Akron Intergroup Council

March 3, 2024

The in-person meeting of the Akron Intergroup Council was held at The Paradise Club on March 3, 2024, and was opened by Intergroup Chairman Tony Thomas at 12 noon with the I Am Responsible Statement and the Serenity Prayer.

Groups in attendance: (37 groups with registered reps) 100 Men & Women Big Book Study, A Way Out, Afternoon Alkies, Akron Mens Big Book Study, Atwater Serenity Group, Barberton Friday Nite, Barberton Monday Nite, Broad Highway Group, Carry This Message, Cissy’s Diner Big Book Study, Coffee, Donuts & Discussion, Cuyahoga Falls, Dry Peoples Wednesday Night, East Akron, Fairlawn, Faith and Hope, Falls Discussion, Fresh Start, Goodyear Group, Kenmore Group, King School Group 1, Medina Tuesday Night, North Hill Mens Big Book, Saturday Morning Sunrise, Serenity Big Book Study, Sons of Ebby, St. Anthony’s Women’s Group, Sunday Night in Paradise, Sunday Nite 12 & 12, Tallmadge Heritage AA Group, Temple Square, The Turning Point, Thursday Closed Women’s, Thursday Night Freedom, Thursday Night Men’s Nonsmoking, Thursday Women’s Big Book, Towers Discussion

Roll Call: Tony T. mentioned that Intergroup Anniversary Chairman Mike Lusk is excused.

Secretary’s Report: Sarah R. present: Sarah 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. present: Edd B. presented the Treasurer’s report as of 01/31/2024. Edd began by reading the long form of the 7th tradition. Edd reported that the customer balance sheets, and group contributions are now being displayed in the Treasurer’s report. If your group is listed in the customer balance section, this means your group has an outstanding balance that is over 3 months old and attempts could be made to resolve these. Edd says he is working on a more condensed and easier to read one page report. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented. Motion was seconded and approved.

Executive Board Report: Tony T. reported that we are still looking for insurance companies to provide affordable health insurance for our 2 employees. Tony mentioned that Greg Kennedy has made the Board aware that there are several keys from former board members that have not been returned. He also mentioned that the office locks should be re-keyed every 5 years or so. Tony advised those at Council that may have a key to the building to make their way down to the office this week, to replace your old key. Ed Burns made Council aware that the Board has formed an Ad-Hoc committee, as a division of the Finance Committee to investigate possible By-Law changes to the Treasurer’s duties and responsibilities as it pertains to the prudent reserve.

Russ asked if the By-Laws stated the amount of the prudent reserve what is used to make up the prudent reserve. Edd Burns says the By-Laws only state how the prudent reserve is made up, it doesn’t say how much it needs to be. Edd reminded Council that the office is funded by the literature sales, the yearly Intergroup Fund Drive and surplus from Founder’s Day.

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, as of February 2024 numbers. Numbers are up for the month of February and YTD of the year compared to last year. David says will follow up on the pledges of the previous year.

A question was asked if it was still necessary to hold the fund drive, since we’re considering reducing the amount of prudent reserve. David stated he was also a member of the Ad-Hoc committee, and he will bring the fund drive up to the committee for review.

IG Picnic: David H. present: Flyers will be going out earlier this year than last year, but David wants to wait until after the Intergroup Anniversary is concluded.

Answering Service: Jim B. present: 16 total requests for meetings for the month of February, 6 of those were from the same guy. Turns out Jim knows the guy and has gotten him to download the meeting guide app on his phone and this should reduce the number of calls each month.

Office: Jim B. present: Jim says we are going to install temporary “on demand” water heaters for the purpose of having hot water in the office. The original heaters we purchased will require more modifications to the building than we are willing to do, so we have opted for a less invasive model to install. Dean Johnson asked what are monthly rent was, Edd Burns says it’s been $1600.00 a month for over 20 years, this is not a bad for over 3500 sq. ft.

Information Tech: Bill B. present: The committee has been busy updating and upgrading the I-pads for Founder’s Day. Bill says they are up and ready for the opening day of FD registration.

Group Services: Rachel B. present: There were 3 people present at the February meeting and her committee could really use some volunteers. Rachel says they are almost done with updating the remaining groups. Most of these last groups are in the Wooster area.

Corrections: Anthony B. present: Corrections is moving along without issue – they’ve started 2 additional women’s meetings inside of a couple facilities. They have new guys recently approved to enter Orianna House. Corrections are looking up. Anthony got wind of a group taking a meeting into CBCF. This group is not aligned with the corrections committee, so Anthony is working to get them involved with his committee, so everyone is on the same page. He says it’s important that people taking meetings into a facility, without the knowledge of the corrections committee could come back to bite AA. If something were to go wrong inside the facility, the authorities will look at Akron AA first.

New Year’s Eve Dance: Anthony B. present: The hall has been reserved for this year’s event. Joyce Burgess wanted to know the surplus from last year’s event. Anthony says the surplus was approximately $2200.00.

Treatment Facilities: Joe C. not present, Tom Gore gave the report: The treatment committee met on Feb. 27th, there were 10 people present; 6 committee members and 4 guests. Tom 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 still in need of people willing to take meetings into the various treatment facilities. Genesis facility is looking specifically for men to take meetings into that facility. IBH has reached out and requested literature for their facility. Overall, the needs are being greatly addressed with carrying the message to the treatment facilities. The next meeting will be April 2nd at 6pm.

Literature: Greg C. present: 9 people were present at the Feb 10th meeting, there were 13 people present. They have locked in the design for the 89th Founder’s Day pin. Since the following year will be the 90th anniversary of AA, they want the pin design to pop and be special, so that the design process is underway. The committee has also designed some magnets and ink pens that rotate an AA saying with each click, these are for the FD volunteers. They have also started a book of the month club to review the many books down at the office. They are also going to publish the book reports in the Intergroup News. Next meeting is March 9th at 9am.

Public Information/CPC: Doug M. present: Campus North Church did the event called “A Walk in Their Shoes” program at EJ Thomas on Feb. 23 at 6:00 pm. On March 21st Hoban High School is having 2 classes on Alcoholism, Doug and Sonya are planning to participate.

Founders’ Day: Aaron K. present: The Herald was completed and mailed out so it will be in people’s mailboxes by March 1st, when pre-registration opens. Aaron says FD pre-registration opened without incident. He says as of 3/3/24, they have received close to 61k. Registrations are up 6% from last year, but there’s a long way to go before registration closes on May 15th. Ribbons to be ordered this week. Pre-registration will be $35.00 and $40.00 for onsite registration. The first draft of the FD Program will be reviewed by the committee at the next FD meeting. Still looking for any volunteers. The FD committee has found a clear bag that will be acceptable by the UOA and will make bags available to AA guests. A gallon zip lock bag is acceptable. Aaron has also asked the University if a couple of small banks of personal lockers can be positioned at the JAR Arena and InfoCision Stadium, for those that arrive at the meeting without knowing about the clear bag policy.

Archives: - Chris B. not present, Gene M. gave the report: They responded to 12 requests for information related to AA and the Archives. The Archives received a donation of a book called “Our Common Prayer” that was signed by Rev. Walter Tungst. Jim B. made a display case for the book, and it is now on display. Tours have been steady, and they had one visitor from Alberta, Canada. Chris says they were contacted by the psychology teacher from Hoban High School, which they have turned over to Doug Moore on the CPC/Public Information committee. Recording has begun for the virtual tour, and they are having selected people to read a portion of the recorded script – people who would normally not mix.

IG News: Mike V. present: Mike acknowledged the book of the month club book reports. Mike says the length of the IG news varies from month to month, depending on the number of articles they receive. Pet of the month is still a big hit. Mike Says they are still taking articles and subscriptions are encouraged.

IG Anniversary: Mike L. not present: The first flyer is out and there’s a lot of information on this flyer. They have a theme now and are encouraging gift baskets to be submitted. The next meeting is March 14th at 6:30.

General Service: John K. present: At their last meeting, they voted for the new District Chair, Jeff Capen. Also setting up dates for the district picnic and District Seminar. John says he is encouraging GSR’s to attend the next meeting which is held the 3rd Saturday of every month at The Pilgrim Church at 1pm. The mini conference will be held in Westlake, OH on March 20-23. John says they are preparing for the International Convention in Vancouver for 2025. He says Canada considers DUI a federal offense and they will not allow anyone into the country that has any on their records.

Good & Welfare: Gerry Leb celebrated 23 years. Rootstown Sunday Night celebrating the group’s anniversary on March 18th. Gene M. announced that 89-year-old Johnny Dotson had a pacemaker put in and is doing very well. Russ Kovalchik celebrated 15 years. Chris Wright celebrated 25 years. Falls Discussion celebrating the group’s anniversary on March 13th. Jim Burns says Vince Lackney could use prayers. Serenity Big Book celebrating the group’s anniversary on March 5th. Sarah announced Kent Friday Night celebrating the group’s anniversary on March 15th.

Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed unanimously.

The council meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer @ 1:07pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Tony Thomas, Executive Board Chairman