

## NH INTERGROUP MINUTES – February 7, 2016

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

Barbara W. – Amherst Sat am rep, Web committee  
Cheryl L. – Retreat Chair, Concord Mon pm rep  
Cheryl W. – Derry Tue pm rep  
Diane L. – TSW Chair, Meeting List Chair, Manchester Mon 5:30pm rep  
Doreen D. – Newsletter, Nashua Tue pm rep, Web committee  
Dorothy Martin – R6 rep, WSBC Delegate, Event Flyers chair, Hillsboro Mon pm rep.  
Effie S. – Ways & Means Chair, Nashua Thurs 6:30am rep  
Elaine Tostevin – NHI Chair, R6 rep.  
Jeanne Donnelly – Vice Chair, Bedford Mon & Thurs am rep

Jill Meier – R6 rep, WSBC del, Webmaster, Concord Sun 1pm rep  
Madeleine G. – Nashua Mon noon alt rep.  
Nancy Sullivan – Treasurer, Budget Chair, Derry Thurs alt rep.  
Pat G. – Bedford Wed pm rep, Manchester Tue pm rep.  
Pat S. – Workshops chair, Back to Basics Chair, Hopkinton Tue pm rep  
Peter Lewis – Secretary, Nashua Thursday pm rep  
Sandy M. – Newsletter chair, Nashua Mon noon rep

### **Opening:**

Elaine called the meeting to order at 2:02PM, inviting attendees to join her reciting the Serenity Prayer. All present identified themselves and their NHI roles. Pat G. read the 12 Steps, Cheryl L. read the 12 Traditions, and Pat S. read Concept 5. Among attendees, 14 eligible voters were counted and the attendance sheet was circulated. Elaine read the disciplines for the meeting.

### **January Minutes:**

Copies of the January minutes were available at the literature table. Elaine pointed out an occurrence of “November” which should have read “December” in the “Minutes” section. Jeanne **moved** to approve the January minutes with the correction noted by Elaine. Pat S. **seconded** the motion, and the motion **passed** by a majority show of hands.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Copies of the January Treasurer's report were available at the literature table and distributed as needed. In a brief overview Nancy explained that January typically shows a sizable deficit, largely due to the once / year \$960 expense for insurance. There were no questions. The January Treasurer's report was accepted as submitted. Elaine added thanks to Nancy for filing NHI's tax return, securing, another year of non-profit status.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:**

7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions were collected.

### **Committee Business:**

**Confirmation of 2017 Retreat chair:** Elaine expressed her gratitude to Cheryl L. and the retreat committee for an exemplary committee work, culminating in a wonderful January 2016 retreat, and a good start on plans for 2017. She announced that Cheryl desires to step away from the chair, and that Sue W. has expressed her desire to serve as chair for 2017. Elaine explained that although Sue could not be present this day, a recent NHI bylaw change allows a willing candidate for committee chair to be appointed and confirmed in absentia. Cheryl **nominated** Sue W. to chair the 2017 retreat committee, and Effie **seconded** the nomination. Sue was **confirmed** by a majority show of hands.

**Unity Day Workshop:** Pat said that preparations for Unity Day are going well and that she has signed up most of the speakers. She mentioned that books (offered by North Shore Intergroup) and book covers (offered by NHI Ways & Means) will be for sale in the foyer. She said she has not yet been able to confirm that NHI will have use of the Elliot's sound system, so she is asking for Bill G. to provide sound support, if necessary. She said she is looking for an NHI group to volunteer to assemble a gift basket (NHI has allocated \$50 reimbursement) to be offered by raffle along with two baskets contributed by Massachusetts intergroups. Pat finished by requesting that everyone spread the word to encourage people to attend the Unity Day workshop, from 1 to 4 pm on Feb 27 at the Elliot.

**Meeting List:** Diane said she has submitted a suggestion to WSO that the Meeting Finder provide notification to intergroups when a meeting changes its intergroup affiliation. She said she was also working on a proposal to reserve a small section in the *Promises* to remind groups to keep the NHI meeting list up to date by notifying the editor of changes and corrections. She said WSO does allow intergroups to require groups to explicitly register in order to make an affiliation official. She said that rather than requiring registration, she

might recommend that the reminder in the *Promises* simply list the information that NHI needs. In response to a side discussion on intergroup affiliation, Jill offered that WSO has bylaws that provide for non affiliated OA groups to be represented in WSO decision making processes. Dorothy noted that group liability insurance is offered only to groups that are affiliated with an intergroup, which should be clearly stated, and which could be an incentive for groups to affiliate.

**Ways and Means:** Elaine mentioned that Effie, who cannot continue to chair Ways & Means (W&M) after her term ends in June, has raised the question of whether or not NHI wants W&M to sell book covers at the September 2016 World Service convention in Boston. She noted that the budget for the NHI delegate fund anticipates about \$500 income from W&M book cover sales, and that in recent years, a major portion of those sales happen at the annual OA convention. She noted due to the size and duration of the WSO Convention, W&M would need volunteers to help restock the book cover inventory and to staff the sales table at the convention. She urged reps to think about how to make this happen. Effie said that Sandy had provided much of the new book cover inventory and is updating the patterns to make it easier for others to create book covers. She said she was hoping to provide kits for people willing to make covers. Effie mentioned that it had been suggested that W&M might add a jewelry item, such as a serenity bracelet or necklace to the line of items for sale, and that she was thinking of ordering a sample for evaluation. Cheryl W. said that she planned to attend the convention and would gladly help staff the sales table. Pat S. observed that the W&M book covers are very popular, and that the WSO convention represents a major fund raising opportunity.

**Web Site:** Doreen presented the web committee's written proposal for moving to a new web hosting provider, as discussed in last month's meeting. The proposal based on quotes obtained by Barbara for Bluehost's Business Pro service, is also contained in the Website section of the February committee reports ([see here](#)). The quotes provide for SSL secured communications, a dedicated IP address and domain privacy, domain registration, unlimited Email accounts with SPAM filtering, site backup & restore service and Wordfence Hacking prevention. Doreen pointed out that the cost per year for all services varies depending on the length of commitment, such that a 3-year service contract costs about 30% less annually than a 1-year contract. With much discussion, and two motions put forward and withdrawn, it was decided to evaluate the service with a 1-year contract and consider switching to a 3-year contract later if the service proves satisfactory. Nancy pointed out that NHI currently has no multi-year contracts. With regard to the web site itself, Doreen mentioned that the committee was working on an update of the NHI logo, which she hoped to present for approval at the next business meeting. She also mentioned that the committee was considering using the Joomla web framework as an alternative to WordPress. She indicated that she had experience with both Joomla and WordPress and considered Joomla superior in some respects. Bluehost supports both frameworks. In response to a question from Nancy, Jill stated that the billing for the current web host service would be prorated based on the portion of the year the current site remains on line.

**Motion:** Doreen moved that NHI authorize contracting with Bluehost or similar service to host NHI's web site for one year at a total cost of \$300 or less, to include the following services: SSL certificate, domain privacy, dedicated IP, unlimited email accounts, unlimited email storage, SPAM filtering, site backup & restore, domain registration, Wordfence hacking prevention. Jeanne **seconded** the motion, and the motion **passed** by a majority show of hands (11 for, 0 against, 3 abstaining).

#### **WSBC Bylaw Amendments and New Business Proposals:**

Elaine asked for a motion to accept Dorothy's and Jill's recommendation that NHI vote to put all of the proposed agenda items on the WSBC agenda. **[Editor's Note:** The World Service Delegates section of [February Committee report](#) details Dorothy's and Jill's reasoning and provides links to the agenda items under consideration.] **Motion:** Responding to Elaine's request, Effie **moved** to request NHI's WSBC delegates to vote to place all agenda items being considered on the agenda. Pat G. **seconded** the motion. Discussion focused mainly on the unfortunate timing of events, such that consultation between NHI groups and their reps was barely possible. Dorothy indicated that the delegates would take any feedback received prior to WSBC into account. **Vote:** The motion passed by a majority show of hands (12 for, 0 against, 2 abstaining).

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### **Job Descriptions:**

Elaine called attention to the Job Descriptions document, copies of which were available on the information table, and asked officers and committee chairs to review the descriptions of their jobs and to forward comments, corrections or other updates to Jeanne.

### **CLOSING:**

**Motion:** Effie *moved* to close the meeting. Pat S. *seconded* the motion. The motion *passed* by unanimous show of hands. Elaine closed the meeting by leading a recitation of the serenity prayer. 3:30 PM.

**NEXT MEETING:** Sunday, March 6, 2016

**Editor's note:** The recording upon which this report is based, in large part, has gaps totaling about 35 minutes, due to a weak battery in the recording device. Notes and memory have been used to fill in the gaps, and it is my belief that all significant business, including motions and votes, has been captured.

Respectfully submitted by Peter Lewis, Secretary.