

SLAA Greater NY Intergroup: August 2021 Monthly Meeting Minutes

The August 2021 monthly meeting of the Greater NY Intergroup of Sex Love Addicts Anonymous (NY & Northern NJ) was held Sunday, August 1, 2021 at 5:00 pm electronically on Zoom, the Chair Mark S. being in the chair and the Secretary Shoky P, being present.

Chair present: Mark S.

Members present: Dan, Elias, Lloyd, Anne B, Sam, Kentara, Ava

Guests present: Saige, Helena

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports

Treasury Mark S. for Cara: The ending balance is \$14,306.18; July 2021 contributions: \$332.29
July 2021 expenses were \$1,108.00. There were questions regarding the expenses on the spreadsheet Cara attached. Cara will answer these questions.

Communications by Dan: Many people are e-mailing the list regarding the availability of in-person meetings. At this time, only two meetings are currently in person in Brooklyn. Dan reminded us to continue to promote the sponsorship list available on slaany.org.

Literature by Elias: \$532.40 ending balance; Elias reported that the SLAA literature email was requiring a phone number for verification. Dan should be contacted in such a situation. His phone number is the recovery phone number.

Ancillary reports:

Mark reported on the special meeting held July 19 with FWS re: NYC's host application for the ABM (see addendum).

Ava reported on the activities of the Conference Finance Committee and the Anorexia Committee.

Sam reported on the activities of the Steps and Concepts Committee and the Literature Committee.

There was a discussion of the open FWS Board positions: there are currently three total open positions and currently 4 applications

Old Business

None.

New Business

Motion 1: The Greater New York Intergroup will apply to host the 2022 ABM: Motion **PASSED** 7 to 1.

Motion 2: The GNY IG will select chairs for the ABM planning committees in September and following months at monthly IG meeting; people interested in participating in ABM planning committees are

encouraged to appear at monthly IG meetings beginning in September 2021: Motion **PASSED** 7 to 1.

Motion 3: The GNY IG will establish a committee to investigate purchasing hybrid equipment for meetings. Dan M. stated that he would take leadership in promoting this committee through e-mail to the IG e-mail list. Motion **PASSED** 6 to 1.

Motion 4: A recording of each GNY IG meeting should be made to assist the secretary with minutes. This recording can also serve as a record of the meeting in case of a discrepancy with the minutes. This recording will be kept until the minutes are approved during the next monthly meeting. Access to the recordings will also be available to those who attended the IG meeting. Due to time issues, this motion was tabled for the September meeting. It will be old business at the meeting in September.

Tradition One - *Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon S.L.A.A. unity.*

Tradition Two, Sentence Two – *Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.*



Greater New York Intergroup - SLAA

Meeting Agenda – August 1, 2021

I. OPENING

A. Prayer for Trusted Servants

Higher Power, we ask for your guidance in carrying out this work in service to the SLAA fellowship. Relieve us of the burdens of our egos and perfectionism. Grant us the grace of humility. Remind us to place principles before personalities. Help us to focus only on the greater good of the fellowship. Let us know that we are responsible only for doing the leg work, not the outcome. Give us the faith to trust in You and the group conscience. And . . .

Give us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

B. SLAA 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and 12 Concepts (12 Concepts in January, April, July and October)

C. Introductions and “check-ins”

D. Spiritual Timekeeper

E. Guidelines for Safety

In sharing during Intergroup meetings we proceed in an orderly, respectful manner. The chairperson will call on people to speak. We do not interrupt one another.

While we encourage expressions of opinions we do not direct them at specific people. This is called "personalizing." We keep the focus on the specific issue under discussion.

Raise your hand and state "point of order" if you feel a procedural rule has been violated.

Anyone may request a 30-second spiritual timeout during the meeting. During a spiritual timeout, the meeting participants are expected to refrain from any activities including speaking, reading and writing for a period of 30 seconds.

You may request the Guidelines for Safety be re-read. The chairperson will pause the speaker and reread the Guidelines for Safety.

II. REPORTS

A. July 2021 Minutes

B. Treasurer Report (Cara)

Please see the attached July report with ending date July 27, 2021

Ending balance: \$14,306.18

July 2021 contributions: \$332.29

July 2021 expenses: \$1,108.00

C. Literature (Elias)

D. Communications Report (Dan)

IV. ANCILLARY REPORTS

- A. Virtual meeting registrar
- B. Committee reports
- C. FWS Service Forum report (see end of agenda)

V. REQUESTS FOR NEW BUSINESS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- ABM 2022 application committee
- Dana: Motion to add group idents to meeting list

VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. BRING BACK TO MEETINGS

VII. CLOSING WITH SERENITY PRAYER

The Twelve Steps of S.L.A.A.*

1. We admitted we were powerless over sex and love addiction - that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with a Power greater than ourselves, praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to sex and love addicts and to practice these principles in all areas of our lives.

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THE TWELVE STEPS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol — that our lives had become unmanageable. 2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity. 3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him*. 4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves. 5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs. 6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character. 7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings. 8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all. 9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others. 10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it. 11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him*, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out. 12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

The Twelve Traditions of S.L.A.A.*

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon S.L.A.A. unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority -- a loving God as this Power may be expressed through our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for S.L.A.A. membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. Any two or more persons gathered together for mutual aid in recovering from sex and love addiction may call themselves an S.L.A.A. group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose -- to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.
6. An S.L.A.A. group or S.L.A.A. as a whole ought never endorse, finance, or lend the S.L.A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every S.L.A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. S.L.A.A. should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. S.L.A.A. as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. S.L.A.A. has no opinion on outside issues; hence the S.L.A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, TV, film, and other public media. We need guard with special care the anonymity of all fellow S.L.A.A. members.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

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THE TWELVE TRADITIONS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity. 2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority — a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. 3. The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking. 4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole. 5. Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers. 6. An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose. 7. Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. 8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers. 9. A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve. 10. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy. 11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films. 12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

S.L.A.A. FWS Service Forum Report

Slaafws.org

August 1, 2021

By Lloyd F, Service Forum Rep

1. The F.W.S. Office will be closed August 2-9 for the Annual Business Meeting and will return to normal operating hours Monday, August 10.

- A. Free shipping is still available for orders of \$75.00 or more.
- B. Newcomer Bundles now available. A selection of SLAA literature for the newcomer, a \$35.50 value for \$29.99, free shipping in North America for a limited time.

1. 2021 ABC/M Information

The [Annual Business Conference](#) (ABM) is the once-a-year event at which S.L.A.A. members and other members of our service structure convene to conduct the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). This year's ABM will be held online from **3 to 6 August 2021**.

The registration process is closed, but some ABM committee meetings may be open to SLAA members free of charge. Please check the slaafws.org website for more information.

2. [Fellowshipwide-News-July-2021/ https://slaavirtual.org/fellowship-wide-news-july2021/](#)

The news for July is now online. The June Newsletter is also available at slaafws.org.

3. [SLAA's new Digital Literature Store is OPEN!](#)

SLAA Pamphlets are for sale for 99 cents per copy as PDF files that can be downloaded to any device. **PLEASE ANNOUNCE AT YOUR MEETINGS!!!**

4. [Sober Sisters Talk released 3 new Podcasts \(shows.acast.com/sober-sisters-talk\)](#)

Speaker series *Don't give up 5minutes before the Miracle, 7/14/2021, Episode 111*
Speaker Series – Story #12(Jessica G's Story)7/14/2021, Creating Inner Circles Episode 110, 7/4/2021.

5. Lifesaver Program currently has \$55,786.26 target is \$101,000.

Since the [LifeSaver Program](#) began, the Fellowship has increased the percentage of revenue from 7th Tradition contributions from around 22% to almost 40%. This has helped offset declining sales, but SLAA needed to withdraw from its Prudent Reserve earlier this year. Therefore, please ask our Groups to [donate](#) and give back that which is freely given.

6. Upcoming Meetings and Events

A. International SLAA Women's Speaker Meeting One Year Anniversary Meeting Marathon Saturday August 14, 2021

Please go to SLAAvirtual.org for details.

B. Sober Dating Event, Khalil South Africa, SLAA Virtual Intergroup Inc.

Sunday August 29th 2021, 1PM EST Zoom ID 894 4035 6731, Passcode 418691

C. Fun in Fellowship 12 STEP DISCO

7 days a week, 12:35 EST Zoom ID 297 061 203, Passcode 1212

D. GDVI Spirituality Retreat September 10-12, 2021 by Delaware Valley Intergroup (PERSON) 3:00PM Friday-12:30PM Sunday, \$355.00 per person,

EMAIL INFO@SLAADVI.ORG WEBSITE [HTTPS://SLAADVI.ORG](https://SLAADVI.ORG)

Please encourage fellow SLAA members to sign up for the service forum.

ABM planning meeting notes

Held July 19, 2021 at 5pm ET on Zoom.

Notetaker: Mark S. (markslaanyc@gmail.com).

In attendance from NY intergroup: Mark, Shoky, Cara, Dan, Vanessa, Sam, Ava, Jennifer, Lloyd

Meeting with Seth S, Pam Martin and Gabriel G. Contact any of these people with questions.

Seth S (chair, SLAA) e-mail: lawman1994@gmail.com

Pam Martin (Executive Director, SLAA): generalmanager@slaafws.org

Gabriel G. (hosted the ABM in Massachusetts): gabrielinservice@gmail.com

Important considerations

Expected number of volunteers: about 25 needed, mainly for the hospitality suite.

We should try to get new possibilities for hotels following the guidelines below by the end of July, if possible.

We should determine interest of the fellowship for the service position responsibilities on page 3.

Timeframe: first week of August 2022. FWS would like to make announcement on location on last day of ABM 2021, if possible.

This ABM will be fully in person (not virtual or hybrid)

Immediate needs (to be completed by the end of July 2021)

■ Hotels

- Location
 - Find hotels that are within a reasonable distance from an airport (My comment: it seems that no one would want to go to a hotel near JFK, but we could explore Manhattan, Brooklyn, nearby areas in NJ like Jersey City)
 - Area must not contain strip clubs, etc. that are not conducive to recovery
 - Near public transportation
- Rooms
 - Hotels must have 50 sleeping rooms available
 - Room nights: 50 rooms on Monday, Tuesday, Weds, Thursday, and Friday (5 nights @ 50 rooms)
 - 10 additional room for board and staff (on Friday-Sunday night)
 - Total number of room nights: Approximately 280
 - Keep cost down to around \$100-\$135 at most (if possible)
- Ballroom and meeting rooms
 - Must contain ballroom that seats at least 60 (with a hollow square configuration where participants can walk in the middle of the configuration)
 - 4 or 5 breakout rooms (at least) that comfortably seat 20-30 in a conference room setup configuration

- Hospitality suite (could be a Presidential Suite, guest suite, or a large breakout room). Ideally it will contain:
 - A refrigerator (large) or two small ones
 - Access to running water for washing utensils, rags, etc.
 - A Microwave
 - Soft seating (sofa, comfy chair) for approximately 30 people; many hotels will charge about \$100 to remove beds and replace them with sofas, cushy chairs
 - Dedicated board room (convenient for the ballroom, breakout rooms)-- board will come in a few days beforehand --> board room used before up to the last minute. Board room should contain:
 - Refrigerator
 - Microwave
 - Meals (biggest variable!)
 - 50 people/day served
 - In-house catering, on-site restaurant
 - Tuesday - lunch and dinner; Weds - breakfast, lunch, dinner; Thursday - breakfast, lunch, dinner; Friday - breakfast, lunch
 - Include options for dietary restrictions
 - Audio/visual needs (could be rented from outside the hotel, if needed)
 - At least 6ft x 6ft screen (preferably 8ft)
 - Microphones
 - Outlets (needed for laptops; rig plug-in system?)
 - Transportation
 - Parking: (seems like a non-starter in this area, but we could offer prices of nearby garages)
 - Public transportation options (the simpler, the better; midtown has LIRR line from Jamaica Queens and NJ Transit from Newark; probably will not recommend LGA)

Service positions needed for hosting ABM

- Hospitality suite chair (coffee, juices, salty/sweet snacks, etc. with different meal options)
 - Organizes team of at least 12 reliable volunteers
 - Hospitality suite open all day except during mandatory sessions
 - Volunteers have local knowledge and are trained to answer key questions
 - Offer local interest suggestions
 - Opportunity to meet members from across the world.
 - Ideally 4 hour shifts
 - Minimum of \$500 budget
 - Include 7th tradition jar
- Chair, local planning committee,
- Meeting chair
 - Plans 2 meetings/day -- one in the morning and one in the evening at 6/7pm)
 - Speaker meeting on Thursday night (local planning committee will pick out that chair). Just a speaker meeting ONLY.

- Outing/activity chair
 - Plans fun activity outside of hotel (ex: scavenger hunt, walking tour)
 - Raffle on Wednesday night --> need an auctioneer, people helping out doing bids, etc.

Possible IRC prior to ABM

Do we want to run an international recovery convention prior to the ABM? This would be on us. It would be Friday-Sunday before the ABM (late July-early August)