INTERGROUP MEETING

December 16, 2024, 7:00PM

1. Renaming
2. Call to Order at 7:00 PM
3. Open with the Serenity Prayer
4. Welcome to New Intergroup Representatives
    a. Valerie, Alt Rep End of the Rainbow; Steven, Under the Trees;
5. Statement of Purpose read by Chair
6. Reading of Second Tradition, short form read by Chair

    For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority — a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.
7. Chairperson's Remarks:
    a. Thank you for your support. I've served as Chair for two years and two years as Rules Chair prior to that. It's been an amazing experience and I've learned a lot about AA and about myself. The new panel will be amazing and Intergroup is in good hands.
8. Treasurer's Report – Mickey S
    a. Allen noted we had some unusual expenses (Attorney for lease issue $2,600, Moving expenses, large expense for inventory (AWSS))
    b. One IGR asked for the total cost of the move. Allen said the first and last month's rent plus security deposit was $4,478, and there were other expenses for a U-Haul truck, cleaning supplies, phone line change, and other items.
    c. One IGR asked if the revenue from sale of the new Simple Language Big Book is in the 4200 revenue accounts. Allen confirmed it is.
9. Other Reports:

a. Office Manager's Report – Allen

   i. Thank you to the 49ers Group for allowing us to rent space for our temporary office.

   ii. Hurricane relief fund has around $600 in it, and one group has already benefited from it. If your group is interested, you can come to the Central Office to discuss with Allen. Collection cans are available at Central Office. Program will run through the end of January.

   iii. One IGR asked if there is a great need among our groups for financial help following the hurricanes. Allen noted we've put the word out to groups that some amount of assistance will be available and we're waiting to see how many groups come forward.

b. District 1 Liaison Report – Allen C

c. Helpline Report – Brian G

d. Plain and Straight – Pam

e. Where and When Report – Steven S

10. A motion was made to accept all reports. Motion was seconded and all reports were accepted.

11. Old Business:

a. Election of members of Jan 2025 - Dec 2026 panel:

   i. Anniversary Dinner Chair

      a. Bob of Blind Pass Group stood. Bob has five years sobriety and has served as a GSR, IGR, Group Chair, and Intergroup volunteer. Bob was elected by acclamation.

   ii. Finance Committee Chair

      a. Pat G of Koinonia Group stood. Pat has 43 years sobriety and 20 years as an elected official where she approved many budgets. Pat was elected by acclamation

b. Vote on 2025 Intergroup Budget

   i. Motion was made to approve proposed 2025 budget

   ii. 91% of the members voted yes, 9% abstained. The budget was passed.

c. Discussion of whether to change criteria for serving as a Helpline volunteer

   From: 1 year sobriety and having worked the 12 Steps
   To: 6 months sobriety and having worked the 12 Steps

   i. One person asked what's driving the change (e.g., are we trying to find more volunteers?). Brian responded that it's largely driven by the spirit of rotation – if we had more eligible volunteers perhaps we'd ask volunteers with decades of experience if they'd open up an opportunity for those newer in

sobriety. One IGR asked if we'd considered defining the period of service for volunteers to promote rotation. Brian responded we have not.

ii. Vigorous discussion followed:

1) Most who expressed their group's preference supported one year and having worked the 12 Steps because the longer time sober provides a better experience base for fielding questions one may face as a volunteer, and having worked the Steps allows one to provide a better representation of what AA is about. One person noted that as a current volunteer he feels having a Sponsor and home group is more important than having one year sober.

2) One person noted her group questioned whether the nature of Helpline calls really makes having worked the Steps necessary. Brian explained that some of the calls really do require an understanding of the Steps to properly address. One person in support of the requirement to have worked the 12 Steps noted the 12th Step tells us our spiritual awakening is "as the result of these Steps." Another previous volunteer and Helpline Chair noted that prior to having worked the 12 Steps he didn't have a sufficient understanding of the Program to adequately represent it.

iii. On the motion to select either one year or 6 months, the initial vote resulted in 66% favoring one year and 34% favoring 6 months. (There was no vote on retaining or removing the requirement to have worked the Steps.)

iv. Following the minority opinion a second vote resulted in 60% favoring one year, 29% favoring 6 months, and 11% abstaining.

v. As a result, the requirement will remain as is.

d. Update on distribution of hurricane relief funds to groups significantly affected by the hurricanes – Covered by Allen C during the Financial Reports segment.

12. New Business - None

13. Motion was made to adjourn. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

14. Anonymity Statement - Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

15. Pass the Basket / Seventh Tradition: Every AA Group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

16. Group Announcements

a. 2250 Group will have an 8 PM meeting on Christmas Eve with Italian snacks and Fellowship to follow. On New Year's Eve (NYE) they will have fingerfood and Fellowship after the 8 PM meeting.

b. St Pete Group will have a Christmas Day 6 PM potluck dinner with a 7 PM speaker meeting to follow.

c. Blind Pass Group will have meetings every two hours NYE and New Year's Day from 9 AM to 11 PM. On NYE there will be a live band for a celebration following an 8 PM candlelight meeting. You don't have to be a Blind Pass home

group member to chair a meeting. No special meetings or events Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

d. GOYA Group will have meetings every two hours Christmas Eve to Christmas Day and NYE to New Year's Day. Volunteers are solicited to bring snacks.

e. St Pete Beach Young People's Group will have a party Sat Dec 20 following a 7:30 PM speaker meeting. Dishes for a potluck and solicited and attendees are welcome to wear their pajamas.

f. Serenity Club will have meetings every two hours starting at 8 PM Christmas Eve to Christmas Day and NYE to New Year's Day.

g. Back Porch Lunch Bunch will have frequent meetings Christmas Eve to Christmas Day.

h. The Web Chair noted that if Groups wish, they may submit their holiday plans to Intergroup to add to the event calendar on aapinellas.org by submitting an event form.

17. Recognize Anniversaries This Month–

    a. Donna C – 16 years, Jennifer K – 15 years

18. Close with Responsibility Statement