10/20/2021; Group Conscience meeting (GC), SRG 5 PM EST

Host: Courtney S.

Guests: Bob R., Peter F., Marty B, Ed S., Robert F., Mary K, Jane G., Dan W .

**We reviewed the minutes of September 2021**. No changes.

**Treasurer’s report**:

Courtney screen-shared the budget and read the pertinent lines. There is a gap in 7th Tradition contributions after June 2021 because those contributions are in PayPal, not in the bank as previously deposited. There have been regular contributions to SRG since June 2021. Our PayPal Master Account balance is $3,666.57, as of today. (not counting our “prudent reserve” which is $1,300.00). Per last month’s Group Conscience meeting, as to when to disperse funds beyond the prudent reserve will be tabled to the end of 2021, then reassess.

We’ve made all our *annual* payments for this year.

 We talked about a **new Treasurer**. Requirements for a Treasurer include demonstrable sobriety, and a good understanding of creating and/or managing spreadsheets, and understanding of finance, assets, liabilities, debits, basic P&L statements (profit and loss), etc. Bob R. offered to be Treasurer, as he has had significant experience in other AA groups doing so; discussion ensued and group conscience was that Bob R is the new Treasurer, with assistance by Courtney and co-Treasurer Peter F.

Peter requests that the budget be sent to him in pdf format, in addition to the Excel spreadsheet, at least 5 days prior to the monthly SRG Group Conscience meeting so Peter can review the budget prior to the Group Conscience meeting.

We agreed that the budget will not be posted on the SRG web site, just the summary in the minutes.

**Old Business (ongoing items to review monthly):**

**1. Cross-talk** – Hosts and co-hosts are staying attentive to chats being respectful and supportive, in keeping with our GC consensus on cross-talk. We reviewed our GC vote from last month regarding cross-talk: “Giving direct feedback or giving advice to another’s share or commenting on another’s share in a disrespectful way is **not** the group norm. We agreed that sharing in an empathic way with respect and kindness is the group norm.”

**2**. **Chat**: OIAA has recommended that SRG “turn off” or disable private chat during meetings; however, SRG members have made it clear that they want the “chat” function to be “turned on,” or enabled during the meeting. In keeping with AA tradition 4 (four), our group conscience is that the SRG meetings would continue enabling the chat function after about 10 minutes into the meeting.

**3. Resources:** another reason to keep “chat” enabled during the meeting is that many attendees recommend useful books, web sites, YouTube videos, podcasts, etc., related to recovery. Dan has been compiling many of those resources and offered to make them available for the SRG web site for “resources.” Courtney expressed concern that some web site links are safe but are then linked to spam or other junk email sites, so he urged us to exercise caution and to not use commercial web sites (such as rehab centers, etc., where there may be more risk for inadvertent invitation of spam email once the link is activated). The group agreed that Dan will compile list of said resources obtained from SRG chat and attendees’ shares, ensure there are no obvious inadvertent links for spam, then email that list to Courtney for his final review. Once Courtney is satisfied the list is “safe” (i.e., free of spam-links), the list of resources will be emailed to all SRG home group members so that the list can be reviewed, assessed, and then be voted on at next Group Conscience meeting – if the Group Conscience at that meeting approves the list of resources, that list will then be posted on the SRG web site. We agreed to add a disclaimer that the list of resources provided are not endorsements per se and are listed as adjuncts to recovery only. Courtney said he would work on the exact wording for the disclaimer.

**4. IGR (Intergroup Representative) discussion**: Courtney encourages each individual SRG group to have its own IGR, as is allowed, to ensure as many Secular AA votes as possible. Voting occurs regularly in IOAA. There may be daily updates from IOAA and IGRs are often given up to a week before a vote. There are various IOAA committees. It is recommended that anyone interested in becoming their group’s IGR to go to the web site <https://aa-intergroup.org/about-aa/oiaa-members/join-oiaa> to find out how to apply to be IGR for a group. There is no requirement that a group have a Group Conscience meeting in order to elect an IGR. Per IOAA rules, the IGR must have at least one year of continuous recovery and attend that particular meeting regularly. Each SRG group is authorized to have one IGR and one alternate IGR, with only the IGR having voting privileges.

**5. Schedule for Hosts and Timers**

**Designated Hosts and Timekeepers**:

Sunday – Host: Marty B. - Timer: Mark S

Monday – Host: Courtney; Timer – Robert F

Tuesday – Men’s Meeting: Host: Courtney S. - Timer: Dan W

 - Beginners Meeting - Hosts: Robin H and Gail. Timer: not necessary now

Wednesday – Host: Courtney S. - Timer: Mike (Ecuador)

Thursday – Host: Bob R. - Timer: TBD

Friday – Host: Dan W. - Timer: Ibby (when available)

Saturday – Host: Dan W. - Timer: Robin H.

A host recommended a noon EST mtg on Wednesdays, as it is the only day of the week where a noonish SRG meeting isn’t available. Bridget has expressed interest in being a host, Courtney will reach out to her as to her availability to be a host for the Monday or noon Wednesday meeting.

If an SRG meeting has no “designated timer,” or the timer isn’t available that particular day, the host can ask for timer volunteers. We talked about being “gentle” when interrupting people with 30 second reminders, saying their first name first, then the 30 second reminder.

**Hosts**: We agreed more women and LGBTQ+ people are needed to be hosts. Courtney has reached out to Sober She-Devils for volunteers for hosting other SRG meetings.

**Meetings**: Discussion ensued as to scheduling an LGBTQ+ meeting - Courtney will pursue and bring back to next Group Conscience meeting.

**New Business:**

1. Announcing topics in advance: to be brought up next meeting for further discussion.
2. Bridget suggested speaker meeting – we will discuss further at next Group Conscience meeting.

Submitted in service

Dan W.