

GaL-AA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Agenda: Wednesday, June 8th, 2016 (Skype Meeting) 7:30 pm EST

Attendance:

Present:

Denise R., Chair
Carol N., Deputy Chair
Mark J., Treasurer
Mark P., Secretary
Rob F., Technical Liaison
Jim A., Advisor I
H. Pierre B., Advisor III

Absent:

Eric W., Advisor II

Chair—Denise

- Denise called the meeting to order and opened with a moment of silence and read the Serenity Prayer at 7:30 pm.

Secretary's Report—Mark P.

- Denise distributed revised draft minutes in advance of the meeting; upon motion made by Carol and seconded by Rob, the minutes as submitted were approved.
- Mark P. sent an Excel spreadsheet of contributions with his draft minutes on June 1 (groups contributed \$188.97 by mail, and there was one PayPal contribution in the amount of \$34).
- Mark will send final May minutes to Rob for website posting.

Treasurer's Report—Mark J.

- Mark J. sent a report for the month ended May 31 prior to the meeting; we have a checking balance of \$6,650.34; income/contributions totaled \$601.20 and expenses were \$263.66. International conference funds are \$5,000.21 and the prudent reserve is \$10,000.81.
- Upon a motion made by Mark P. and seconded by Carol, the treasurer's report was approved.
- Mark J. indicated that he made a subsequent correction to last month's report (the total PayPal contribution for April was \$85.45).

Deputy Chair

- No report.

Advisor III—Pierre

- Archiving/storage: Jim R. will have no problem doing an inventory, and Pierre and he will proceed in obtaining a storage facility near Pierre.
- Cruise/fundraising: Pierre sent committee members a proposal from Vast Passages Travel & Events. December of 2016 was suggested as a possible time for a cruise as a fundraiser, but the consensus was that 2017 (perhaps April or May) would be a better target if we decided on this type of fundraiser. Denise asked members to review Vast Passages' materials over the next month and to send thoughts, suggestions and comments to her. We will discuss in greater at the next meeting after reviewing the proposal.

Advisor I—Jim

- Jim did more research on sending AA literature to prisons and ordered ten Sober & Out for distribution: Raymond H., who used to work in prisons, has told Jim the book may not be well received by inmates or be purposeful (as it “outs” inmates, etc.).
- Jim will report back at our next meeting; Pierre to also report back on process in Atlanta prisons.

Advisor II—Eric (Denise submitting)

- Denise gave Eric’s report: for round-ups, Eric is outreaching as summer is a slow period.
- He continues working on the excel download of meeting updates and targets the end of June for completing Los Angeles area meetings.
- California and New York have higher concentrations of meetings per Mark J.
- Denise asked him work with Eric on the two states in particular.
- Five personal stories were submitted over the website for newsletter publication (two of them containing over 3,000 words); no stories have been received in the mail (Mark P. confirmed).
- Eric asked whether he could change the software used for newsletter production (currently MS Publisher) to Adobe, which he feels works better with Mac and PC; committee members all agreed Eric should use what he’s adept at and comfortable with.

Technical Liaison—Rob

- Rob will continue discussions/work with Jarred to look for a template and ways to enhance our site/technology.
- He will update minutes on the site (removing the 2013 set currently there and posting December 2015 and all meeting minutes in 2016 to date); Mark P. will supply PDFs of recent meeting minutes.

New Business:

- The committee discussed an e-mail sent by Byron B. about GaL-AA’s general use of the word(s) “donate” (includes variants) vs. “contribute” on the website. Although the words are synonymous, as our 7th Tradition uses the term “contributions,” the committee concluded (with a motion by Pierre, seconded by Rob, and voted unanimously) to use the verbiage in the tradition on our website and in communications/newsletters going forward.
- Mark P. and others agreed to search the website for instances/references and report them to Rob and Eric to make the changes.
- A future topic was suggested for the upcoming newsletter: an article/feature on contributions by groups to GaL-AA and reasons to consider making regular contributions through group conscience.
- Members discussed their groups’ experience and some if not most work a GaL-AA contribution as part of regular disbursement of 7th tradition funds (along with amounts sent to GSO, local intergroups, districts and area committees).
- Mark P. agreed to draft a newsworthy article for review and input from others; Mark J. stated that past survey results indicated that some respondents were unaware they could contribute. Mark J. agreed to forward survey results on the topic.

NEXT SKYPE MEETING WILL BE JULY 6TH, 2016 AT 7:30 EST

Motion to adjourn made by Pierre, seconded by Mark P. and so moved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P.