

# GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018

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(These Minutes approved by Floor Members)

The meeting convened at 8 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Rick (Alternate, One Paragraph at a Time) read the Twelve Traditions.

**THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Aurora, Back to Basics (Richmond Hill), Beaches, Beverly Hills, Birds of a Feather, Bloordale, Church Street, Danforth, Deer Park, Erin Mills, Fellowship, Friendly, Glenholme, High Park, Hill, King City, Kingsway, Leslie, Living Sober, Long Branch, Markham Village, Markland Wood, Meadowvale Fellowship, Midtown, Mount Royal-York, New Anchor, Night Owls, Newmarket, North Toronto, OISE Discussion, One Paragraph at a Time, Queensville, Richmond Hill, River Drive Park, Rox Glen Traditional, Saturday Morning Discussion, Silverbirch, Sisters in Sobriety, Stepping Stones Discussion, Steps to Serenity, Streetsville St. Andrews, Sunnyside, Twelfth Tradition, Welcome, Westmoreland, and Yorkville.

**District Liaisons:** Districts 12, 18, and 22.

**Executive Committee Members:** Bert J. (EC Chair), Dave R., Katrina E., Laura V., Nina L. (EC Vice Chair), Sue G., and Trisha R. (Finance Committee member).

**Subcommittee Chairs:** Archives, Correctional Facilities, and Finance.

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES – June 2018:**

**MOTION** to adopt Minutes as presented moved by Mike C. (Beverly Hills) and seconded by Charlene (Fellowship). **MOTION CARRIED.**

## **Chairperson's Opening Remarks- Bert J. (Silverbirch), EC Chairperson:**

"I would like to welcome everyone to this assembly. We have many things to cover tonight." Bert then read the following:

## **Help Is Urgently Needed!**

### **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS for the Phones at 234, especially the overnight shifts!**

**OVERNIGHT PHONE SHIFT:** We are looking for a full volunteer roster of 26 people for this shift. That would mean that a volunteer would be on for weeks' total. 2 weeks in first position and 2 in second and this would be spaced 6 months apart. This is an ideal situation. More would be better and we can and have functioned with less.

**Currently there are only 7 volunteers for the overnight phones!** We urge you to please spread the word and let people know that we need volunteers for the phones for all positions, but especially overnight or it is very likely that it will be shut down.

At the Reception table, there is a **Twelfth Step Volunteer Package**. The first page explains what Twelfth Step Work involves, what the Twelfth Step Committee does, the sobriety requirements for both phone work and Twelfth Step Volunteer work, and information on how to get trained for the phones and apply to be on the Twelfth Step List (page is also on our website under Subcommittees). Attached to this sheet are **2 application forms** for the phones: days/evenings/weekend shifts, and the overnight shift. **Please take this package back to your groups and spread the word!**

After asking if any new Reps were present (one new Rep noted), he asked that – when addressing the Floor – members give their name, group, and service position. *Members of the EC then introduced themselves to Floor members.*

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There was a **Suspension of Regular Business** moved by Mickey (High Park) and seconded by Mike C. (Beverly Hills) in order to **elect three (3) new EC members immediately**. After explaining the sobriety requirements (2 years of continuous sobriety + 6 month's experience as an Intergroup Rep in the past or at the present time) and service position responsibilities (attending two meetings a month, plus a subcommittee liaison responsibility once a month), Bert asked for nominees/volunteers from the Floor. **Danielle R. (Stepping Stones) was nominated for the position and accepted**, and will serve as a new EC member.

**Elections for 2 more EC members will be held at the July General Meeting.** **Please announce at your groups!** (Please see the August issue of the Better Times for more details on this service and other service opportunities)

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There was a **collection of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition**, which totaled **\$190.70**.

**FINANCE REPORT – Trisha R. (Stepping Stones), Finance Committee Member:**

**Toronto Intergroup Finance Report at June 30, 2018**

	Actual June 2018	Budget June 2018	Actual YTD 2018	Budget YTD 2018
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$19,013</b>	<b>\$19,011</b>	<b>\$122,275</b>	<b>\$114,845</b>
1) Donations	\$6,815	\$4,500	\$43,713	\$26,000
2) Literature Sales	\$8,017	\$10,417	\$53,491	\$62,500
3) Other Income	\$4,181	\$4,094	\$25,071	\$26,345
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$23,822</b>	<b>\$25,741</b>	<b>\$141,135</b>	<b>\$163,963</b>
1) COGS	\$7,259	\$9,050	\$45,920	\$54,021
2) Committee Expenses	\$1,275	\$1,592	\$8,403	\$10,665
3) Operating Expenses	\$8,821	\$8,438	\$50,269	\$59,309
4) Staff Costs	\$6,467	\$6,662	\$36,543	\$39,969
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-\$4,809</b>	<b>-\$6,730</b>	<b>-\$18,860</b>	<b>-\$49,118</b>
<b>Summary:</b>				
June above budget by	<b>-\$1,921</b>		<b>-\$30,258</b>	

**Additional Comments from Trisha:**

- we recorded a \$5,000 net loss, which is \$2,000 better than the budgeted loss figure
- this upswing in finances is due to higher donations. There are lower recorded literature sales, however
- we are ahead budget-wise in June and annually thus far

**PayPal Account:** members can give donations through the website. We pay \$39 per month for this donation option. Currently, only one member is utilizing this feature for regular donations. There is a PayPal link on our website. Members do not need a credit card to utilize this feature.

**Group Insurance Form:** this option is now available to members for group insurance purposes for meeting spaces. Please email [admin@aatoronto.org](mailto:admin@aatoronto.org) for further information.

**Rental Inquiries for More Cost-Efficient Meeting Space:** The EC and FC are pursuing the possibility of a more economical meeting space for our monthly Intergroup Meeting and the upcoming Concepts (one-day) Workshop event.

**Audit:** the Audit Report is not available to members for this meeting (printer issues). Please email [admin@aatoronto.org](mailto:admin@aatoronto.org) for the Audit Report. We anticipated a lower audit fee for this process (approx. \$7,000), however it was approx. a \$10,000 cost this year, due to 8 pages of adjustments. 67% of these adjustments were related to the ORC Event (previous bookkeeper entries + timing, as the ORC wraps up when the audit occurs). Out of the adjustments that related to Intergroup some of the common issues arose; misclassification of accruals (accounts payable), and also there was no adjustments for changes in fair-market values.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

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### **ACCESSIBILITY – No Report.**

*Accessibility now meets bi-monthly. Next meeting:* Sun. Sept.16 at 11 a.m. at 234.

### **ARCHIVES – Gord H. (Bloordale), Chairperson:**

Our **34<sup>th</sup> Annual Archives Breakfast** on **November 4, 2018**, will be held at the Oasis Convention Centre on the Lakeshore near Dixie Rd. We are arranging for a speaker and other details. Tickets and flyers for the event will be ready in September. *Mark that date on your calendar.*

We also maintain group histories in the repository at 234. If a group is celebrating a birthday, check with our Archivists for the history of your group. Also, the 4 Archives (portable) displays that we maintain are also available for Service Days and Group Anniversaries. Any members that would like to check out information at 234 can make an appointment with our Archivists (Eddy and Jim) or myself.

Another item discussed at our meeting (and passed by a motion) is the start of a 75-80 year book 'AA in Ontario'. This book will probably take approximately 3 years to produce and go to print. It will be about 250 pages in colour. Do any members have any editorial experience? Our committee would love to hear from you!

If there are any members that have an interest in Archives, you are most welcome to attend our meeting on the *second Friday of the month* at 234. Also, all members are welcome to attend at 234 to see the 25' floor-to-ceiling Archives Display.

*"Whenever a society or civilization perishes there is always one condition present: they forgot where they came from" – Carl Sandburg* Yours in Service, Gord H., GTAI Archives Chair. **Next Meeting:** Fri. Aug.10 at 7 p.m. at 234.

### **COMMUNICATIONS–Nina L. (Sisters in Sobriety), EC Liaison:**

*Email report submitted by immediate past Chair, Chris C. (Hill):* We are preparing for a new print run of the meeting guide. *Better Times* needs help and new issues are available in paper and online shortly. The website is being maintained and our digital literature project continues to move ahead.

*Additional reporting by Nina:* We need help on this committee, in the form of artistic/digitizing/editing contributions. For changes to meeting guide: groups are asked to please submit their changes online [www.aatoronto.org](http://www.aatoronto.org) (under 'Meeting Changes'). Online Literature Store initiative: we are still trying to fix 'glitches' such as PayPal function to service the online store.

A member inquired as to whether there could be an indicator on the meeting listings which would let members know which meetings in the GTA are dog-friendly; Nina answered that it is up to the individual groups to indicate this feature in the 'details' section of meeting listings on the website.

**Meeting cancelled for August. Next meeting:** Tues. September 11 at 6:30 p.m. at 234.

### **INFORMATION AA DAY 2018 –No Report.**

*The Information AA Day 2019 Committee meetings resume in September. Next meeting:* Mon. Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

### **ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2019 – No Report.**

### **TWELFTH STEP –No Report.**

**Next meeting:** Wed. Aug. 8 at 7 p.m. at 234.

## **DISTRICT REPORTS**

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### **CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES –Dave H. (Queensville), District 14 CF Chair:**

I am an alcoholic and my name is Dave H. I am a member of the Queensville Group and it is my honour and privilege to serve as your Intergroup Corrections Subcommittee Chair. All District Corrections Chairs and anyone else interested are urged to attend the Committee meeting at 234 on the first Wed of every second month so we can better coordinate the efforts of our facilities volunteers to serve the incarcerated members. The last meeting was on July 4. It is important to have all District Corrections Chairs and interested members attend this meeting so we can plan and implement our volunteer commitments to these facilities and the alcoholic inmates. This is very important service work.

From District 22 Gale R reports that they have been getting into Metro East lately and they are currently looking for AA members who qualify to put on the Sun evening meetings.

The Corrections Chair for District 6 has stepped down due to personal commitments and we are fortunate that Rafael S. of the Leslie Group has stepped up to be the AA Liaison with the Toronto South Detention Centre. Raf and I met with the Volunteer Coordinator at the jail and we are getting our procedures set back in place at this time. Raf will coordinate with this Committee, the existing and new upcoming AA volunteers and the jail.

We are always looking to supply our incarcerated members with AA literature, particularly the beginner pamphlets and copies of the Grapevine. I have recently had a great response for donated Grapevines and the Literature Dept. has provided us with Intergroup labels for them to give inmates a point of contact when they are released. If your members or group have older copies of the Grapevine we can really use them for the inmates. I can be reached for more information through the email at [corrections@aatoronto.org](mailto:corrections@aatoronto.org). We are also looking to reintegrate the Bridging the Gap program which attempts to get a just released member a contact in their home area so they can get to an AA meeting right away. I will follow up when we have more concrete information.

Both jails have experienced, as usual, a considerable number of lockdowns which prevents us from entering to help share the message. As always, patience is required.

Again, I urge all members who are involved in Corrections or have an interest, to attend the bimonthly meetings at 234. They are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> month in the boardroom at 7:30. The **next meeting** will be Sept 5, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Also please contact us through the email, [corrections@aatoronto.org](mailto:corrections@aatoronto.org) if you are interested, there is a 2 year sobriety requirement, a Police CPIC from your local Police force, application forms and several interviews and orientation. This can be a lengthy process, and not all applicants are approved to have access for various reasons. Please be patient!

YLS, Dave H.

**COOPERATION with the PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC) Katrina E.** (Steps to Serenity), **EC Liaison:**  
**Submitted by:** Katrina E. (OC Liaison for CPC), on behalf of Kelly, CPC Committee Chair

- 3 CPC reps in attendance (2 others provided updates), plus chair and Intergroup Liaison
- Briefly discussed the Bring a Professional night on June 11, which was attended by 4 professionals, 3 panelists, plus AA and CPC committee members
- CPC reps present are active in their districts and described current activities
- Committee decided not to hold a CPC meeting in August, so the next meeting will be Sept. 10

**Next meeting:** Mon. Aug.13 at 7 p.m. at 234.

**GRAPEVINE- No Verbal Report.**

The following email report **submitted by:** Katrina Easton, Intergroup Liaison on behalf of the GV committee

- GV committee meets bi-monthly and I attended the committee meeting in July. There were 2 GV reps present (D6, D22), and a report from one other.
- Reps present have been busy attending groups in their district to bring awareness to GV materials and attending special events such as medallions and a recent conference. GV will be represented at the upcoming Secular conference being held in August by one of the reps. GV will be publishing a new book on Secular AA in September which should be available soon.
- Area GV chair provided subscription prices. He also said he would not make any more bulk orders this year. He mentioned that his purchases are not just for the GTA, but also for Ottawa, Kingston and other groups in Area 83.
- The group was appreciative to hear that Intergroup had lowered their prices on GV books, to encourage purchase from Intergroup rather than directly from GV in NY.
- Time of the meeting may be changed to 7:00 from 7:30.

**Next meeting:** Thurs. Sept.27 at 7:30 p.m. at 234 (*committee meets bi-monthly*).

**PUBLIC INFORMATION –No Report.**

**Next Meeting:** P.I. will next meet on Monday September 17, 2017 (*no summer meetings for July or August*).

**SELF SUPPORT –No Report.**

**Next meeting:** Thurs. Aug. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at 234 (*committee meets bi-monthly*).

**TREATMENT- No Report.**

**Next meeting:** Thurs. Aug.16 at 7:30 p.m. at 234.

**RECEPTION – Katrina E. (Steps to Serenity), EC Member:**

Present this evening were 37 Group Reps, 12 Alternate Reps, 3 Districts, 3 visitors, and 3 subcommittee chairs.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS from Previous Meetings: No Unfinished Business.**

**Request for Boardroom Usage:** Bert informed the Floor that there was a written request presented to the EC from a group of members who are planning an upcoming AA event (Big Book Study Event) and need usage of our boardroom for planning purposes. Bert asked for direction from the Floor on this item (for example: a Motion from the Floor).

**MOTION** moved by Dan B. (Midtown) and seconded by Mary Ann B. (Night Owls) that the Big Book Study Event Committee be able to utilize the Boardroom for planning the event. **Motion Carried** (1 opposing vote and 3 abstentions noted).

**Gratitude Month Campaign:** Bert informed Floor members that **volunteers are needed** to assist with stuffing and labeling envelopes for the upcoming Gratitude Flyer mail-out (September). Please call 234 if interested in helping us out.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CLOSING REMARKS:** Bert again thanked everyone for attending this evening, and thanked those members (Steve P. and Rick) who worked hard at setting up this meeting, and added that “all your help was much appreciated!”

Bert asked for assistance from members in helping to clean up after the meeting, and reminded everyone about the recycling protocol for the church: *please respect this space!*

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Declaration.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** **Tuesday, August 28, 2018 at 8 p.m. at Timothy Eaton Church, 230 St. Clair Avenue West** (west from St. Clair subway station on Yonge). Meeting will be held in the Flora McCrae Auditorium.