

NH INTERGROUP MINUTES – December 4, 2016

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

Beth M. – Derry Saturday am rep	Effie S. – Ways & Means chair, Nashua Thurs 6:30am rep
Bill G. – Multimedia chair	Elaine Tostevin – NHI Chair, R6 rep
Claire Metzger – R6 rep, PI/PO, Bow Thurs rep	Jeanne Donnelly – Vice Chair, Nominations chair, Bedford Mon & Thurs am rep
Claire P. – Salem Friday rep	Nancy Sullivan – Treasurer, Budget chair
Debi Granfield – Parliamentarian	Pat Gocklin – R6 rep, Manchester Tue rep
Dee S. – Hillsboro Mon rep	Peggie M. – Derry Tues pm sub rep
Doreen D. – Website chair, Answering service chair, Manchester Mon pm rep	Peter Lewis – Secretary, Nashua Thurs pm rep
Dorothy Martin – WSBC del, R6 rep, Event flyer chair, Hopkinton Tue pm rep	Sue W. – Retreat Chair, Lebanon Tue pm rep

Opening:

Elaine called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM, inviting attendees to join her reciting the Serenity Prayer. All present identified themselves and their NHI roles.

Pat G. read the 12 Steps, Dorothy read the 12 Traditions. The second half of Concept 12 was read by Claire P, Effie, Pat G., Claire M, and Doreen. The attendance sheet was circulated and 14 eligible voters were counted. Elaine read the disciplines for the meeting.

November Minutes:

Copies of the November meeting minutes had been distributed by email and were also available at the literature table.

Motion: Pat G. **moved** to accept the November minutes as submitted. Dorothy **seconded** the motion. No questions or issues were raised. The **motion passed** by a majority show of hands.

November Treasurer's Report:

Copies of the November Treasurer's report had been circulated by email and some were available at the literature table. Nancy walked through a number of expense and income items and noted that expenses for the month exceeded revenue by \$152.27, resulting in a corresponding decrease the general funds balance. She observed that the adjusted bank statement was short by \$0.78, compared with the checkbook balance, for the second month in a row, despite a persistent search for the cause. **Motion:** Pat G. **moved** to accept the November Treasurer's report as submitted. Effie **seconded** the motion. No questions or issues were raised. The motion passed by a majority show of hands.

7th Tradition:

7th tradition contributions were collected.

Unfilled Positions:

Elaine reminded everyone that there are two openings for NHI delegates to the World Service Business Conference (WSBC) and two openings for alternate representatives to Region 6 assemblies. She explained that, through their votes, the WSBC delegates and Region 6 representatives, carry the group conscience of NHI and its affiliated meetings to higher level service bodies, where decisions are made affecting OA as a whole. She urged anyone who is qualified and willing to serve in one of the positions mentioned to contact her for more information and to arrange for formal nomination and election to that position.

Committee Business:

Website: Doreen reminded representatives to encourage their meetings to contact the website chair if they want to take advantage of the anonymous email account provided for each meeting. **Retreat:** Sue W. reported that about 11 people had registered for the retreat so far, and that most of those have registered online. She said that the absolute deadline for registration is determined by the Barbara Harris Center's need for a committed count of attendees by December 30. Sue also reminded the meeting that a retreat chair is needed for next year.

NHI Business:

Bylaw Amendments: Elaine walked the meeting through the 5 proposed bylaw amendments that she had distributed to the membership by email on 11/12/2016. For each amendment, Elaine read and explained the change and its rationale, then asked for a motion accept the amendment, a second for the motion, and then discussion followed by a vote. Here are the results:

1. Amend Article III, Section 2, Part A, to use OA Inc.'s new wording to define an OA group – **Motion:** Peter **moved** to accept the amendment. Jeanne **seconded** the motion. There was no discussion. **Vote:** The motion **passed** by show of hands, with {14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining} votes.

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2. Amend Article IV, Section 4, to delete part D (“voting will be by ballot”) -- **Motion:** Effie **moved** to accept the amendment. Claire M. **seconded** the motion. There was no discussion. **Vote:** The motion **passed** by show of hands, with {14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining} votes.
3. Amend Article IV, Section 6, Part F to clarify the qualifications and responsibilities of NHI World Service Delegates -- **Motion:** Dorothy **moved** to accept the amendment. Claire P. **seconded** the motion. Discussion: Beth proposed specific wording to clarify that while prior experience as a Region 6 representative is preferable, it is not a requirement. As recommended by Debi, Elaine agreed to redraft the amendment using the new wording and distribute the new draft to the membership in time for a vote at the January meeting. **Motion Rescinded:** Dorothy and Claire **rescinded** their motion.
4. Amend Article IV, Section 8, Parts A and B to clarify that interim board vacancies may be filled temporarily by board members until the next regular business meeting -- **Motion:** Debi **moved** to accept amendment as written. Dorothy **seconded** the motion. **Vote:** The motion passed by show of hands, with { 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, 1 absent the room} votes.
5. Amend Article VI, Section 8 to allow any form of vote for the approval of committee chair appointments, by removing the words “show of hands” in the description of the process. **Motion:** Sue W. **moved** to approve the amendment, and Dorothy **seconded** the motion. There was no discussion. **Vote:** The motion passed by a show of hands with {14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining} votes.

2017 Budget: Nancy had prepared to present the budget in three separate sections: NHI Income and Expenses budget, Delegates Fund budget, and Retreat budget. Nancy presented the spreadsheet for the Retreat budget first, which showed the customary line items, but with blank estimated values, since the retreat is funded independently of NHI.

Motion: Pat G. **moved** to accept the Retreat Budget as presented. Effie **seconded** the motion. **Discussion:** The blank budget values for income and expenses triggered questions as to how this could be called a “budget” and how could NHI “approve” it. Much discussion ensued, clarified by references to past practices, with the following conclusions:

- It was decided to treat the three sections of the budget (NHI Income and Expenses section, Delegates Fund section, and Retreat section) as a single document and to adopt (as proposed, or as adjusted in discussion) the entire budget in a single vote.
- Line 12 of the Retreat section (titled “Retreat Chair Budget Transfer”) was corrected to show the same \$100 value as line 47 of the Income and Expenses section (titled “Transfer to Retreat Fund – Retreat Chair Expense”).
- It was noted that the policies and procedures document is not in sync with percentages of revenue used in the budget to set the amounts transferred to the delegate fund, and that the policies and procedures document is out of date.

Motion Rescinded: Pat G. and Effie **rescinded** their motion to accept the retreat budget.

Motion 1: Dorothy **moved** to accept the 2017 budget, with provisions noted above, and Beth **seconded** motion 1.

Motion 2: Dorothy **moved** to delete the line item titled “Retreat Chair Budget Transfer” (line 47 in the NHI operating budget). Doreen **seconded** the motion 2. **Vote on motion 2:** The motion 2 **failed** by a show of hands, with { 5 yes, 7 no, 2 abstaining } votes.

Vote on motion 1: The motion 1 **passed** by a show of hands, with { 14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining } votes.

For the record: The total amount of the budget adopted for 2017 is \$ 6,985.50.

Intergroup Renewal: Elaine mentioned that the ad hoc IG Renewal committee has resolved to meet regularly, for the indefinite future, at 1:00 pm prior to IG business meeting. She invited all who are interested to participate, noting that all help is needed and welcome. Elaine reported that the main result of today's meeting was the resolution to attempt have the IG take a formal IG inventory, based on the service group inventory outlined in TSW manual. She noted that the outline is about 3 pages of questions, some of which can be answered with factual data. She said Nancy would create a working outline based on the original, to focus attention on issues where individuals' various experiences and opinions may be expected to generate differing assessments that need to be discussed. Elaine indicated that this working outline would be broadcast to reps about 2 weeks before January business meeting. She said she would like to dedicate most of the January meeting to the inventory process. She said that the inventory results would then be used as the basis of a survey of the local membership to determine priorities, and perhaps collect new ideas as to what NHI should do to better serve the membership. Elaine pointed out that NHI has the meeting room for 3 hours, and asked for suggestions as to whether the January meeting might start as early as 1:00 or, alternatively, run until 4:00, in order to try to finish the inventory process in one session.

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Motion to extend: Peter **moved** to extend the meeting by 10 minutes. Effie and Pat G. **seconded** the motion. The motion carried by a majority show of hands.

Discussion: The following suggestions were made by individuals in attendance:

- Extend the January meeting to about 2 or 2 ½ hours and dedicate most of that time to the inventory process, in order to complete the inventory in one session.
- Implement suggestion above by starting the inventory process at 1:00, for those who can make it. Handle abbreviated required business in (a portion of) the normal 2:00-3:30 time slot. Alternatively, extend the normal meeting time slot to 2:00-4:00.
- Conduct the inventory process over a number of months, during pre-allocated portions of normal business meetings to the process.
- Encourage everyone to write their ideas prior to the meeting. Encourage individuals who cannot attend the entire meeting to submit their ideas by email prior to the meeting.
- Add a form to the website to capture individuals' input to the inventory process.
- Although recording of the entire meeting might be desirable, it would be acceptable to record only the formal NHI business transactions.

Motion: Claire M. **moved** to start the January business meeting at 1:00pm, using the first portion of the meeting to collect the intergroup inventory data, and a shorter portion to conduct normal NHI business. Effie **seconded** the motion.

Vote: the motion **passed** by a majority show of hands, with { 13 yes, 1 no, 0 abstaining } votes.

CLOSING:

Motion: Debi G. **moved** to close the meeting. Pat G. **seconded** the motion. The motion **passed** by unanimous show of hands. Elaine closed the meeting by leading a recitation of the serenity prayer. 3:47 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, January 8, 2017

Respectfully submitted by Peter Lewis, Secretary.