

Mid-Shore Intergroup Minutes – AUGUST 9, 2023
Church of the Brethren, 412 S. Harrison St., Easton, MD 21601

Attendees:

Andy M., Wed. Night Beginners, Easton	Jane Tolar, Treasurer
Anne E., Eye Opener, Queenstown (zoom)	Jim C., Kent Island Zoom, Chester
Barbara W., Tues Big Book, Easton	Jim R., Oxford Group, Oxford
Bob N., As Bill Sees It, Stevensville	Keith L., Wed Beginners, Queenstown
Carrie G., Tues Bkfst Mtg, Chester (zoom)	Meg. G., Chair
Chris M., Happy Hour, Stevensville	Mike M., Mon Night Step, Chester (zoom)
Frank B., Big Book, Cambridge	Nancy A., Secretary
Ginger G., Thursday Zoom, Queenstown	Patti O., Hillsboro Groups, Hillsboro (zoom)
Gy, I., Variety in Sobriety, Queenstown (zoom)	Will S., (zoom)

Opening

The meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer and the Declaration of Unity.

Agenda and Quorum

- Please say your name when making comments.
- All gave permission to record. The recording will be deleted after notes are written.
- A quorum was established.

Officer Reports

Chair - Meg G.

- Attended two of the Sunday Open Houses
- Attended the MD State Convention; Area 29 Delegate Report
- Attended the Activities Committee initial meeting.
- Established the Executive Committee for MSIG Officers and Committee Chairs and attended the first meeting.
- Administrative work: Google/Zoom/Minutes/Website
- Stayed in touch with all officers and committee chairs.

Vice Chair - Matt S. (absent)

Matt is implementing the project of taking MSIG settings on the road each quarter. The first one will be to Dorchester in October or November. Per Chris M. Wednesday night Centreville meeting is open and able to accommodate us for QA County.

Treasurer - Jane T.

- Jane underestimated the transfer of documents so will have both July and August reports at the September meeting.

- Jane talked with Caitlin, DCO Chair, about tech and switching a format. She will also be asking questions of the Executive Committee and Budget and Finance Committee regarding tax status, hiring the auditor, etc.

Secretary - Nancy A.

A motion was made to accept the July 12, 2023 minutes with an amendment to include Chris M. as an attendee. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Activities Committee - Anne E.

- Homegroups are being asked if they'd like to host an activity supported by the Intergroup. A flyer has been created to take to homegroups. Rachel C. is the contact person. 410-819-9162.
- The group is also working on the Alcahons that will be coming up for the holidays.
- A special Spring activity is being planned called the Amazing Race to Sobriety.
- Frank asked if there are any plans for a picnic like the one we had at Richardson Beach. The Founders Day picnic was held in June.
- If anyone has ideas for activities please send Anne an email at info@midshoreintergroup.org.

Budget and Finance Committee - Jane T.

- The committee has not met yet although Jim R. and Jane have had some discussions.
- The Budget and Finance Committee will need to be included in the Bylaws as an ad hoc committee and a basic structure for the committee will be developed. Jim R. is working on the language for the Bylaws.
- The committee will be working on a budget for 2024.
- A question was asked about the fiscal year. The fiscal year is July 1-June 30.
- Jim R. reported that he has reached out to accounting firms in the area and they recommended that an audit was not necessary, but a review of the books would be more appropriate and less expensive.

Office Management - Ginger G.

- Ginger distributed flyers with the weekly desk schedule and Desk Worker Volunteer Instructions.
- Also provided was a 12-step contact list. If someone wants to be available for 12-step calls, pass this form around in your homegroups asking interested people to complete. Return completed forms to Ginger.
- The Open Houses were a huge success.
- There are two new desk workers.
- We have new grapevine books, new 12 & 12 books and a braille edition of the Big Book.

- The answering service took 23 calls between 7/13-8/9/23. Five were hang-ups, 16 wanted meeting information and two said they'd call back. A man called needing Frederick area meetings and **Ginger G.** will direct him to the West Central office.
- Making 12-step calls should be discussed with a sponsor before committing.

Corrections and Treatment Facilities - Will S. reporting for Lisa B.

Treatment:

- The only treatment center left to contact is the Whitsit Center. Once we have contacted Whitsit Center, all treatment centers, Warwick Manor, Avenues, and Choptank, will have been contacted.
- Bridging the Gap - The next step is to bring a BTG workshop to the Cambridge area.

Corrections:

We call each facility and if they have the meetings, we find out the schedules, if they need literature or do they allow literature and what we can bring into the facility. We are building relationships with these facilities.

- Queen Anne's County has solid meetings and are fully staffed.
- Talbot County has solid meetings and are fully staffed.
- Kent County has to get back to Will. They will allow meetings there which will start soon.
- Caroline County - Needs followup.
- Dorchester County - We have the contacts and will follow up.

Digital Communications and Outreach - Keith L.

Digital Communications:

- Slight modifications were made to the website and some pages were updated.
- "Are There Any Announcements" flyer can be found under Meeting Documents.
- A link to the Meeting Guide was added to the footer of the website.
- 472 unique visitors to the site - 71% were new visitors.

Outreach:

The committee is taking an Intergroup Road Trip to the Denton Beginners Meeting at St. Lukes Church on August 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

The Baltimore Intergroup passed along a request to post a local Spanish speaking meeting on our website and on the Meeting Guide, which was done. The meeting is held on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Easton, "Fuente de Vida." It is not a registered meeting. **Andy M.**, Outreach, agreed to visit the meeting and give them registration information.

New Business

- The Bylaws are not updated with all of the changes that were voted on. The Operating Guidelines also need to be updated. **Nancy A.** will update. She and Ginger G. will collaborate.
- The Plain Language Big Book Project is underway. The book is being rewritten in simple language so anyone can understand it. This will be treated like another Big Book translation and is being managed by the Accessibilities Committee. On August 20, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. a zoom meeting will be held to explain this project. The flyer is attached.
- We want to establish a communications protocol that works for everyone. Is everyone checking emails? Do our formats work for everyone? Are there any issues with those formats? Please let Meg know if there are any concerns.
- We are beginning to use Google Drive and Sheets. There is a folder for every officer. We are working out how we will share it and access it. Some of us are just learning how to use the Google platform.

Open Items

Meg G. requested that she represent MSIG at the 38th ICOAA Seminar hosted by Greater Cincinnati Intergroup in October. It is a robust conference with important topics and education and past MSIC reps have found it valuable. The cost will be approximately \$1,000 for 3 days. **A motion was made to have Meg G. attend the 38th ICOAA Seminar on October 12-15 2023 in Cincinnati, Ohio and for the intergroup to fund this trip. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy A., Secretary