

The in-person meeting of the Akron Intergroup Council was held at The Paradise Club on October 1, 2023, and was opened by Intergroup Chairman Tony Thomas at 12 noon with the I Am Responsible Statement and the Serenity Prayer.

Groups in attendance: (31 groups with registered reps) 100 Men & Women Big Book Study, A Way Out, Akron Mens Big Book Study, Barberton Sunday 12 & 12, Broad Highway Group, Brunswick Monday Night Mens, Carry This Message, East Akron, Fairlawn, Faith and Hope, Falls Discussion, Garden of Hope, Goodyear Group, Kenmore Group, King Kennedy Saturday Nite, Ladies Big Book Study, Learning to Live, Mens' Closed St. Eugenes, North Hill Mens Big Book, Northampton, Progress-Not Perfection, Redemption Recovery, Road to Recovery, Sons of Ebby, Sunday Night in Paradise, Tallmadge Heritage AA Group, Temple Square, The Recovery Room, Towers Discussion, Westside Big Book Study, YANA (You Are Not Alone).

Before the meeting began, Tony T. apologized to the Executive Board, Intergroup Council and to the Fellowship of AA for his absence at last month's Council meeting.

Roll Call: After roll call, Gene M. introduced point of order, says someone introduced themselves as an IG rep and as a member-at-large. It was determined the person was an IG rep and a committee member of the Corrections committee, not the member-at-large of that committee, (members-at-large are not permitted to vote at Council meetings).

Secretary's Report: Tony T. mentioned that the IG Secretary is not present due to illness, so today's proceedings are being recorded. Tony T. began reading the Secretary's report, motion to waive and seconded, motion passed; reading was waived. Motion to accept the secretary's report as presented, seconded, and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ed B. Jr.

Ed B. presented the July treasurer's report and said that there were a few corrections that needed to be made to the treasurer's report from the previous months. Ed stated that per the by-laws the Treasurer is to keep a record of all transactions, deposits and monies paid with the approval of the Executive board, in the name of Council. Ed B. stated he doesn't do that in his duties as treasurer, says the office employees and office manager handle the bookkeeping. As of this meeting, the August and September treasurer reports are not complete and are not available for discussion. These reports, along with the October treasurer report will be presented in November. Motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as presented, pending corrections, motion seconded and passed. Ed thanked the committee chairs for submitting their budgets on time to him. The overall budget of the Akron Intergroup will be presented to Council in November, mailed to the groups in November, with the expectation to vote and approve the pending budget by Council in December.

Question: Gerry L. asked why the Founders Day budget is 494.23% on page 5, line 4320.

Answer: Ed B. says the FD committee has expenses that haven't been paid yet. Ed also stated this was the July report and it won't be until Nov/Dec, before the treasurer's report is reconciled.

Executive Board Report: Tony T. reported that Greg has taken on a few of Cheryl's responsibilities that were vacated in her absence, just to try and keep those duties from lagging behind.

Old Business: None

New Business: IG office security camera replacement.

Tony T. reported that a member of the AA Fellowship has submitted a quote to install and replace the existing security system down at the Intergroup office. There was nobody present from the IT Committee to answer questions.

Dave E., owner and operator of Bee Security, Inc. submitted the quote for \$2,448.00. This will include the following.

1 NVR 16CH with 4TB memory-this should last 30 days.

12 IP Cameras

1 Box of Wire

Labor, programming, and phone setup

The existing system has been in place for over 14 years and most of the equipment is not in working order; at the suggestion of the Office and IT committees, this system needs to be replaced, to protect the interests of the Archives and the Intergroup office. Tony T. explained what the new system will be, placing the 12 cameras inside and outside of the office, with a recording device which records up to 30 continuous days, and is motion activated. Tony T. also mentioned that this work will be done at the expense of Bee Security, Inc., that this quoted price is half of what the normal costs would be.

Question: Rob R. asked if we could ask questions before putting this to a vote. Rob wanted to know the status of the existing system, i.e., was it not working, etc.?

Question: Tom R. said that's great to have this installed basically for free, but there also needs to be discussion on warranty, service of the system, warranty on the parts.

Question: Laura N. says from an insurance standpoint, if there is a monitoring system, we should be eligible for discounts. Laura also says we need more detailed information on the equipment being installed.

Question: Gene M. introduced point of order, that this system doesn't need Council's approval, that the office can spend up to \$5000.00 without approval.

Answer: Jim B. corrected that statement saying any spending over \$1500.00 does need the approval of Council.

Answer: Tony T. answered the questions as best he could, says until we can get a representative from the security company and the IT committee to come answer these questions, we will table this discussion until the next Council meeting.

Committee Reports: Tony requests to limit reports to the 3-minute rule.

12 Step Fund Drive: David H. present. David presented the number of donations; group and individual, based on September's numbers. Says they are prepared and ready to distribute information to the groups for the start of the annual October fund drive.

IG Picnic: David H. present: No report.

Answering Service: Jim B. present: 22 calls for September.

Office: Jim B. present: Cheryl is back to work, working limited hours.

Information Tech: Bill B. not present: No report.

Group Services: Rachel B. present: Rachel and the committee met last month, 3 were in attendance. There are less than 50 groups left to visit, all are in Summit County. They are looking for interested committee members willing to participate. Tony T. gave this committee a big shout for their involvement in reaching out to so many groups in our 5-county area.

Corrections: Anthony B. present: Anthony says he is creating a list of facilities that are served in our 5-county area, with the help of Joe C. Anthony has 4 new people in the process of being approved to take meetings into facilities.

Question: A question was asked if we knew the amount of money in the orange cans.

Answer: Anthony says the funds have not been touched, he didn't know the exact amount that was in the cans but says that Greg K. at the office knows the figures and the office is not worried about the funds being mismanaged. Per Anthony, the funds from the orange cans are in their own account and as we are still recovering from Covid, the funds will be used when the need arises for corrections expenses.

Question: Ed B. asked if it was true that Summit County Jail is no longer participating with the corrections committee.

Answer: Anthony B. says that the Summit County Jail has asked all recovery-based programs to exit. Anthony says the jail has implemented a tablet format for the inmates and that he is still working to re-establish in house meetings with this facility.

New Year's Eve Dance: Anthony B. present: Anthony says the committee is still forming. The tickets have been printed and are ready for sale, at the office and online. Tickets are \$25.00, the event will be at St. Sebastian's Catholic Church on Dec. 31st, 2023.

Treatment Facilities: Joe C. present: Joe provided copies of the committee minutes and of the committee's needs for facility coordinators for each treatment center, people that can be engaged with personnel at each listed facility. They are looking for men and women to take meetings into IBH on Sundays (IBH has a limit of 3 outside men and/or women to bring meetings onto the grounds per meeting – this is not an open outside AA meeting). The budget has been submitted to Ed B. Their next meeting is on Oct. 31st, 2023 – come out in Halloween costumes if you like and participate in the meeting. Joe C. provided his contact information for those wanting to bring meetings into facilities.

Literature: Greg C. present: Committee met at the IG Office, there were 5 in attendance. The major topic of discussion was getting the literature from the office, down to the University for Founders' Day. Says there was disorganization in the literature room on Founder's Day. Some materials appeared to be sold out, we kept finding additional literature in unlabeled boxes. Greg C. says the volunteers were unsupervised and haphazardly putting literature in boxes and not labeling them correctly. Greg C. says Cheryl plays a huge role in getting the literature squared away, she wasn't there, because of her health. We are hoping for better years to come, now that Cheryl is healthy again and back to work at the office. The literature room sold out of lanyards and pins this year, which eliminated the back stock that existed. There were issues getting Big Books down to the University to sell, something to do with the printing of the books. All previous year's pins are sold out, as well as the triangle glass that someone had made.

Public Information/CPC: Doug M. present: Sonya B. met with Doug M., and they got more letters out to the courts in all 5 counties. A student from Akron University who wanted to do a survey on AA by questioning Doug about his AA experience. Doug was okay with this but advised the student about using his full name or identifiable photos.

Founders' Day: Aaron K. present: Aaron says the committee is closing out the books on 2023. Got the final report approved and did the surplus transfer of \$119,188.99 to the office. Aaron says the University has hired a new person to coordinate events at the UOA campus. Margo, the current event's coordinator, will stay on for 2024, to assist in the transition of the new guy. The FD Committee is working on next year's numbers, so that they can propose/develop a budget for 2024. Also looking to pay the deposit to hold the event on the Akron U. campus in 2024 around mid-October. As speakers are being submitted for approval, everything else is business as usual.

Question: Bill M. Jr. said he had heard that there was a Russian contingent coming to FD and was wanting us to provide a facility to hold Russian meetings.

Answer: Aaron K. says the Russian contingent is mostly from Canada and the U.S., they have been coming to FD for years, setting up at the hotel to hold their mini conference, but now they're asking to be on campus. Aaron says Woody W. has been in contact with their coordinator and is asking them to come to the FD meeting, in person, to discuss.

Question: Rob R. says he is member of the Serenity Singers, and they would like the FD committee to reconsider inclusion in the FD program again.

Question: John K. says there seems to be miscommunication about who the volunteers are supposed to contact, to be of service.

Answer: Aaron K. says the volunteers can come to committee meetings on 1st Monday at the office at 7pm, they can leave contact info at the office, or they can reach out to a coordinator of the committee – we will always need volunteers.

Archives: - Chris B. not present; Gene M. says the Archives responded to 13 requests this month. They are averaging 3 tours a week. Voices of the past have been updated with local speakers; Julie Mate, John Leach, Harmon Velie, Mos Yoder and many others. The Richmond Walker

display is finished. Our wall displays are moving right along. The Archives is still working on improving the virtual tour.

IG News: Mike V. present: Mike presented a flyer, searching for volunteers to work on the IG News. They are continually looking for articles for the newsletter.

IG Anniversary: Mike L. present- Looking for committee members and they have secured the venue, Guy's Party Center, for next year. He has provided the budget to the IG Treasurer. Our Intergroup Anniversary event will be 4/28/2024.

General Service: John K. present: John K. says the GSO World Service Conference is still looking to bring the conference to Phoenix, New Orleans, or Indianapolis. John says the GSO is developing a new archives workbook, and they are always coming up with new pamphlets and new literature. On Nov 17th, there will be the East Central Regional Forum at the Doubletree Hotel in Independence, OH. Volunteers are welcome. On Oct 21st, they are holding the GSR Fall Seminar at Pilgrim Church in Cuyahoga Falls. Doors open at 12:30pm, there will be a 4-person panel.

Question: Mary K. made a motion that we send John K. to the East Central Regional Seminar, this seminar happens every 4 years. Motion passed.

Good & Welfare: On 9/18, Anthony B. celebrated 7 years. Aaron K. mentioned that Scott Komondor lost his father – keep them in your prayer. Mike L. asked for prayers for his daughter Sophia. Jim B. turned 74 years old on 9/21. Gene M. asked for prayers for Bill Shote, his cancer has returned and spread. Gerry L. asked for prayers, Tony T. officially retired on 9/25 and turned 65 years old on the same date. Moment of silence.

Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed unanimously.

The council meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer @ 1:10pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Tony Thomas, Executive Board Chair