeting enough for a quorum and an official meeting.

MINUTES: Ruth said the CDO would send January 27 Advisory Meeting and June 24 Advisory Meeting Minutes in the August Central Bulletin.

Chairperson Joe T (Area 6) asked the Operating Committee Members in attendance to introduce themselves. Rob N. (Area 11) Gary S (nominee Area 1) Lisa G ((Area 9) James T (nominee Area 2) Vlad V (nominee from Area 4) introduced themselves to the Advisory Committee. Joe T turned the meeting over to Ruth D. CDO Secretary to introduce CDO staff. Ruth D welcomed the Advisory Committee members and introduced CDO staff in attendance David G and Jason M.

Chairperson Joe T asked the Operating Committee members for Committee Reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Financial - Ruth D. gave a brief financial report. At the end of May 31, 2020, the CDO received \$124,633 in pledge money. At the end of May 2019, the CDO had received \$245,169 a decrease of \$120,536 in 2020. The quarantine and the closure of face-to-face meetings happened in the first weeks of the Fund Drive. Ruth said even though we were down by almost half of what we received last year at this time; the CDO was still grateful for the funds we have received. The CDO understands that many people have lost their jobs or having reductions in salaries and benefits. We have extended our Fund Drive through September and we will see what happens in the future. Ruth said in some ways Alcoholics Anonymous is fortunate because Alcoholics Anonymous does not accept funds from outside sources; AA only accepts contributions from its members.

Corrections - No Report they have not met

Activities - Activities have been suspended

Archives - Bob M., CDO Archivist gave a talk on Generous Orthodoxy. Bill W used this philosophy to write the Big Book. Bill thought using this philosophy would make the book less rigid, more inclusive and be more inviting to a diverse membership. Bob went through a number of times members have tried to change the Big Book but the first 164 pages have remained the same.

New Business:

Operating Committee Representatives terms from Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 have expired. Joe T. said the CDO has a slate of nominees to present to the Advisory Committee and asked for any other nominees on the Zoom call; there were none. Joe T told the nominees to introduce themselves and give their home groups and sobriety dates.

Gary S., nominee from Area 1, introduced himself as a member of Chagrin Falls Friday with a sobriety date of Nov 7, 1989. Joe T. nominated Gary S. and the Advisory Committee voted Gary S. in as representative from Area 1

James T, nominee from Area 2, introduced himself as a member of Keep It Real and Stella Maris Friday with a sobriety date of July 14, 2005. Joe T. nominated James T. and the Advisory Committee voted James T. in as representative from Area 2.

AREA/TERM 3: Laura M. current representative from Area 3 will continue until we find a new nominee from Area 3.

Vlad V., nominee from Area 4, introduced himself as a member of Padua Variety and Seven Hills Men with a sobriety date of December 18, 2010. Joe T nominated Vlad V. and the Advisory Committee voted Vlad V. in as Representative from Area 4.

The CDO also needs a nominee from Area 5: 44102 Cleveland, 44107 Lakewood, 44111 Cleveland, and 44189 Cleveland

Open Forum: Linda F. said she was having live meetings at her church in Rocky River and wanted to know how she could let members know her facility, Recovery Church, was open for meetings and following CDC guidelines. Dave said that some meetings have moved to that facility but for us to put them in our book they must be Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings. Dave

said that if AA groups want to meet at the Church the CDO is ok with it. Leslie S. said that the GSO representatives could steer meetings that need a new place to go to the Church. Leslie told Linda F. to go to the Area 54 website and let them know her facility was available. Leslie asked about the Fund Drive since she missed the financial summary Ruth gave in the beginning of the meeting. Ruth thanked her for asking. Ruth said that while the CDO was down by over \$100,000, the office has been able to maintain services and has extended the fund Drive through September. Ruth said the CDO will ask our members for more funds if we need to. Ruth again said how the CDO appreciates that members, although not meeting face to face, were still sending us fund drive money. We are all right now and have not had to use our prudent reserve

Dave D. from One Paragraph at a Time asked if Leslie had any definitive information on the Governor's guidelines on reopening of meetings. Leslie said she did not but that members of the GSO had gone on the website. Dave D. then gave the information of how to login to One Paragraph at a time. Rachel W. said it was Linda F. who had gotten information from Ohio Governor's website. Linda F. said that the regulation is that you can have 50% capacity of the building. There are also recommendations to wear masks and make sure to sanitize and social distance. The facility has to adhere to the CDC rules in order to have meetings.

Jeff Y from Thursday Men's Fellowship and a past Area 54 delegate heard a rumor that there had been some push back from the CDO on listing Agnostic meetings. Dave G. from the CDO said that was definitely not true and that he in fact was going to the Agnostic meetings and could verify that they were excellent AA meetings adhering to the traditions. The misunderstanding came from someone requesting that we put the Agnostic meetings in a separate category in the book. Agnostic meetings are easy to find just by putting the word Agnostic in but at no time did the CDO say they would not list the meetings. Dave G. asked for more details. Campbell P. said he heard the rumor. Campbell said the Agnostic meetings contribute to the fund drive and are well attended. Dave G. said he attends the agnostic meetings and we have put the agnostic meetings in the book without hesitation and put them up with other zoom meetings. Campbell P. said he would dispel the rumor. Dave G. said he is down at the office everyday answering the phone. Many of the groups try to reopen but facilities are reluctant to take them back unless they are willing to promise to limit their meetings to 10 people, sanitize, practice social distancing and wear masks. Meetings, open for just a little while then close because members do not show up. Unless the Secretary or the Treasurer calls the CDO, we do not send people to meetings we cannot verify as open. Dave G. said that Lakewood churches are particularly reluctant to open up. Many members have called asking us to facilitate getting the churches to hold meetings again but we cannot interfere with the restrictions of the facilities. Dave said that many of the churches call us for guidance but we do not give them advice. We will send them the General Service guidelines if they desire.

Bob M. gave a more detailed explanation of Area 54 and the counties it represents. Bob also said that a member had asked for a way to have agnostic or secular meetings easier to find on our meeting finder. The CDO's response was to go on our Web Site; put the word Agnostic in the meeting finder and agnostic meetings should easily come up.

Joyce Z representing Leading the Way said their meeting would be open for an outdoor meeting on July 4. Joyce said she found the meetings held at the Recovery Church complied with the Governor's orders and she felt they were AA meetings.

Ruth said we need someone from Area 3, which is the Beachwood Area, and Area 5, which is Lakewood. Rachel W said that she would be available for being the representative from Area 3. Ruth said she would follow up with her after the meeting.

Christine asked Dave for the GSO recommendations for opening meetings and Dave said he would send them to her.

Dave D. asked if anyone had been to the agnostic meeting on Madison. Christine said she attended the meeting and while it was not the way she leaned, she felt it was a great AA meeting in every other way. Dave G. went on to say he once felt that way; but really got a lot out of Agnostic meetings now. Dave D. said that he got the answer he needed from Christine.

Joe T. thanked the Advisory meeting and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. There was a motion from the Advisory Meeting to adjourn, a second and the meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Advisory Meeting: Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00 pm

ADVISORY COMMITTEE Agenda
Tuesday October 27, 2020 – 7:00 pm

Meeting ID: 846 5853 4029

Passcode: 973995

The Chairperson Joe T. welcomes the Advisory Committee and starts the meeting with the SERENITY PRAYER.

ROLL CALL: Cecilia will check participants to see if there are 20 or more

MINUTES: See attached January 27 minutes and June 24 Minutes for approval by Advisory Committee

Chairperson Joe T. asks Operating Committee Members in attendance to introduce themselves and then asks Ruth D. to introduce CDO staff.

Chairperson asks for Committee Reports – Joe T.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Financial - Ruth will give brief Financial Summary – Pledges 9/30/20 \$220,669 9/30/19 \$281,078 decrease \$60,409
Lit income 9/30/20 \$97,548 9/30/19 \$183,609 decrease \$86,061
Still breakeven on literature because of reduced purchases
And cost of goods sold

Corrections - No Report they have not met

Activities - Activities have been suspended

Archives: Bob McK., Archivist - Dick Perez - Secretary-Treasurer Dec. 22, 1963 – June 1, 1981 – First translation of the Big Book into Spanish

Old Business:

Need Representative from:

AREA/TERM 3: 44104 Cleveland, 44106 Cleveland, 44120 Cleveland, 44122 Beachwood, And 44127 Cleveland Nominee:
Nominee: Laura M. will continue unless there is a nominee from the floor

Area 5: 44102 Cleveland, 44107 Lakewood, 44111 Cleveland, 44189 Cleveland

Must be nominated by a home group member, have 3 years of sobriety and live or have a home group in area to represent.

Open Forum: Limited to 5 minutes each

Next Advisory Meeting: Monday, January 25, 7:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn and end with the Lord's Prayer