SRG Group Conscience meeting 3-15-2023

**Host**: Courtney S.

**Guests**: Bob R., Peter F, Jim F., Maria, David Z., Michele, Bruce D (St. Louis), Bridget

We reviewed the minutes of February 15, 2023 and approved them.

**Old Business:**

**1. New representatives needed:**

**a. to elect new OIAA rep.** Courtney is the primary (Bob R.) is the alternate – they have   
 been voting in OIAA.

**b. to elect new AA GSR rep.** Courtney is current GSR. (need to live in West Virginia)

***Both will be tabled until next Group Conscience mtg.***

**2. Courtney continues looking for a backup IT person for the SRG website.** He said an IT person needs to able to: (1) respond to server side language inquiries; (2) be a “full stack web developer,” and (3) a member of AA. Courtney is still looking; there are people in AA who are fully capable of doing that, but none are members of our home group.

**3. Update Schedule for Hosts and Timers** – times in Eastern Standard Time, USA (meeting listing for Sober She Devils is on website, <https://secularrecoverygroup.org/sober-she-devils/> )

Sunday

(Secular on Sunday) – 1 PM: Host: Marty B.; Timer: Louise

Monday

(Speaker Monday) – noon: Host: Robert F.; Timer – Ron M

Tuesday

(Men’s Meeting)– noon: Host: Courtney S.; Timer: Dan W.

(Beginners Mtg) - 8 PM: Hosts: Robin H. and Jana S. are alternating hosts, looking   
 for a co-host and a timer; Gail L. will be substitute when she can)

Wednesday

(Wednesday IQ [Inspirational Quotes]) – noon: Host: Dan W.; Timer: Louise W.

Thursday

(Secular on Thursday) – noon: Host: Bob R. - Timer: Bruce D. (St. Louis)

Friday

(Fearless Friday) – noon: Host: Dan W.; Timer: Melissa L.

(Portuguese-speaking Secular mtg – 6a Feira Laico & Sobrio) - 7:30 PM Brazil time,   
 10:30 PM Portugal time, and 5:30 PM EST USA; Host: Ana C. and Ana Maria

Saturday

(Secular on Saturday) – 1 PM: Host: LiZa; Timer: Robin H. (alternate, Louise)

**4.** **SRG Event**: The Event Committee is comprised of Robert F., Peter F., Robin H, Michele K, Maria; said Event to be scheduled for Fall of 2023. Maria provided input to Robert and Peter.

“Rendezvous 2023,” SRG/SSD committee report 3-15-2023. Robert F provided a history of how this came to be, especially conferring with Sober She Devils. There is no conflict with the ICSAA 2024 Conference. Courtney generated a survey to membership, results of a follow-up survey indicated that preference is October 2023, Miami, Destination hotel;/resort, event to include workshops, panels, etc. the Event Committee has been meeting weekly, make decisions as indicated, and report back to Group Conscience monthly. Michele spoke with hotels in Miami area; date **October 20, 21, and 22, 2023 (arrive Friday, depart Sunday).** This was most economical of seasons)

**Robert presented work of committee (PowerPoint):** Committee jobs defined:

1. Project manager, Robert

2. Venue Manager, Michele K

3. Marketing manager (Maria T)

4. Registration Manager (open)

5. Registration at-the-conference-only Manager (Peter F) (he will handle print materials and   
 hand the registration packet to the registrants

Assumptions:

- 50 people register ; Registration fee: $180.00

- 35 rooms, individual pays for own room, plus group discount

- Mtg room supplies, a/v – will be paid for by SRG

- 4 star hotel for safety and convenience

Michele talked with 10 hotels and narrowed down to 2:

1. Hampton Inn Suites = design district

Room $181 = taxes (paid by individual)

Mtg room $1000 daily (approx.) no shuttle

2. AC by Marriot – midtown Miami (design/art disco district)

Room $219 = taxed (paid buy individually)

Mtg room $1200 daily + taxes

Most vendors want 25% deposit to hold the rooms (50 rooms)

SRG will need to pay for some of the fees so individuals don’t have to; amount to be determined; there will need to be “Incidental expenses” such as printing, handouts, perhaps a hybrid/zoom.

Peter offered to pay printing costs, lanyards, name tags, etc.

Miscellaneous concerns/comments: Peter’s question/concern: as most people will be arriving on a Friday, we don’t need meeting rooms on Friday, do need mtg rooms on Saturday, but may well not need a meeting room on Sunday; David Z wants option of registering anonymously to public; Secular AA world tagline sponsored by the Secular Recovery Group and Sober She Devils; Business tagline when working with vendors: SRG and SSD

**Needed today: SRG only pays deposits before May 15; SRG has sufficient funds to do so.**

**Volunteer hours needed:** Robert F. used several models for estimating hours of work per volunteer, assuming 50 registrants, comes out to 100 hours; volunteer time per volunteer was discussed; as there are now two members of The Event Committee who need to step down immediately from The Event Committee, there are insufficient members to do the necessary volunteer work to get this organized before the proposed date of event.

Dan and Maria said they don’t believe there is sufficient time to put organize in time for October 2023; cannot do October 2024 because ISCAA mtg is in Orlando in October 2024; discussed ensued. Event Committee was commended for their hard work in bring the event this far.

**Motion made to cancel the event for October 2023 due to insufficient time to fully prepare. *All but one person voted to cancel the SRG-SSD-sponsored mtg in October 2023.***  Courtney will keep Face Book and SRG website updated.

**5**. **SRG has been registered as an AA group with AA** General Service Office in New   
 York. SRG is registered as virtual group, AA Group # 431993; Area 73 (mainly West   
 Virginia; District 4). There are currently 2 (two) other virtual groups, one in western WA state,   
 Area 42, and one in NY, neither are secular. We are registered in Area 73, mainly West V  
 Virginia, which isn’t the geographical location that most SRG members identify.

**To be determined: if SRG will be assigned to a geographical virtual group.**

**6**. At the SRG business meeting in November 2022, the Group Conscience Decision was that SRG will   
 make a quarterly donation of $100.00 to AA GSO, and will review quarterly. (this is retained in the   
 minutes to ensure we do review this quarterly). Since we made the donation in November,   
 Courtney will make the donation in March 2023.

**7**. **Treasurer’s report**: Bob summarized as follows: The budget is not posted on the SRG website, consistent with majority of AA groups. Our PayPal Master Account balance as of today is $ 6,893.57 (not counting our “prudent reserve”, which is $2000.00). Our operating budget: today’s balance minus prudent reserve and PayPal fee is $ 4,896.57. PayPal publishes all activities with its service. PayPal is our default “bank,” both Courtney and Bob have access to it. Bob is working with PayPal to streamline this process. The difficulty is that no bank will talk with our representatives unless we are incorporated, which is a whole other convoluted process and one we prefer not undergoing (other AA groups are having the same problem with banks).

**New Business**

**1. Incorporate or not – tabled till next month**

**2. Hosts’ sharing**: Bob said some attendees have contacted him with concern that some hosts chat too much between other peoples’ shares. Per Sober She Devils, the host is not supposed to share between other people’s shares, just to acknowledge the person who shared; this is included in their script; others have said they like SRG hosts’ being personable between other peoples’ shares; Pros and cons of the host talking between shares was discussed; as was “a good moderator can balance it.” **We agreed to table this to next meeting, rather than making Group Conscience Decision today.**

Submitted in service

Dan W.