

Unity Intergroup Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2019

Attending in person: Howard, Johni, Kendra, Cathy G., Eileen M, Sue L, Sheila L, Betty C, Kay, Annette, Meg M, Cecelia, Amy D, Elizabeth R, Patty M, Jill S, Beth K. **Attending by phone:** Dianne M, Joe, Jason

1. Welcome: Welcome, Serenity Prayer, introductions, pass sign-in binder, welcomed new reps

2. Tradition 12: Annette read and pitched

3. Meeting Minutes: small corrections; Betty made motion to approve as amended, Sue L seconded. Approved.

4. Treasurer's Report: Sheila L. and Betty C reviewed financials. Convention expenses (including graphic design fee) have been paid. Annette made motion to approve. Kay H seconded. Report approved.

5. Intergroup Biz:

- New meeting in Cold Spring, MN, requested start-up funds but Board requires meeting representative to attend at least one Intergroup meeting in person or by phone to receive \$100.
- Northern Serenity Intergroup: Cathy talked with Marty, Chair. NSI feels well supported by Unity Intergroup. Open to possibility of merging with Unity, but barrier is member concern that they wouldn't have a voice within a larger intergroup. NSI gave six scholarships to attend Unity OA Convention. Suggestion from our Intergroup: invite NSI to contribute articles to Expressions of Unity newsletter (give them a specific month?). Howard would like Unity to help make them stronger, possibly by building them a new website. Cathy did not feel it would be appropriate to donate Unity members' 7th Tradition contributions without informing membership and asking permission. If they merged with Unity, their meetings would be on overeaters.org, and members might be more willing to do workshops in Duluth. Annette thought a case could be made for staying independent or merging.
- Elections: open positions (one-year terms with option to serve in same role for a second year): Chair/Vice Chair/Secretary/Treasurer/Region 4 Rep/WSBC Delegate/Quick Steps Co-chair/Quick Steps Co-chair/Bylaws Chair/Public Info Co-chair/Public Info Co-chair/Hot Line/Literature/Newsletter Editor/Print Coordinator/Wifi Phone Set-up. Howard said that committees elect their own chairs. Discussion about whether bylaws should be amended to allow third year of service.
- Newcomer Meeting: Due to lack of attendance, Unity has discussed discontinuing the meeting. Sue made motion to hold a vote. Meg seconded motion. We voted to end Newcomer meeting after Dec. 21. Cathy will update on OA.org and overeaters.org; Jill will put announcement in Jan. newsletter. Discussion on how to reach and retain new members: 1) hold workshop on how meetings can be more helpful, such as breakout sessions/small group for newcomers, 2) add service position to greet new people and assign members to call them during the week and sponsor them, 3) add copy on website that explains how to get started.
- Sheila created a new budget template in Excel for Unity events and workshops to help coordinators/chairs consider all possible expenses to inform the registration fee. Will add line item for PayPal/Square costs. Note: Lots of supplies at our storage unit—please check inventory of markers, pens, name tags, literature, etc. before buying!
- Getting Unstuck Workshop: 24 attendees
- Tools of the Trade Workshop on January 25th: Meg is looking for speakers with one year of abstinence.
- Temporary relocations for Intergroup mtgs: Feb/March: Unity Christ Church, 4000 Golden Valley Rd; Golden Valley 55422, April: Buffalo Retreat (1st Saturday)—all are welcome to attend!
- Cathy will update website with meetings canceled during the holidays.

6. OA Events:

- Quick Steps Workshop, Mpls (March 7 & 21)
- Buffalo Retreat (April 3–5)
- Big Book Study (May 29–31)
- Region 4 Assembly, Omahah, NE (July 10–12)

7. Closing: Cathy's last meeting as chair. Closed with the Serenity Prayer.
