

General Service Reps Meeting
August 16, 2021
Virtual meeting

Marty opened the meeting at 7:30pm with the Declaration of Unity and read a piece on Unity written by Bill W.

Minutes from June GSR meeting were screen shared. Ann accepted the motion. Barbara seconds

Announcement: Steve could not fulfill his commitment as second Alt. DCM. The position is now open

Karen R - Treasurer's Report

- Expenses \$1,235 to Jim C for Archives Workshop
- \$15.08 to Zoom
- \$1,300 to Unity Breakfast which included Tech 12
- We are in the red these past 2 months due to Archives Workshop and Unity Breakfast
- \$841.00 positive for the year
- Motion to accept - Dylan, LICYPAA

Marty – DCMC

- Read short form of Tradition 5, for group purposes he also read Traditions 1, 2, and 12

Tom B. - SENY Delegate A49/p71

- Will speak for 30 minutes about his 71st Conference experience which included:
 - A June 12th slideshow to SENY. To review his presentation and slideshow go to AASENY.org/From-the-delegate. His contact information will also be there if you need it
 - The theme was AA in a time of change.
 - Spoke about how the committee works - substantial unanimity = $\frac{2}{3}$ vote.
 - Discussed floor actions, the conference acts for AA as a whole
 - Each delegate/trustee has 1 equal vote. Each item voted on had to be unanimous
 - Trustee CPC chair will do a deep dive at the end of October on how to utilize LinkedIn etc.
 - We'll have a trustees focus group which will include psychiatrists, trustees etc.
 - Updated pamphlet from "To Clergy to Faith leaders" to be more inclusive
- Delegates Questionnaire
 - Tom voted in favor for online groups to be accepted and admitted. The 319 group was the first online group admitted.
- Big Book Advisory Act
 - 5th edition of the Big Book will refresh stories online to reflect the current membership as well as a new 4th Edition of the Spanish language Big Book.
 - The plain language Big Book is a translation, i.e., for people with very little literary skills (some of the incarcerated community). This passed with substantial unanimity.

- All 49 actions were approved in their entirety by the General Service Board
- On June 10th we celebrated the 86th anniversary of A.A. and we are still not fully self-supporting where literature is concerned
- The Spiritual Journey-A.A. Preamble
 - The advisory was to degenderize literature except for Bill's writing
 - Gender neutral language for the preamble. This was floor action number 3 and "people" was voted in.
 - Grapevine/La Vina owns the preamble so legally they had to make the decision. It took 4 years of discussion before they changed it.
 - Preamble was approved as a policy change. Tradition 4 says "each group is autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole"
 - If you're not using this new Preamble you cannot call it the A.A. Preamble. You can call it whatever you want but you cannot call it the A.A. Preamble.
 - So if it goes to a group conscience and you decide to go with the original Preamble, again, do not call it the A.A. Preamble
 - As far as the Preamble is concerned, it's not just about our LGBTQ community, but it's also about young people in A.A. may not stay because young people identify today with inclusiveness.
 - Our SENY-Intergroup liaison in 2019 said "This was a hot topic at the assembly as it was so heated. Question to Tom, do you feel this would divide us in A.A. because of strong opinions and divisiveness? This is not the first time we've dealt with controversial issues in A.A. Bill W. said 'What the heck are we afraid of?'"
- Concerns from the floor
 - Is A.A. becoming politicized with gender neutral language?
 - 126 out of 132 from the advisory board voted for the Preamble Change
 - One member asked if he could write a letter to remove those changes and was told he could submit a motion?
 - A person representing his LGBTQ homegroup stated, "These changes matter and are very important to us."
 - Same member brought up the advisory of changing the 7 Deadly Sins in the 12 n 12, page 66 reads "No one wants to be angry enough to murder, lustful enough to rape, gluttonous enough to ruin his health" Will be revised to read "No one wants to commit the deadly sins of anger, lust or gluttony" because members of A.A. were potentially triggered if they have had a trauma like rape or perhaps a family member was murdered.
 - Still waiting for the disposition of this advisory action
- The printed copy of the 71st Annual Conference will be received by Tom, our SENY delegate in September/October. There will be enough copies for those that want it.
- If anyone would like a hard copy of the Preamble they will find it in the back of any new Grapevine/La Vina

- Marty closed with meeting at 9:03pm with a portion of the Role of the GSR from the GSR pamphlet followed by the Responsibility Statement