

SLAA of Greater NY Intergroup Meeting of June 5, 2023 5pm
On Zoom
Anne B taking notes

OPENING

Attending

Claudia - Zoom — anorexia 6:15pm

Dan — vice chair

Janine - Women's daily top lines (daily, IG rep)

Holly - Women's daily top line (listening in)

Joe - CityLights Thursday 7pm

Stephanie - Weds women's 7pm

George -- Montclair meetings

Sam - Weds 6pm Mens in person meeting

Anne - Secretary

Vanessa — virtual meeting registrar

Elias — visiting

John — 4:30 Friday St Francis

Meeting guidelines read

REPORTS

Secretary (Anne)

Read motions section of previous months minutes No objections arose

Treasurer (Cara)

- not present
- report to be transmitted via e-mail when she returns from vacation
- The current ABM travel reserve has probably been exhausted

Communications (Dan)

- summarizing report distributed via e-mail
- We got 10 e-mails
- 3 voice mails
- Anne volunteers to answer voice mails

- Incorrect phone number previously on the website corrected during the meeting
- Correct intergroup phone number: 646-360-0325
- New Venmo for the Intergroup. Venmo is @slaany.

Virtual Meeting Registrar (Vanessa)

- Measuring Progress meeting was previously Mondays and Wednesdays at 8pm. It is now switching to WEDNESDAY only. All other information will stay the same.
- Women Healing Sexual Trauma (Friday Noon) Updated zoom ID and link.

Discussion:

- Friday night in-person anorexia meeting has changed its name, but this was not updated.
- Have moribund meetings been deleted from the FWS list?
- Sat 6pm Beginner's meeting on Zoom has low attendance.

ABM Delegates Report

- Claudia tried to join a committee, but was told that she should do that at the ABM.

FWS committee reports

- ABM registration is open until July 28.
<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/annbuscon/event/abm2023/>
- Note from Board re: why the ABM is in person and not hybrid was forthcoming during the meeting; the letter has since been published (see attached).
- FWS is trying to find a technology person — full time, paid position — should have experience. They prefer a program member.
- Conference Anorexia Committee (Anne)
 - There is an anorexia step study on Sunday nights at 7:30 CT (possibly 7pm? Not sure) — based out of Houston. Zoom ID 850 2588 5921 and password is 267868. They are looking for more participants. Particularly they need more female identifying participants.
 - The cleanup committee is working its way through the anorexia 4, 5, and 6 pamphlet.
 - Anne is going to be starting a committee to gather dating plans relating to anorexia. I would like to get volunteers to join the committee.
 - While the ABM in general is not hybrid, we do expect the CAC meeting to be hybrid.

Events committees

- The Share-A-Day committee has only 3 active members
- Booking speakers
- No location yet; St Margarets will be under renovation

NEW BUSINESS REQUESTS

- \$1K for Alicia to go to ABM. She has raised \$800 so far. Expected total cost \$2k.
- Request of Barry M to be sent to ABM
- Claudia's request for the video of her workshop to be approved for the YouTube channel

OLD BUSINESS

- Fundraising document for Intergroup
- Intergroup in person location progress

MOTIONS

MOTION 1: To consider fundraising for Intergroup
Seconded

Discussion

- Need additional funds for ABM travel
- Suggestion to create a "blitz campaign"
- Create a flyer
- Even if we only get \$500 that might be enough to help send Alicia to ABM
- We need to be more transparent about where money is going.
- We have not been putting up the treasurer's report, agenda, or minutes on the website.
- Dan undertakes to get the agendas and minutes up there
- Proposal for a GoFundMe for ABM travel
- Amendment to motion: "The motion is that we ask for a special donation for NY Intergroup in order to send representatives to the ABM for the NY area. - Participation is the key harmony"
- 7 in favor, 1 abstention
- There will be a flyer on the website. There will be information about Venmo, PayPal & CashApp on the flyer. Anne will create the flyer. Holly volunteers to help

MOTION 2: Give Alicia \$500 for ABM travel

Seconded

Discussion

- Janine reads a letter from Alicia, member of the Women's Top Line meeting
- The group has so far raised \$795, but her anticipated cost is \$2200
- More fundraisers are planned
- If we are paying for her to go, she's representing us and should go to Intergroup meetings to help keep us in touch with FWS
- Holly contacts Alicia and she is willing to come to Intergroup
- Confusion between Intergroup Rep and ABM Delegate
- Motion amended to \$750
- 4 in favor; 1 no; 2 abstentions
- Suggestion to have a silent auction at Share-a-Day
- Anyone wanting to record something for the inspiration line should contact info@slaany.org

Tabled items

- Share-a-day feasibility with so few committee members
- In person Intergroup meeting
- Organizing a silent auction for Share-A-Day

Take back to meetings

1. SLAA NY Intergroup now accepts Venmo for donations in addition to CashApp and PayPal. The Venmo address is @slaany. Enter this name in the Venmo app. After entering the address in the app, you may need to switch to the "Businesses" tab since you may not see our account in the default "Top" list that appears. SLAA NY appears as "Greater NY Intergroup" in Venmo.
2. SLAA NY Intergroup is starting a donation campaign to help cover the costs of 4 of the 5 delegates (3 fully funded, and one partially funding) that we are sending to the 2023 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) in Orange County, California.
3. Let us know of any dead meetings on our meeting list that we can remove from the website.
4. SLAA FWS is looking for a technology person. This is a full time, paid position. Contact markslaanyc@gmail.com if you are interested and he will send details.
5. The CAC has a new subcommittee for collecting and organizing Anorexia dating plans. Please contact Arrow at straightarrow372@gmail.com if you want to help.
6. Volunteers are still needed to help organize Share-a-Day for October 7-8. Please contact info@slaany.org to help. We also need help finding a location, as St Margarets is unavailable due to renovation work in the fall. Please also contact us if you wish to participate in the Share-A-Day as a speaker or workshop leader.
7. We are hoping to start an Inspiration Line similar to that done by Delaware Valley IG. Anyone wanting to record an inspirational message should contact info@slaany.org

Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern... Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole.



Greater New York Intergroup

SLAA

Meeting Agenda – June 4, 2023

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 – Is there a volunteer to act as 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.

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

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 them.

II. REPORTS

- A. Summary of discussions, motions from last IG meeting
- B. This month’s treasurer report
- C. Communications report
- D. Meeting registrar

Question: Have we successfully unenrolled moribund groups with FWS?

Meetings can register with FWS at <https://slaafws.org/registermeeting/>. Delete moribund meetings at <https://slaafws.org/deletelisting/>.

IV. ANCILLARY REPORTS

- A. ABM delegates
- B. FWS committees
- C. Journal
- D. Events

Share-A-Day scheduled for October 7 and 8.

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E. SLAA-related announcements

V. REQUESTS FOR NEW BUSINESS

Women's Daily Top: \$1,000

Feasibility of Share-A-Day

Barry

V. OLD BUSINESS

Progress on IG donation campaign (Venmo update, creation of blurb for meetings, etc.). See Minutes for synopsis of discussion from May meeting.

June: IG Fundraising Month.

IG meeting in-person meeting location progress

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. BRING BACK TO MEETINGS

Dear Fellowship Member,

After hearing questions in Conference Committees, Board Committees and informal discussions, the Board of Trustees (BOT) wishes to provide further background into some of the factors leading to its pivotal decision in March to hold a fully in-person Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M) in 2023.

Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) held virtual only ABMs in 2020 and 2021 during the pandemic. Holding a virtual only ABC/M was not considered for 2023 as we were working toward a hybrid event (both in-person and virtual participation) based on various feedback perspectives from the Fellowship. The BOT had considered a virtual only event for 2022 and ultimately rejected it in favor of a fully in-person ABC/M after considering varying perspectives on how best to deliver the business of S.L.A.A.

The world had opened up by mid-2022 and we had the resources to safely meet in-person. The 2022 ABC/M confirmed the belief of those who have attended both in-person and virtual ABMs that a virtual only event does not offer the same opportunities as does an in-person event for identifying potential non-BOT members for Board Committees, recruiting new Conference Committee members, and building relationships through fellowship, face-to-face recovery meetings, and mealtime discussions. When decompressing from challenging discussions or votes, those connections made at mealtime or social events sustain us to continue and build unity, and encourage leadership cultivation. The ABC/M becomes much more than a business meeting.

We researched, planned, and extensively negotiated cost savings for a 2023 hybrid meeting. As the planning process unfolded, we came to the conclusion that we had to make the difficult decision to abandon the hybrid event for 2023. Each BOT member who supported that decision had their own reasons for doing so, but comments included the following:

- The extra cost of a hybrid was \$35,000 and counting. That includes \$14,698.97 for equipment needed for a hybrid. That is an exact dollar amount, not an estimate. This year's A/V contract was reduced by that exact amount when we eliminated equipment that was needed for the virtual aspects of a hybrid event. We estimated \$5,000 for travel and room and board for volunteers handling technical aspects at the ABC/M. And \$12,000 for holding a weekend of tests to assure technological success. We also included a \$3,000 contingency reserve. This extra cost was not advisable given the \$11,000 shortfall in the overall 2022-2023 F.W.S. Budget before factoring in these extra costs.
- That money could be better spent keeping the cost of the ABC/M as low as possible, despite the effect that inflation had on hotel room and meeting room prices. This cost reduction could be spread among those attending in person, which experience told us would have been a greater number than those ultimately attending virtually. For example, the basic Registration Fee (not including room and board) would likely have been \$500 or more for all attendees, including those attending virtually.
- Some of that cost savings could be used for ABC/M scholarships even though the ABM Scholarship Fund held less than \$100. The BOT approved \$5,000 for scholarships, some of which remains available. For scholarship info, email abm2023@slaafws.org.

- Cost was not the only factor. Time limitations required the BOT to make final decisions in the month of March on the format, registration fees, scholarships, announcements, opening up registration and other matters that are typically settled during the month of January. Intergroups, Groups and others needed to plan for the ABM and awaited BOT action on the format and these related issues.
- The decision was made after much effort, research, and volunteer hours that were spent looking at making this work for our Fellowship of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous. The BOT decision making reflects a group conscience process of speaking, listening, praying, meditating, and thinking.

We note that Boards of other 12-Step Fellowships have had to make the same decision and have chosen fully in-person events. That includes Overeaters Anonymous (OA), Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), and Al-Anon.

This letter is meant to help clarify some of the reasons why the Board decided to hold a fully In-person ABM this year and to inform you of our thinking. We respect those who think differently. Thank you for trusting in the Board of Trustees in this matter.

In Service,
The Board of Trustees
June 10, 2023