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VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP

Primary Purpose



<https://www.amethystrecovery.org/embracing-ninth-tradition/>

Embracing the 9th Tradition:

The least possible organization, that's our universal ideal. No fees, or dues, no rules imposed on anybody, one alcoholic bringing recovery to the next; that's the substance of what we most desire, isn't it?

But how shall this simple ideal best be realized?

We have, for example, the kind of AA who is for simplicity. Terrified of anything organized, he tells us that AA is getting too complicated. He thinks money only makes trouble, committees only make dissension, elections only make politics, paid workers only make professionals, and clubs only coddle slippers. Says he, let's get back to coffee and cakes by cozy firesides. If any alcoholics stray our way, let's look after the. But that's enough. Simplicity is our answer. Quite opposed to such halcyon simplicity is the AA promoter. Left to himself, he would "bang the cannon and twang the lyre" at every crossroad of the world. Millions for drunks, great AA hospitals, batteries of paid organizer, and publicity experts wielding all the latest paraphernalia of sound and script; such would be our promoters dream. "Yes, sir," he would bark. "My two-year plan calls for one million AA members by 1950!"

Continue this article on the next page!



Inside this issue

Tradition 9: Embracing the 9th Tradition.....	1-3
Financial Reports.....	4
Steering Committee Mtg. Minutes.....	5
I.G. Rep Mtg. Minutes.....	6,7
Upcoming Events.....	8
Archives Corner.....	9

Monthly Business Mtgs.

- ◆ Steering Comm. Mtg. – 09/13/21 @ 6:00 PM
- ◆ Archives Committee Mtg.- 09/08/21 @ 6:00pm
- ◆ Intergroup Rep Mtg. – 09/20/21 @ 6:30 PM
- ◆ District 27 Committee Mtg- 09/18/21 @ 10am
- ◆ District 27 Business Mtg.- 09/18/21 @ 12pm
- ◆ District 37 GSR Mtg. – 09/28/28/21@7:00 PM
- ◆ District 7 GSR Mtg. - 09/23/21 @7:00 PM

Quite opposed to such halcyon simplicity is the AA promoter. Left to himself, he would “bang the cannon and twang the lyre” For one, I’m glad we have both conservatives and enthusiasts. They teach us much. The conservative will surely see to it that the AA movement never gets overly organized. But the promoter will continue to remind us of our terrific obligation to the newcomer and to those hundreds of thousands of alcoholics still waiting all over the world to hear of AA. We shall, naturally, take the firm and safe middle course. AA has always violently resisted the idea of any general organization. Yet, paradoxically, we have ever stoutly insisted upon organizing certain special services; mostly those absolutely necessary to effective and plentiful Twelfth Step work.

If, for instance, an AA group elects a secretary or rotating committee, if an area forms an intergroup committee, if we set up a foundation, a general office or a Grapevine, then we are organized for service. The AA book and pamphlets, our meeting places and clubs, our dinners and regional assemblies — these are services, too. Nor can we secure good hospital connections, properly sponsor new prospects, and obtain good public relations just by chance. People have to be appointed to look after these things, sometimes paid people. Special services are performed. But by none of these special services has our spiritual or social activity, the great current of AA, ever been really organized or professionalized. Yet our recovery program has been enormously aided. While important, these service activities are very small by contrast with our main effort.

As such facts and distinctions become clear, we shall easily lay aside our fears of blighting organization or hazardous wealth. As a movement, we shall remain comfortably poor, for our service expenses are trifling.

With such assurances, we shall without doubt continue to improve and extend our vital lifelines of special service; to better carry our AA message to others; to make for ourselves a finer, greater Society, and, God willing, to assure Alcoholics Anonymous a long life and perfect unity.



AA GRAPEVINE TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

Tradition 9-AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

1. Do I still try to boss things in AA?
2. Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?
3. Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility?
4. Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
5. Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
6. Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and by-laws?
7. Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully—and profit thereby—when the time comes?
8. What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

Financial Statements

Vancouver Area Intergroup August 2021 Financial Report						
Year to Date P&L Forecast to Actual						
	June	July	August	Total	Ytd Forecast	Variance
Income						
Sales	\$ 2,381	\$ 3,106	\$ 1,858	\$ 19,813	\$ 20,000	\$ (187)
Group Contributions	\$ 1,570	\$ 3,963	\$ 1,614	\$ 16,327	\$ 20,000	\$ (3,673)
Individual Contributions	\$ 954	\$ 514	\$ 889	\$ 5,932	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,932
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 17	\$ 2	\$ 150	\$ 231	\$ 400	\$ (169)
Fundraising			\$ 346	\$ 346	\$ -	\$ 346
Total Income	\$ 4,923	\$ 7,586	\$ 4,856	\$ 42,648	\$ 44,400	\$ (1,752)
Expenses						
COGS	\$ 1,551	\$ 2,330	\$ 1,393	\$ 12,835	\$ 12,000	\$ 835
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CC & Paypal Fees	\$ 59	\$ 64	\$ 60	\$ 471	\$ 840	\$ (369)
Office Supplies & Misc	\$ 25	\$ 15	\$ 18	\$ 930	\$ 400	\$ 530
Insurance	\$ 49	\$ 49	\$ 49	\$ 391	\$ 400	\$ (9)
Licenses & Fees	\$ 65	\$ (214)	\$ 62	\$ 549	\$ 200	\$ 349
Contract Services	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ -	\$ 2,507	\$ 5,400	\$ (2,894)
Wages	\$ 1,704	\$ 1,781	\$ 1,665	\$ 14,044	\$ 15,000	\$ (956)
Taxes	\$ 388	\$ 734	\$ 393	\$ 4,263	\$ 5,200	\$ (937)
Copy Machine	\$ 138	\$ 238	\$ 345	\$ 2,045	\$ 2,000	\$ 45
Rent	\$ 975	\$ 975	\$ 975	\$ 7,762	\$ 8,000	\$ (238)
Utilities	\$ 288	\$ 469	\$ 313	\$ 3,349	\$ 2,400	\$ 949
Total Expenses	\$ 5,243	\$ 6,507	\$ 5,273	\$ 49,146	\$ 51,840	\$ (2,694)
Net Income	\$ (320)	\$ 1,079	\$ (417)	\$ (6,498)	\$ (7,440)	\$ 942

August 31, 2021 Cash Balances	
Main Checking	\$ 13,106
Event Account	\$ 1,400
Prudent Reserve	\$ 12,875
Till Cash	\$ 100
Total Cash Balance	\$ 27,481

Grant Payroll Allocation		
	Amount	Balance
Beginning	\$ 12,204	\$ 12,204
December	\$ (2,000)	\$ 10,204
January	\$ (2,286)	\$ 7,918
February	\$ (2,093)	\$ 5,825
March	\$ (2,040)	\$ 3,785
April	\$ (3,591)	\$ 194
May	\$ (194)	\$ 0
Total Dispersed	\$ 12,204	
Balance	\$ 0	

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Vancouver Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous Steering Committee meeting of September 13, 2021

Attendance: Dusty, Patrick, Alex, Julie, Phil, Michael, Laurie, Leanne, Bruce, Dee

Opening: The meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer at 6:04pm

Old Business/Outside Audit: Laurie discussed the results of the outside audit and advised that the books are “cleaned up” from December 31, 2019 going forward. Issues prior to that date as clerical issues. There are no issues of misappropriation or malfeasance. Opportunities for improved processes were identified.

Treasury: Laurie advised that corrections need to be made to the cost of goods which will be done prior to the IG reps meeting. It was noted that group contributions are down while individual contributions are up. More fund raisers are needed to be conducted by groups noting the success of the reason event held by the Camas groups. Report accepted.

Opening con't: Minutes from the August SC meeting were accepted. Minutes from the August SC meeting were reviewed.

New Business/Office Manager Review: A motion was made that the office manager’s review be moved from January to December in order to insure that SC members who actually worked with the office manager are involved. The motion was amended to make this an on-going procedure for the same reason. Motion passed.

Office: Leeann reported that there are no issues at the office that are needing attention. There was a discussion regarding establishing a budget however it was noted that product ordering should be a direct relation to product sold. Leanne noted there have been issues where she has placed orders large enough to get free shipping but shipping costs were accessed due to out of stock situations. It was recommended she increase the order size to avoid these issues.

Hotline: The need for volunteers is unchanged. Please see the website for volunteer opportunities. Phil advised that he was approached by two AA members stating that hotline volunteers are being dismissed before a replacement is found. Phil said he was approached by another AA member who said the hotline was routed to Maureen (former hotline chair), that this was brought to the hotline chair’s attention and no action was taken.

Old Business/Iron Horse: A letter was sent to Iron Horse seeking an opportunity to reconcile the relationship. There was no response.

New Business/Area Meeting: The meeting to be held on the first weekend in October will be Zoomed from the office. Dusty said he can represent IG if a specific time is given when he can make a presentation.

Old Business/Office Hours: The SC was tasked to evaluate the effectiveness of the cutback in hours and make a recommendation to the IG reps for what action, if any, they would like to take. The SC will recommend to take no action and to give the cutback another month to see what trends might develop.

Closing: The meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer at 7:18pm.

Yours in Service,
Phil B.

Intergroup Rep Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Dusty, Cornerstone ... Leanne, office ... Bruce, B&P ... Jenny, Sunday Solutions/Miracles Linda (no home group) ... Mike, Sunday Solutions ... Laurie, Sober Uppers ... Nicole, Women's Fireside Phil, R360very ... Lindsey, Shoulder to Shoulder ... Steve, Over 55 ... Michelle, Ladies by the Lavender Manessah, Rock Bottom Recovery ... Rachel, R360very ... Jesse, Camas ... Lori, Women's Daily Supplement Emily, Hotline ... Patrick, McGillivray Book Study ... Robin, Fireside ... Michael, Welcome Home Adam, How it Works ... Heidi, Minnehaha ... Alex (no home group) ... Todd, 1st Shot Tony, Men's Fireside (Please note others may have joined after roll call was taken)

Opening: The meeting was opened at 6:30pm with the Serenity Prayer. Attendees introduced themselves. Dusty discussed the importance of new groups contacting Intergroup and that Intergroup exists to help. Minutes from the July 19, 2021 IG meeting were accepted with correction. Please note on those minutes in group news Serenity Sisters should read as Step Sisters. Minutes from the August 9, 2021 SC meeting and the July 26, 2021 special session SC meeting were reviewed.

Hotline: Emily reported that a quarterly committee meeting was held on July 26, 2021 and that the decision was made to continue meeting on Zoom. Current volunteer opportunities are:
Monday 9pm-midnight Tuesday midnight-6am Tuesday 6am-9am
Friday noon-6pm Friday 9am-noon

Treasury: Please see attached financial report. Laurie reported that Intergroup is now ahead of the forecast due to an increase in group contributions. Audit results will be present at the September SC meeting. Alex, the anticipated incoming treasurer has been working with Laurie. Alex introduced himself and discussed his experience as a treasurer.

Office: Leanne stated that there are upgrades being done on the building and parking lot and that the office will remain open during the renovations. Leanne has been seeing an increase in participation and office visits. There are several activity flyers in the office.

Webmaster: Rachel 2.0 (the other webmaster is also named Rachel) introduced herself.

Normally old business is handled before new business however one of the items in new business may have a direct effect on an item of old business therefore new business was called first.

New Business/Close Captioning: Leanne showed that closed captioning is now available on Zoom.

New Business/Groups in Clubs: Dusty distributed information from the AA guideline: Relationships Between AA and Clubs

Intergroup Rep Meeting Minutes Continued.....

New Business/Leanne Review: Phil expressed concerns that when Leanne is reviewed in January the review will be conducted by two, maybe three, new SC members that have no practical experience working with Leanne. Motion was made to allow Laurie, who will not be on the SC in January be allowed voting rights on this matter as she has worked one on one with Leanne. Phil withdrew the motion as the discussion was met with controversy.

Old Business/Events: Camas/Washougal is holding an event this coming weekend. Groups are encouraged to hold regionalized events.

Old Business/Iron Horse: A formal invitation was sent to Iron Horse in advance of this meeting advising of the motion to not acknowledge them with an invitation to attend. Iron Horse was not represented. A vote was taken on the motion 21 voting members identified. Yea: 13 Nay: 6 Abstain: 2
The IG reps requested that Iron Horse be contacted with an offer to educate them on the issues that caused the motion to be made in an attempt to restore the relationship with Intergroup.

Old Business/Outreach: Last motion Glenn made himself available for outreach. No further nominations were made. Glenn was voted into the position.

Group News/Cornerstone: They now have a home: St John's on Hwy 99 (where Wayfarers meets), Monday and Fridays at 7pm.

Closing: The meeting closed at 8:22pm with the Lord's Prayer.

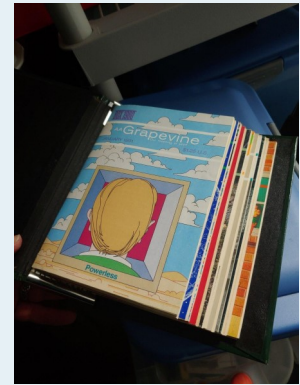
Yours in Service,
Phil B.

Upcoming Events

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Archives Committee Mtg: 6:00 pm	9	10	11
12	13 Steering Committee Mtg.: 6:00 pm	14	15	16	17	18 District 27 Com- mittees Mtg.: 10am- 12 pm District 27 Business Mtg.: 12 pm-3 pm
19	20 Intergroup Rep. Mtg. 6:60 pm	21	22	23 District 7 GSR Mtg.: 7 pm	24	25
26	27	28 District 37 Mtg.: 7:00 pm	29	30		

Archives Corner



Welcome to Vancouver Archives, which currently serves Districts 7 and 37 of Western Washington Area 72. Our Archivist, Peny D., has served Archives for the past two decades and oversees the physical repository. The Archives Committee meets at the Vancouver Intergroup Office on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. We would love to have you visit our meeting! There are many service opportunities available. We have begun a digitization project and are currently scanning Intergroup Newsletters from the 1970's as well as Minutes, Agendas, Flyers and historical documents from East side Women's Book Study and First Shot. We will also be updating group history information and gathering oral histories from members to preserve our history for future generations.

PLEASE donate your group documents to Archives! **Don't throw anything out!** We will digitize your records and physically store and preserve your signs, relics, etc.

Upcoming Events:

09/08/2021 Archives Committee Meeting

09/11/2021 Area 72 (Zoom) Regional Conservation Workshop

09/29/2021 through 10/03/2021 National Archives Workshop, San Antonio, TX

10/23/2021 SWW Jamboree at the downtown Hilton in Vancouver. Peny D. will be speaking, sharing her history with AA Archives. There will also be an Archives display.

06/24-26/2022 Pacific Northwest Conference at the Heathman Lodge.

Please contact Cindy M. with any questions or comments at: dist7archives@area72aa.org or call/text: (702) 806-6466

In Service,

Vancouver AA Archives Committee