

## Mid-Shore Intergroup Minutes – JANUARY 10, 2024

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Centreville

### **Attendees**

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|---|--|
| Ali S., Grapevine, Stevensville (zoom)      | Kim C.   |
| Anna M., Seeking Serenity, Cambridge        | Lisa B., Bridging the Gap                          |
| Anne E., Eye Opener, Queenstown             | Jonathan M., On the Right Track, Hurlock           |
| Barbara W., Tues Big Book, Easton (zoom)    | Keith L., Tuesday Wed Big Book,                    |
| Bob N., As Bill Sees It, Stevensville       | Lisa B., Corrections and Treatment                 |
| Caitlin L. DCO Chair (zoom)                 | Matt S., Vice Chair, Easton                        |
| Don S., Stepping Stones, Easton             | Meg G., MSIG Chair, Hillsboro Group                |
| Emily W., Wed Big Book, Stevensville (zoom) | Mike W., On the Right Track, Hurlock               |
| Henry B., Stevensville Th. Night (zoom)     | Nancy A., MSIG Secretary, Eye Opener               |
| Jane T., Treasurer                          | Patti O., Hillsboro                                |
| Jim R., Oxford Group, Oxford                | Will M., Corrections Committee, Grasonville        |
| John McQ, BYOL, Easton                      | Lori McP., Towson's Women's, Area 29 Alt. Delegate |
| Keith L., Queenstown Beg., Queenstown       |  |

### **Opening**

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

### **Agenda and Quorum**

- Introductions
- Meg thanked everyone for showing up at this meeting and for the Centreville Group for hosting the Intergroup Meeting.
- A quorum was established at 20 voting members present in person and on zoom.

### **Officer Reports**

#### Chair - Meg G.

- Attended meetings of Intergroup Liaison Committee and Steering Committees
- Worked with Jane T. on the Office and Telephone committee
- Attended New Year's Eve Alcathon.
- Prepared reports for MSIG Council meeting
- Committed to be in the MSIG office on Wednesdays.

*The Steering Committee is an "ad hoc" committee formed by MSIG officers and committee chairs and meets monthly to review and understand issues concerning the office and the committees. Anything that would require a vote is reviewed and brought to the council. Any issues that do not require a vote by the council are discussed and resolved.*

The four officers and Jim R. met for about 90 minutes to discuss the following:

- Provide office orientation for committee chairs at quarterly meetings
- By-laws suggested revisions: adding Steering as a standing committee, shortening committee descriptions; and acknowledging that changes would be proposed for periodic update of By-Laws.
- Volunteer schedule update: two new volunteers for weekends.
- Reach out to Intergroup reps (IGRs) with interim email: reminders & special announcements

- Literature pre-orders can be offered to IGRs for on the road MSIG meetings.
- We need a process for disbursement requests. Use GSO forms as templates.
- Jim R. offered an explanation for supporting the Activities Committee without actually funding it. AAs donate for essential services and not all groups are served. Committee can easily raise funds through ticket sales, passing baskets, 50-50's.
- The Finance committee will recommend procedures for holding Activities funds raised.
- More efficiency with literature inventory and orders, especially for Corrections. Budgets will help.
- Audit and tax filings are a work in progress.
- Office - Jane and Meg are sharing responsibility for now. More to learn on file storage and sharing. Report on office activities.

#### Vice Chair - Matt S.

- Helped set up the Alcahons for the holidays.
- Drafting documents for IGR's to understand their role and explain duties.
- Organized setting up this meeting as part of the "on-the-road" Intergroup meetings.
- The Intergroup meeting in April will be in Dorchester County hosted by the Hurlock Group.

#### Treasurer - Jane T.

- When group contributions are made include an email address. Also groups should confirm its registered group name, town, and group service number. Jane provided a link to look up numbers. <https://www.marylandaa.org/group-lookup>
- Thank you to John M. for donating a file cabinet.
- Jane is scheduled to meet with an accountant to resolve sales tax owed, file the federal tax form, discuss audit and recommended best practices.
- The cash on hand in the MSIG account is \$8,342.32.
- **A motion was made that the Treasurer is authorized to pay The Easton Church of the Brethren the sum of \$25 per month for the use of the fellowship hall from July 2023 to June 2025. The first payment of \$150 for 2023 will be paid immediately and the remaining payments will be made quarterly or semi-annually at the treasurer's discretion.** This payment will be made whether or not the church space is utilized, as the space is reserved for MSIG use. The motion was seconded. The vote passed 19 in favor, 1 opposed.
- **A motion was made that the Treasurer is authorized to pay the sum of \$25 to each host group when the MSIG Council meets at locations other than The Easton Church of the Brethren, for the host group's use.** The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

#### Secretary - Nancy A.

- Attended the Steering Committee meeting.
- Transcribed the December minutes.
- The December minutes were previously sent out for review to all IGR's. **A motion was made to accept the December 13, 2023 minutes as written. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.**

### Activities Committee - Anne E.

- The Christmas and New Year's Eve Alcahons were successful. Christmas meetings had 25, 10 and 7 people and the New Year's Eve Alcahom had 20, 10 and 10 people in attendance. \$87 was collected and leftover food was taken to two men's recovery houses. Trinity Church is a good space to have these. How much of the \$87 collected should go to Trinity? This question will be discussed in February.
- The committee is planning an Amazing Race to Sobriety. It will be open to all in AA and be like a road rally where attendance at meetings and other activities get acknowledged.
- There will be an Open Mic Night in April.

### Finance Committee - Jim R.

- The Finance Committee work is progressing. Budget forms were distributed to all Committee Chairs and the forms are due back to the Finance Committee by FEBRUARY 15.
- The Finance Committee is meeting on February 11 to develop a budget that will be presented to this group.

### Corrections and Treatment - Lisa B. and Will C.

This Committee will have one vote and Lisa will be the voting member.

Treatment Centers - Lisa:

- Warwick Manor - Great homegroup participation - they are booked until June.
- Whitsitt is getting approval for AA meetings starting February for Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm.
- Easton Hospital - we are working on getting meetings in the Psych unit but it is moving slowly.
- Choptank - they are getting their own speakers. Someone is needed to give an evening presentation of Bridging the Gap.
- Ask in your homegroups if anyone is interested in participating in Bridging the Gap. All information is on the website.

Corrections - Will:

- Queen Anne's Kent, Talbot and Dorchester corrections facilities meetings have AA meetings for men and women in place. We need help with literature and are getting more organized.
- Working on putting literature in an organized manner into the libraries of the corrections facilities. Want to get Bridging the Gap literature in there too.
- We have never been able to bring meetings into Caroline County but are making progress. Caroline County is tough. We need people who are willing to take meetings in. If interested contact Will at [corrections@midshoreintergroup.org](mailto:corrections@midshoreintergroup.org).

### Digital Communications and Outreach Committee - Anna M.

- Caitlin is stepping down and Anna is the new Committee Chair.
- 375 Unique Visitors to Website - 65% new visitors.
- Old events were taken down from website.

- Volunteers needed for Outreach. This includes going to meetings, gathering contact information for meetings, spreading the word about MSIG and making relevant announcements. Anyone interested contact Anna at [info@midshoreintergroup.org](mailto:info@midshoreintergroup.org).

#### Office Management and Telephone Committee Report - Meg G.

- Shore Answering Service had 31 calls - 16 for AA information. Office answered 5 calls - 4 for AA information. There were 23 visitors to the office.
- Printed reports, etc., researched file storage.

#### New Business

Lori McP. from Towson, Alternate Representative for Area 29 attended the meeting.

She explained the AA structure starts with the Groups which are organized into Districts. The District has GSRs representing them. Those Districts make up the Area. The Areas have delegates representing them and our area is Area 29 and our Delegate is Terry P. from Columbia. Lori is attending to ask our sense on items we think should be discussed at the World Service Conference. There will be four forums held to discuss agenda items. In early March there will be a forum held on the Eastern Shore. Please inform your homegroups about this forum.

One controversial topic has been to change the wording of the Big Book and the 12 and 12 to more up to date language. New York wants to know if we should be touching the founder's writing. Other topics will also be discussed. Anyone can contact Lori directly by emailing [Altdelegate@mdAA.org](mailto:Altdelegate@mdAA.org).

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A., Secretary