PINELLAS COUNTY STEERING COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

February 11, 2025, 7:00 PM via Zoom

Attendees:

Brian G. – Chair
Steve S. – Vice Chair
Virginia M. – Treasurer
Pam V. – Secretary
Allen C. – Central Office Manager
Rick J.– Helpline
Sam R. – Rules Committee
Joe G. – Web Chair
Danielle T. – Where & When
Pat G. – Finance Committee

- Opened with "We" version of Serenity Prayer.
- Reading of Reports

  - **Financials/Treasurer's Report** – Virginia M.

    The balance sheet is cash checking, and the savings reserve is 64,936 and that agrees with the March bank statement reconciliation. The P&L statement of activity for March gross revenue is 5% under budget.

    Contributions We're 21% over budget, but the merchandise sales were 18 and a half under budget.

    And while the anniversary dinner revenue was under budget, the cost for the dinner was under budget also, which made the net revenue $3,154, which was more than what was budgeted for net revenue by 8%.

    Total expenditure for March was under budget by 2% and our net revenue for March was $4,217, which was 4% better than what was budgeted.

    Moving to year to date. The gross revenue is 6% below the budgeted revenue or off $2,252.

    Contributions were 21% over budget, but the merchandise sales were 18.5% under budget.

Cost of goods and services was under budget, so it lowered that 6% by 2% and the gross profit the actual gross profit was $1,264 below budget.

- **Central Office Manager's Report** – Allen C. – See report
- **D1 District Liaison** Report – Loralei Not in attendance – See report
- **Helpline/12 Step Report** – Rick J. – Nothing to report
- **Plain & Straight Report** – Bill S. – Not in attendance – See report
    - Bill needs to submit the Plain and Straight for review prior to sending it to the printer.
- **Website/Tech Report** – Joe G. – No Report
- **Where & When Committee Report** – Danielle T.
  We have about 300 booklets in the central office. We can discuss if you guys want to go ahead and print our next round. We should talk to a minute man see if we'll see if they could give us a what the cost would be if we reduced it down to maybe $1,500 since we got 300 left now. It was decided to go to the next round to see if we still have a lot leftover and reduce the quantity of the prints. Steve wants to introduce Danielle to the printer and even talk to other printers.
- **Finance Committee** – Pat G. – No Report
  Achieva has the best rates for short term for seven-month CDs, they have 4.4%. The others are. Anywhere from 3.44 to 4.02. And it would be easy to just move some money over there no penalties for withdrawal. So that's my recommendation.
- **Unity Meeting Report** – Dee Dee – Not in attendance – See report
- **Anniversary Dinner Report** – Not in attendance – See report
- **Picnic Report** – Sterling M. – Not in attendance. Allen said they are going to load the truck on Saturday to get the food. And they talked about picnic tables for the pavilion for the shelter. They have a setup crew. They have a breakdown crew. We got the waste crew. They got the waste cans. They got the permit taken care of. They got the insurance done. Everything is pretty much in play right now, except for the tables and chairs, which they are working on it. People need to know to bring their own chairs.

- **Rules Report** – Sam R. – No report

Sam submitted his suggested bylaws changes to the executive committee, and I think that that got sent out to everybody.

Sam went to the James Club with Steve towards the end of the month last month and got an idea of what was going on. And then went down at the assembly talk to a delegate and talked to several people and said, this is what's going on there. And they were consistent about their suggestions back to us. And I can elaborate, but that's the gist of my update.
First, I want to kind of address the motions.
There were two motions submitted, both of which had to deal with hybrid meetings. The first was talking about, they said, I would like to propose that we conduct a financial analysis, when I was doing the review of the bylaws, He saw that the way that our motion process was conducted for that specific motion last month. That was not done in accordance with how our bylaws are written.
So, the process should have been a discussion of votes, a minority opinion. It's a motion to reconsider what it is.

Prior to the going over the motion itself. We are, by our bylaws, we're supposed to express the financial impact that any of the emotions have. So, we had the financial report. Here's the motion and here's our financial due diligence to whatever is being brought up.

There was another motion submitted a few hours ago to make a motion to have a hybrid meeting again. I think there also needs to be a How do we make it so that every month you know somebody keeps submitting the motion like I'm going to keep screaming until you hear me. And we went over right of appeal.

- **Old Business**

Website – Allen got 3 bids The first bid is from the website, Design Corporation. This corporation is in Dennis, Texas. We don't use Facebook or Twitter or YouTube or none of that stuff. He just threw it.
I explained to him that we need to make our website more user friendly. He said they can put a news feed integration in, which will have like a calendar of the meetings like on the front page opposed to having people struggle looking for pictures and all this stuff and make it a custom Up-to-date modernized website. His price for redoing our website was $1350. So that was one of them that we had. With 20 days of training to manage the site he would train multiple people on how to use the site.

The 2nd company actually redid the District 1 website in Pinellas County. This was one of the higher bids. It would cost $15,000 to $20,000 to do the website. Allen talked to this guy, and he dropped it down to 7,900, it was like, okay, so we're not going to be paying all this it's not going to cost us as much as I thought. The premium hosting, that's just an option. We have SiteGround that we already paid for, so we won't be paying that $105 a month. He just put that in there just in case we needed his company to host us.? He also stated that he would train us also.

The third one is from a guy in Largo, Florida. He basically said that he will, he used to be a member of AA actually but talking to him i felt way more comfortable talking to this guy per se, even though the other guy did the district website. I don't know if he was a good salesman or whatever it was.
But he said that he said, first he gave me an analysis of our website. He went on there.
And he said that he can condense our website down He said he thinks we have way too many pages on there. And he said he can condense that. And he said he can make it.
More user-friendly, way easier to use. He just said that he can hook that the way the district's website looks, he said he can make ours 10 times better.

So, he went through it and he went through our website and he started listing all these things about how he can make our website work. This was his proposal is $2,800. But then he also states there, this project has a monthly return of $50 a month. It includes being on call for any changes or updates, which we can decline. But he also said that he would train and help us out also, So I understand the website.
Brian made the recommendation for two or three of the steering committees that understand website language come back with a recommendation for the steering committee on what we should pick. Danielle, Joe, and Allen will review.

James club – Sam and Steve went to visit the group and talked to delegates at the last Assembly. they continue to be a religious meeting, then that's what they are. They're a religious recovery meeting

and do not send new people there. They can say whatever they want to. They're a group of individuals. They are not an AA meeting based on what we would recommend as an AA meeting, and we would be harming if we would suggest that they are AA meeting and we're suggesting newcomers go there.

By-law non-profit lawyer - Allen consulted two attorneys. Sam has given us a list of recommendations that were sent out a week or two ago about some of the bylaws and roles and positions. We're presently not conforming to the Florida nonprofit Laws now. We need to have our bylaws rewritten.
There are two quotes that came in and they were talking about doing a complete redraft of the bylaws. One was just crazy, so I'm not even going to mention it. And the second one was 1500. This sounded more reasonable. And he explained about the defining of the roles and the Nonprofit Act of Florida, and they would do a complete rewrite of the bylaws with our input per se with our input of the of the of the steering committee the officers. Virginia said there is money in the budget that will not be used this year and can go to the lawyer.
Pam Made a motion that we hire the lawyer to put us in compliance with our bylaws. The motion was seconded and approved.

CD – Pat G made a Motion was made a motion to put our prudent reserve, a certain percentage of it think if we put $25,000 in short-term CDs, which we can take out immediately if we need to or after a week. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion mistakes by Chair – Brian brought up the fact that we need to revote on the mistake made last month but also that only a few reps were there to vote on the Hybrid meeting. Steve will be prepared to give the Financial Analysis that was done. We also need to bring up that someone will need to be there every time to set up equipment and take it back down and to chair the meeting. We will need someone to stand for the Technology Chair. Joe said in District there is one person who is at the in person meeting handling the technology and another at home handling the Zoom portion of the meeting.

Open positions web chair alt

- Tec chair – Still looking for someone
- Vol chair – Sissy said she was considering but hasn't confirmed

Training for new reps - Steve said he may have the training ready by June and we could announce it at the next IG meeting.

New Business

- **Microsoft publisher expires** - Bill Shanklin recommends Adobe – Pam has asked Bill for clarification and costs. Still pending.
- **Office changes with walls etc**. – The group was tasked with coming up with some ideas. Ask around. Take a poll.

- **Prudent Reserve –** Virginia said we are about $1000 off our 4-month Prudent Reserve based on our current rent. Allen said other Intergroups are holding a 6-month Prudent Reserve. Virginia said that it would increase it to $50,000. The group decided that we have financial projects in the works right now and will stay with the 4-month Prudent reserve until we finish those projects.
- Motion Submitted online to have Hybrid IG Meeting – How do we handle the same motions that keep coming in over and over again. There is something in the newcomer packet that says if a motion fails, it cannot be brought back for 6 months. Or do we say has there been any reasonable change or any realistic time to reconsider this. For this motion, we are bringing it back to give the financial analysis for consideration and follow through with a re-vote. Other than that, the body cannot keep bringing motions over and over again unless something changes.

10. AA Related Announcements
11. Motion to Adjourn
12. Close with Responsibility Statement:

    "I am Responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."

13. Anniversaries this month