

NH INTERGROUP MINUTES – April 2, 2017

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

Beth M. – Derry Saturday am rep	Dorothy Martin – WSBC del, R6 rep, R6 Bylaws, Event flyer chair, Hopkinton Tue pm rep
Bill G. – Multimedia chair	Effie S. – Ways & Means chair, Nashua Thurs am rep
Claire Metzger – Region 6 rep, R6 PI/PO, Bow Thurs rep	Eileen RT – PI/PO chair, PO Box mgr, Derry Thurs am rep
Claire P. – Salem Friday pm rep	Elaine Tostevin – NHI Chair, WSBC del, R6 rep
Debi Granfield – Parliamentarian	Joe A. – New Boston Tuesday pm rep
Dee S. – Retreat chair, Hillsboro Monday rep	Nancy Sullivan – Treasurer, Budget chair, Derry Tues alt rep
Diane L. – R6 alt rep, Meeting list chair	Pat Gocklin – R6 rep, R6 finance, Manchester Tue rep
Doreen D. – Website chair, Answering service chair, Manchester Mon pm rep	Peter Lewis – Secretary, Nashua Thurs pm rep
	Sandy M. – Newsletter Chair, Nashua Monday noon rep

Opening:

Elaine called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM, inviting attendees to join her reciting the Serenity Prayer. All present identified themselves and their NHI roles. Pat G. read the 12 Steps, Eileen read the 12 Traditions. Claire P. read Concept Three. The attendance sheet was circulated and 14 eligible voters were counted. Elaine read the disciplines for the meeting.

March Minutes:

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

Motion: Joe **moved** to accept the March minutes as submitted. Pat G. **seconded** the motion. Beth pointed out an erroneous reference to today's meeting as occurring on "4/5," which should read "4/2". **Vote:** The motion to accept the minutes, with the stipulated correction, **passed** by a majority show of hands, with one abstention noted.

March Treasurer's Report:

Copies of the March Treasurer's report had been circulated by email and some were available at the literature table.

Nancy noted donations seem low for the first quarter and requested that meeting reps please check with their treasurers to be sure they are sending in donations in a timely manner. She also reported that she had found and fixed a recording error that explained part of the \$26 discrepancy, between the fund and checkbook balances for February, but said she is still looking for a remaining discrepancy of \$10 that shows on March report.

Motion: Dorothy **moved** to accept the March Treasurer's report as submitted. Claire P. **seconded** the motion.

Discussion: Beth questioned the difference in expenses reported for the March sponsorship workshop in the the treasurer's report vs. in the April Committee Report. Nancy responded that some of the planning expenses showing on the committee report were incurred in February, and demonstrated that the YTD total for the workshop expenses agree with the committee report for the event. **Vote:** The motion **passed** by a majority show of hands.

7th Tradition:

7th tradition contributions were collected.

Committee Business:

Sponsorship Workshop Recap: Elaine read a thank you note, from one of the workshop participants, remarking on the broad range experience and longevity in OA, of the participants, and on the benefits of having both speaker and breakout sessions. Dorothy affirmed a consensus that everyone seemed to appreciate their experience of the workshop, and referred listeners to Pat's committee report for detail. Elaine then mentioned that around 70 Sponsorship packets were left over from the workshop and asked for suggestions for their disposition. Suggestions made included

- to hold on to the [sponsorship] kits for use at a Fall workshop,
- make the kits available for sale to groups through their representatives,
- advertise in the *Promises* that the kits are available, free of charge, until they are gone,
- have reps distribute them at meetings they attend, 2 per group, to groups who want them, until they are gone,

Motion: Eileen **moved** to distribute the left-over sponsorship kits, 2 per group, to groups who want them. Claire M. **seconded** the motion. **Discussion:** Nancy said she considered that contents of the kits to be time sensitive, since the included pamphlets and references are subject to updates, and so she urged that all of the kits be distributed immediately, by individuals attending today's meeting. In the interest of unity, Doreen urged that meetings without NHI representation be given equal access to the remaining kits, by US Mail if necessary. Eileen suggested that, consistent with the current wording of the motion, all reps here today should take two kits for the meetings they represent and two kits for meetings they attend that do not have reps, and that a record be made such that NHI can reach out and offer 2

kits to each meeting that did not receive kits from today's distribution. Eileen moved the question to **vote**: The motion passed by a majority show of hands with 11 yes, 2 no votes, and 1 abstention. **Followup**: Doreen agreed to keep a record of groups receiving packets from today's distribution so that the remaining packets can be distributed to the remaining groups.

TSW Committee Materials: Due to space limitations at her house, Diane asked for someone to volunteer to store the TSW materials until a new committee chair is appointed. Doreen volunteered, and Doreen and Diane to arrange transfer of the materials soon. [Editor's note: Due to change of plans, TSW materials were transferred to Peter's house instead.]

Nominating Committee: Elaine requested that those present please share information about open NHI positions and ask OAs to consider service as one the following:

- Twelfth Step Within (TSW) Committee Chair
- NHI Vice Chair
- Workshop / Back to Basics / Sharathon Committee Chair
- NHI Treasurer
- Meeting List Coordinator
- Promises Editor
- Public Information Chair
- Event Flyer Chair

For more information on the definition of each position, she referred to the [job descriptions](#) document on the NHI website.

NHI Business:

NHI Inventory Project: Elaine repeated last month's request to submit completed [Inventory Actions worksheets](#), indicating the top three priority actions they think NHI should take as followup to the inventory workshop conducted in January and February. [The list of inventory questions and the responses generated at the workshop is [here](#)]. She reported that, so far, she had received only one completed form, and asked that people bring a completed form to the next business meeting. Debi volunteered to collect the forms at the May meeting.

Bylaw Amendment: Due to limits on time at today's meeting, Elaine suggested postponing any action on the amendment to Article VI, Section 6, Item 2 of the NHI bylaws, dealing with qualification of delegates to the WSBC. She said she would distribute the latest wording of the amended sections in time to be voted on at the May or the June business meeting.

Non-approved Literature at OA meetings: Elaine announced that an update of the document, titled "*NHI Guideline: Dealing with Groups that Use, Sell or Promote Non-approved OA Literature (Draft)*" had been distributed with today's meeting package and said she hoped to get it approved for distribution and review by group representatives with their groups. **Motion**: Dorothy **moved** to approve the draft for the purpose of review by reps with their groups. Doreen **seconded** the motion. **Discussion**: Joe expressed doubt that the document needed approval since NHI policy derives directly from OA policy. Elaine responded that the document in question is a guideline on how to deal with policy violations, and is not policy itself. She said she thought it useful to have this document, which outlines procedures for gathering facts and for communicating with member meetings in an informative and non-confrontational manner, about situations which can arise out of ignorance or misreading of OA traditions. **Vote**: the **motion passed** by a show of hands with 13 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstaining votes.

Event Flyer Checklist: Dorothy said the latest checklist for event flyer preparation had been disseminated and was posted for final review on the website [see latest posting [here](#)]. She said she had received very few comments, and there was some confusion expressed by members as to whether the posted version contained the latest changes. Dorothy agreed to insure that the posted version does contain all updates agreed upon in previous discussion. Further action was tabled until May or June.

New Business:

Request for Earlier Delivery of Materials for Business Meeting: Beth remarked that the email delivery of documents for today's meeting arrived too late for her to prepare properly for the meeting. Several other individuals concurred with Beth's experience.

[Editor's Note: At various stages in the meeting, members stated that the meeting document package had been received very late, or not at all. Although this problem was likely due mostly to tardiness in preparation of the package, it was

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also noted that email delivery of attachments to a number of members had been problematic recently and from time to time. Following is an attempt to address this issue].

Meeting Document Repository: As an answer to the email delivery problem, Doreen volunteered to create a repository for documents associated with each monthly business meeting, so that NHI would not need to rely on email attachments to distribute meeting documents. She proposed that the directory containing each meeting package would be available at a predetermined Web address that members could visit to download all the documents for a meeting. There was general agreement that this is a good idea, and Doreen said details would be forthcoming.

Region Six Spring Assembly: Elaine called attention to the PDF in the meeting document package named “12. Motions Binder.pdf,” containing 4 business motions to be voted on at the Spring Assembly. She walked through each motion and solicited opinions on each – no one expressed opposition to any of the 4 motions. Dorothy and Elaine both expressed their willingness to accept comment on motions until their 4/7 departure for the Assembly.

Recruitment of OA members for Service to Intergroup: Referring to discussion during the IG Inventory Workshop, and at recent IG meetings, of the desirability of having more members contributing to NHI activities, Elaine proceeded to list a number of her ideas for getting more membership involvement.

- Recruit at meetings we attend that aren't represented regularly at NHI business meetings. Make list of such meetings.
- Update and publish the pamphlet describing NHI, the service, and the opportunity for service, that it provides.
- Prepare a single sheet presentation that NHI reps can use at local group business meetings.
- Be sure that new group representatives to NHI have a formal introduction to NHI, its service structure and the roles that exist within it.

Doreen mentioned that the document titled, “[What is New Hampshire Intergroup \(NHI\)?](#)” was recently updated and is available on the NHI website. Doreen also suggested that tasks of developing strategies, guidelines and other materials for NHI should perhaps be the work of a special committees in stead of full business meetings. Elaine agreed and asked for volunteers to develop recruitment ideas. **Volunteers:** Doreen, Effie and Diane volunteered to serve on an ad hoc committee to put together some ideas for recruitment of OAs for service to OA in the NHI domain, and to present them at an NHI meeting. Dorothy suggested there should perhaps be a plan to mentor new NHI members.

Meeting Followup Actions for Reps:

- Submit Priority [Action Inventory Worksheets](#) at May Meeting. (Debi will collect them).
- Review bylaw amendment(s), which will be posted on the NHI website in preparation for vote
- Share [NHI Guidline For Dealing with Non-approved Literature](#) at OA meetings with their local groups; bring back any feedback
- Review [Event Flyer Checklist](#) posted on NHI website for vote at next meeting.
- Announce at local meetings that NHI is providing two sponsorship kits to each group.
- Announce open NHI positions at local meetings

CLOSING:

Motion: Debi **moved** to close the meeting. Dee **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, May 7, 2017

Respectfully submitted by Peter Lewis, Secretary.