

Group Conscience Meeting Minutes

Serenity of the Woodlands July 20, 2020

Ginny M, Serenity group co-chair, started the meeting at 7:13 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

18 members present in club - 21 Online

Review of minutes from June 15 group conscience: Bart, group secretary

Members reviewed copies of June GC minutes as Ron set up for online attendees' connection; no questions or corrections were made. Greg made motion to accept minutes as written, Lori seconded, minutes accepted.

Treasurers' report: Greg, Crystal, treasurers

Report was presented to reflect activity through June 30. Currently transitioning to new method of accounting to include making a more current report at group conscience. June collections totaled \$4559.53, 80% paid to club for rent (\$3647.62), remaining 20% allocated to prudent reserve (goal \$5500, current balance \$3803).

Ginny asked members to consider utilizing the Square app for 7th tradition contributions, to reduce workload for group treasurers. Crystal B manages the Square app accounting for the group and can help anyone learn to use the method. Per recent group conscience decision, no disbursements to 7th tradition entities were made due to depleted prudent reserve. Bart made motion to accept, Mark D. seconded. Passed.

*The group voted to reimburse Scott S for his personal expense (\$118 for June, TBD for July) to provide access to GoToMeeting for Serenity's online meeting schedule.

GSR: Eddie Alt GSR: Susan B - Both were online and had report. Due to technical difficulties report given after meeting and shared electronically, to be posted on the Serenity Group website.

CFC Rep: Andrew – no report. Ginny mentioned the Correctional committee correspondence program, writing letters to inmates in AA. Pamphlets available, or see Andrew if interested in this service opportunity.

Treatment Facilities: Carlos – not present, no report

Literature: Lizzy - Purchased 10 Big Books, updated current literature and chips on hand.

Website/Communications: Larry – not present, no report

Group Rep: Kristi, Don, and Louise - No report. Two positions available, sobriety requirement 6 mos.

Intergroup: Mark – Bi-monthly Intergroup meeting was held online, current financial report included dipping into their prudent reserve by \$4000 to meet expenses. Contributions to Intergroup have been down d/t the covid shutdown and situation. Intergroup Bookstore hours have been reduced. Mark will review the published meeting schedule for Serenity and make sure it is accurate on Intergroup's website.

Grapevine: Position open

Birthday Night: Bart will set up for July 25, 2020, and birthdays will be celebrated online as well.

AA Safety: Ginny distributed a publication from GSO on Safety and AA. Two concerns were highlighted:

1. Building security – all Serenity members please be responsible for making sure the doors are securely closed and locked when meetings are concluded. Per group conscience, supported by the Serenity Club board, the door code is available to all Serenity members and using the room between meetings is allowed, but we are all responsible for keeping the room secure.
2. Contact information – review of importance to respect members' privacy and avoid any behavior that could be interpreted as invasive or inappropriate. Use members' contact information for necessary group business only. Anyone who is a target of harassment or threats of any kind please report behavior to Ginny M or Mike B.

Serenity Online Committee: Ron K and Vicki B are the new co-chairs who coordinate the online meetings on behalf of Serenity. Thank you to Carol and Scott, who gave their time and expertise to this effort for the first 3 months. Ron presented a summary of the SOL committee's progress to date, and invites anyone who is interested in participating to contact himself or Vicki B.

Ron reviewed procedure for facilitating a hybrid meeting, to be used for group conscience now, and possibly for birthday night in the future. Anyone attending in person who does not want to be on camera may sit on the east side of the room, out of camera range. All who share must use microphone so those online can hear what is said.

After a thorough review of online meeting platforms available, Ron suggested switching from GoToMeeting to Zoom, linking with the New York AA Intergroup network for AA meetings nationwide. Motion made to start using Zoom platform on August 1, Bart seconded, motion passed unanimously. The full Serenity meeting schedule will be available online through August – chairpeople are needed – contact Vicki B.

Old Business:

1. Motion was made by Doug C to vote on continuing the mask requirement for in-person meeting attendance at Serenity. Passed 17-1.
2. Ad hoc committee is being formed to review guidelines approved in 2013 for Serenity Group service positions: term lengths, duties. Charlie and Ginny will head, all who are interested may participate.

New Business:

1. New ad hoc committee is being formed to review possible changes to Serenity Group website. Ginny, Ron, and Scott S will participate – all interested members are welcome.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:00 p.m.

Next GC meeting August 17, 2020 at 7:05 p.m.