

NH INTERGROUP MINUTES – September 13, 2015

ATTENDEES: (alphabetical order by first name – Board members are listed with their first and last names)

Amy M. – Concord Monday rep.	Elaine Tostevin – NHI Chair
Bill G. – Multimedia chair	Jeanne Donnelly – Vice Chair (nominated & approved today), rep: Bedford Monday & Thursday
Cheryl L. – Retreat chair, Lebanon Tuesday alt rep.	Judy G – Concord Monday alt rep.
Cheryl W. – Derry Tuesday pm rep.	Linda T. – Hillsboro Mon pm alt rep.
Claire – R6 rep, Bow Thursday rep	Madeleine G. – Nashua Monday noon alt rep.
Debi Granfield – Parliamentarian	Nancy Sullivan – Treasurer, Derry Tuesday alt rep
Diane L. – Twelfth Step Within chair, Meeting List chair, Monday Manchester rep.	Peter Lewis – Secretary, Nashua Thursday pm rep
Doreen D. – Guest	Rachelle H. – Derry Thursday alt rep.
Effie S. – Ways & Means chair, Nashua Thursday am rep.	Sandy M. – Newsletter chair, Nashua Monday noon rep.
Eileen RT – PI / PO chair, Derry Thursday am rep	Sue W. – Lebanon Tues pm rep.

Opening:

Elaine called the meeting to order at 2:02PM, inviting all present to join her reciting the Serenity Prayer. All present identified themselves and their NHI roles. Effie read the 12 Steps, Doreen read the 12 Traditions, and Jeanne read Concept 12. Among attendees, 14 eligible voters were counted and the attendance sheet was circulated. Elaine read the disciplines for the meeting.

June Minutes:

Copies of the June minutes were available at the literature table. Said minutes were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Copies of the Treasurer's reports for June, July and August were available at the literature table, and were distributed for review as needed. Nancy, re-assuming the role of interim treasurer, explained the report formats briefly and noted that the June report had been prepared by her while the July and August reports had been prepared by Judy. Nancy then took questions. The June, July and August treasurer's reports were accepted as submitted.

7th Tradition:

7th tradition contributions were collected.

Proposed Amendments to Bylaws:

Elaine directed attention to item 6 on the agenda, proposing of a short list of amendments to the NHI bylaws. She explained that the procedure for amending the bylaws requires publication of the proposed changes 21 days in advance of the business meeting where a vote on adoption can take place. In line with this requirement, Elaine presented [this](#) printed page detailing changes to three sections of the bylaws having to do with the filling of vacant positions, and an update to the wording of the OA preamble. She urged group reps to inform their groups of the proposed changes and to bring feedback to the October 4 meeting, where the changes will be voted upon. For reference, the full text of the current bylaws is [here](#).

OA Preamble: The NHI bylaws contain an embedded copy of the OA Preamble. The proposed change is to update the embedded OA Preamble with a minor change recently adopted by World Service. There was no discussion.

Board Vacancies – Article IV, Section 8: The gist of this change empowers the NHI Chair, rather than the board to fill vacancies temporarily between business meetings. The requirement for confirmation of the nomination at the next business meeting remained unchanged. There was no discussion on this topic.

Committee Appointments and Vacancies – Article VI, Sections 3 and 8: The gist of this change is that the Chair may nominate a committee chair between meetings, subject to approval at the next regular business meeting. There was some discussion on this item, but it was agreed to let the proposed wording stand.

Board Vacancies:

Vice Chair: Elaine noted that the office of Vice Chair was open and described the position. She then asked for volunteers for the position. Jeanne indicated her willingness to be nominated for the Vice Chair position.

Nomination: Debi nominated Jeanne for Vice Chair and Eileen seconded the nomination. No other candidates were identified. **Vote:** A ballot vote was conducted and Jeanne was elected by a clear majority of voting representatives.

Treasurer: Elaine explained that Judy has needed to resign from the Treasurer's position, and she expressed NHI's gratitude to Judy for her service, and long standing contributions to the financial management of NHI. Elaine stated that Nancy has agreed to serve as interim treasurer until a candidate can be elected to the office. Elaine asked everyone to spread the word that NHI is seeking a treasurer for the term ending in June 2017 and, for OAs who are

inclined toward financial management, to personally consider volunteering for the job. She assured everyone who would consider the service that generous assistance would be available from Nancy and others to ease the learning curve of a new treasurer. There were no immediate volunteers or nominations offered.

Interim Treasurer Election: Eileen nominated Nancy to serve as interim treasurer and Effie seconded the nomination. **Vote:** Nancy was elected as interim treasurer by a clear majority of voters present.

Region Six Rep: It was pointed out by Claire that NHI has a full complement (four) of R6 representatives already, so there is no vacancy for this office.

Region Six Alternate Rep: Elaine noted that there is an opening for an R6 Alternate Rep, and urged all present to consider serving in that role. No volunteers or nominations were put forward.

World Service Representative and World Service Alternate Representative: Eileen pointed out that NHI can have an additional representative and an additional alternate to the WSBC. Elaine responded that WSBC reps and alternates must currently be R6 reps and must have represented NHI at least one R6 assembly. She acknowledged the vacancies, but indicated that she did not believe anyone in the small pool of qualified individuals was available at this time. She said filling the position would remain on the longer term agenda.

PI / PO Committee Chair confirmation:

Elaine noted that Eileen had indicated she was willing to continue for another term as PI/PO chair, however she was unable to attend the June meeting to be confirmed. **Appointment and Confirmation:** Elaine appointed Eileen to chair the PI/PO committee and asked for a vote of confirmation. Eileen was confirmed by a clear majority showing of hands.

Committee Business:

Retreat Update: Cheryl stated that the retreat will be held on Friday through Sunday, January 8-10, 2016, at the Barbara C. Harris Conference Center in Greenfield, NH. The full cost is \$215 per person for a double occupancy room and \$295 for a single room. Registration is open until November 14. A limited number of scholarships for one quarter and for one half of the cost will be available, funded by the Retreat Scholarship Fund. Registrants can request one of the scholarships on the registration form. Cheryl urged OAs and OA groups to consider donating to the Retreat Scholarship Fund, which was nearly exhausted in 2015. Donations can be made via the NHI web site Donations page or by post to the NHI Treasurer. Cheryl said the person signed up to lead the retreat has lead previous NHI retreats and has been enthusiastically affirmed by attendees. She indicated planning is well in hand. Cheryl presented a retreat publicity flyer for discussion and approval by the meeting and the flyer committee. Discussion led to suggestion that there should be an anonymous version of the flyer to be posted on bulletin boards and the web, in addition to the version with Cheryl's contact information, to be circulated at OA meetings. Cosmetic changes for legibility were also suggested. Cheryl agreed to take the suggestions to the retreat committee to see how best to implement them. She stated that the retreat committee is working well with five members who meet monthly in members' homes, and would always welcome new members interested in contributing to the success of the 2016 retreat. Cheryl's contact information is: (h)603-763-9368 (m)603-369-1313 (e)cherylann24@live.com. Referring to the Retreat Committee's written report, Nancy cautioned against publishing the name of the retreat leader, since anonymity not identity is OA's guiding principle. Diane followed up with a confirming reference to page 204 of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA which also advises against publicizing the names of event leaders and guest speakers. Cheryl agreed to take these cautions under advisement.

Meeting List: Diane indicated that a major sub task of maintaining the NHI meeting list is reconciling the list with the WSO Meeting Finder. She said it would help everyone, including members trying to find meetings, if individual groups would keep the WSO Meeting Finder information up to date. To that end she handed out a one page outline of the update process extracted from the WSO Meeting Finder site. Diane provided the current meeting list in printed form and indicated that an update version would be available for distribution as soon as she was able to clarify the status of one or two meetings.

PI/PO: Eileen reported that the newly revised edition of OA Handbook for Members, Groups and Service Bodies is available from WSO. She offered to order copies of the Handbook and other recently updated pamphlets contained in NHI Representatives' Notebooks if provided with a count of copies needed. Elaine remarked that the Administrative budget would cover the cost if PI/PO ordered the necessary pamphlets. Eileen also mentioned that copies of the OA Quiz poster "Is your eating out of control?" were on the literature table and that she could provide more copies to reps of groups who could distribute them.

R6 October Convention:

Referring to Ways & Means' committee report, Elaine encouraged people attending the R6 Convention to sign up for a shift to help Effie staff Ways & Means' sales table (selling book covers, God cans, etc.). She also noted that NHI still had \$50 to spend on a raffle basket for the convention, and Doreen volunteered to assemble NHI's basket in addition to the basket she's working on for a meeting group in Nashua. Elaine reminded Doreen to keep receipts for reimbursement.

CLOSING:

Motion: Amy *moved* to close the meeting. Linda *seconded* the motion. The motion *passed* by unanimous show of hands vote.

Elaine closed the meeting by leading a recitation of the serenity prayer. 3:30 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, October 4, 2015

Respectfully submitted by Peter Lewis, Secretary.