

**St. Louis Bi-State Intergroup Minutes
January 12, 2020, 1:30 p.m.**

Open: The meeting was called to order by Dianne S., new IG Chair, at 1:30 p.m.

Readings: Serenity Prayer, 12 Steps (Susan T.), Tradition 1 and Concept 1 (Paula Mari W.)

Welcome: Twenty-three were people in attendance; sixteen attended in person; seven by teleconference. **Two new Intergroup Reps** were welcomed by teleconference: Mary Anne P. (New Hope meeting, Wed. morning, 10 a.m., Florissant) and Margaret M. (Renewed Hope meeting in Alton). There were no visitors.

Minutes: The November 10, 2019 IG minutes were distributed by email on Dec. 19, 2019. There were no questions or corrections; they were approved unanimously as written.

Reports: The following IG reports were distributed to the body on Jan. 9, 2020 by email: Chair (report and Jan. agenda), Vice-chair (2020 calendar of meetings and events), Operations Administrator (office report), Treasurer (2 months), Public Information Chair, 2020 Convention Chair (brochure and report), 2020 Retreat Chair, Web Coordinator, Unity Day Committee (outreach notice, event flyer). There were no questions about the reports.

Seventh Tradition and Roll Call: The Seventh Tradition pouch was passed. The roll call sign-in sheet was passed. All attendees (in person and teleconference) then introduced themselves and shared a few words about their skills.

Old Business:

Membership Survey Results: Dianne S. reported that the results of the 2019 Membership Survey will be rolled out over the next several months because of the size of the project. She passed out paper copies of the questions for IG members to manually record answers as they are given. ***Members are asked to bring this blank survey with them to upcoming meetings until all the results have been announced.*** A final, graphic version of the survey is being complete by Melanie T. The answers to questions Q9-1 through Q9-7 were included in the ad hoc office study report discussed in the following item.

Ad Hoc Office Study Report: J-MO presented to IG the "Report from the Committee Appointed To study the Intergroup Office Question." J-MO spoke about the selection of the committee members and summarized their work, including the considerations the group made. She explained that the committee unanimously recommended that IG should discontinue paying to rent office space and should redirect the money saved to other ways to carry the message.

Questions / Answers:

- 1) Pat O. – will the recommendation be voted on at the Match IG meeting? / Yes;
- 2) Christina D. – what is the role of IRs in taking this information to their groups? / Hopefully they will read the report to their groups and suggest a group conscience vote on the matter before the March 8 IG meeting. Dianne explained that a paper copy of this report was provided to each IR and group by inclusion in the newsletter packets. It will also be posted on the OA website for all to see.
- 3) Liz P. – Will this issue require a change in bylaws? / Yes;
- 4) Carol H. – Does the BOT also have a recommendation on this matter? / It does;
- 5) Can this be written about in the Feb. Newsletter to give a heads-up to members? / Yes;

- 6) Tom – If the office closes, what will happen to all the stuff? / Elizabeth C. and Carol H. have been asked to address this issue with a report to be completed before the Feb. 9 IG meeting. So far, possibilities for the “stuff” are being developed from two different points of view: with a public storage option and without a public storage option;
- 7) Marilyn F. – As Literature Co-chair, she does not want to store the literature at her home;
- 8) Pat O. – How will the money saved be spent? / J-MO said her committee did not make specific recommendations, but her report says “redirect rent and other office expenses to other ways to carry the message,” Carol cited the small or non-existent amount of money budgeted to Public Information in recent years and expressed that savings be applied in that direction;
- 9) Pat O. comment – How storage issues are addressed may affect how her Sat. a.m. group votes on this issue;
- 10) Christina D. comment – This is a “us” matter, not a “they” issue; possibilities are being explored; group conscience will guide us to a decision.

BOT Recommendation on Office Feasibility: Dianne S. reported that the Board of Trustees agrees with the committee recommendation and has unanimously voted for two things 1) That IG discontinue renting office space; 2) That IG propose the appropriate by-law change so that this can happen. The vote will take place at the March 8, 2020 IG meeting and will be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, allowing for three speakers in favor of the motion and three speakers opposed.

Election of Newsletter Editor: Liz P.’s nomination form was distributed to the body by email on Jan. 9, 2020. She attended the meeting by teleconference and spoke about compulsive eating being her primary disease, about her interest in our monthly newsletter, about the qualifications she brings to the position., about her desire to attract outlying meetings to contribute to the newsletter, and about her support for IG’s 2020 agenda to carry the message. She was asked: 1) Does she know that there is another Intergroup in Missouri, and does she know the geographic boundaries of our Intergroup? / Cyndy L. will provide her with these details; 2) Is she willing to work with a committee on the newsletter? / She answered. “Yes, absolutely;” 3) Does she have a sponsor? / Yes, she does. Paper ballots were passed and tabulated, and Liz P. was elected to the position.

Appointment of Interim Secretary: Dianne S. announced that the BOT has appointed Carol H. to serve as Interim Treasurer for the first quarter of 2020. Intergroup still needs an individual to fill this position for a two-year term. Please prayerfully consider this vital service opportunity.

New Business:

Fellowship Birthday: Dianne S. announced that Overeaters Anonymous is celebrating its 60th Birthday the third weekend in January.

Public Information – Billboard: Dianne S. announced that the 2020 IG budget includes a \$1,500 provision for Billboard advertising. This project is in active development.

Other Business:

2020 Calendar: Christina D. pointed out that all Reps received a comprehensive 2020 IG calendar in the Jan. 8 email. It includes meetings, events and other items throughout the year. Please download it, and print out a copy for your use.

Meeting asks for support: Mary Anne P. asked for support for her meeting, SL051, Wed. 10 a.m. They gather at St. Mark's Methodist Church, 315 Graham Road in Florissant and would love to see some new faces around the table.

Work Groups: Reps broke out into two work groups until 3 p.m: 1) 2020 Convention Committee; 2) Unity Day Super Saturday. Short reports followed:

Convention Committee – brochure in this month's Newsletter Packet; advance registration encouraged - online registration will open this week; group will be selling tote bags with event logo; speaker coming from Region V; lunch option available; program will include two tracks; volunteers still welcome

Unity Day Super Saturday – Please download and print the flyer emailed to you on Jan. 13 and share it with your group; IRs needed to recruit speakers for three panels -- refer to explanatory document emailed to you on Jan. 13.

Announce in Home Meetings:

- a) Read report from committee that studied Intergroup Office Question
- b) Wednesday Florissant meeting needs support
- c) Encourage convention participation
- d) IG still needs person to fill secretary position on a permanent basis

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. with joining of hands and the OA Promise.

Next Intergroup Meeting – Sunday February 9, 2020 1:30 p.m.