

BAIG January Meeting Minutes
Sunday, January 19, 1-2:30 pm

ATTENDANCE:

Karen B (Chair), Alan H (Region 7 Representative), Karen M (Acting Treasurer), Sue B, Janis (Thursday Baltimore Representative), Benjamin (Communications Chair), Lina (Acting Vice Chair), Tricia (Monday Columbia Representative), Connie (Secretary), Julie D (Monday Columbia Representative), Joanne, Jane (PI/PO Chair), Mim (Thursday Ashton Representative)

1. SERENITY PRAYER

2. INTRODUCTIONS/ARE THERE NEWCOMERS?

All attendees introduced themselves.

3. READINGS

- 12 Steps of OA, read by Alan H.
- 12 Traditions of OA, read by Lina
- 12/12/12 Concept presentation – Step/Tradition/Concept 11, read by Mim
- BAIG Benefit #11 - BAIG sends representatives and delegates to Region VII assemblies and the World Service Business Conference to represent your voices.

4. REMINDER ABOUT BAIG MEETING CONDUCT, read by Karen B.

- One person holds the floor at a time, recognized by the chair
- Robert's Rules of Order
- BAIG group conscience is no food during the meeting, drinks are okay.

5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RECENT MEETING MINUTES

- December – add to draft continued discussion of timing of *Steppingstone* release, adopted as amended.

6. ONGOING BUSINESS-BOARD REPORTS

- **Chair report:** Karen B. reported that things have been very quiet. Sent Agenda Questionnaire and will review.
- **Vice Chair report:** Lina is planning personal visits to all meetings.
- **Secretary:** Connie A., review of minutes.
- **Treasurer:** Karen M. is now acting treasurer. She will soon have access to bank accounts. The December report was adopted. She also will soon have access to pay World Service the \$2,100 allocated to them. She will also reimburse Karen B. on her expenses.
- **Region 7:** Alan H, Sue B. Alan referred to the January 6th email. He has a copy of the speakers list but it needs to remain anonymous
- **World Delegate:** n/a

ONGOING BUSINESS - COMMITTEE REPORTS

PI/PO: Jane

- Jane had mentioned medical schools so we can have an OA representative speak there but has not had a chance to follow up. She also brought up the B'More Healthy Expo for discussion later in the meeting.

12th Step Within: Vacant

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Communications: Benjamin

- Our webmaster now has access to our website but is looking into alternatives for using Gmail and will also remove our PO Box address from the website. Benjamin asked who checks the Gmail account and was informed that he is the designated person.

Local Meeting Rep Reports (each meeting rep can share for 1-2 minutes)

- Janis reported that the Thursday evening meeting needs support.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Explanation of Agenda Questionnaire process (to be addressed at February meeting)**

- 3 New Business items (policy)
- 10 Bylaw amendments
- Administrative items will be considered together
- Substantive items will be considered individually
- One new business item was determined to be out of order for legal reasons.
- One bylaws amendment was determined to be out of order due to existing provisions in bylaws.

Discussed our responsibility to review the proposed agenda items for the World Service Business Conference, to be discussed further at the February meeting. Due to legal problems the Pamphlet for the Teen has been removed. It won't be considered on the agenda. Intergroup will not be voting on the items themselves but rather on which items merit discussion. Karen B. will send out to the list.

- **SteppingStones presentation**

Julie reported that it will come out more frequently but will be shorter. Benjamin will be putting a mockup into Constant Contact. The service charges \$12 per month for up to 500 contacts and also provides metrics and allows for anonymity. The new template was brought up for discussion. Lina wondered if we could add Venmo in addition to PayPal for donations but was told Venmo violates anonymity. Karen B. suggested Zelle, which will be looked into. Julie asked the meeting if everyone liked the *Steppingstone* template and the response was positive. The newsletter has its own email address and Benjamin will figure out how to access it. As for distribution of issues to individual meetings, Benjamin can train any designated downloader how to print. Julie mentioned that we are now on a 30-day trial with Constant Contact and asked about the process of payments going to the service. Benjamin added that Unsubscribe options will be on every issue. The question was raised about needing a physical address for every issue; Lina will talk to Nancy L. about the possibility of using the Serenity Center for the physical address. Julie said that each issue will be provided to BAIG a week ahead of distribution and Karen B. pointed out that there will need to be a policy schedule. Benjamin suggested a no-image policy to avoid problems of image rights but Karen B. mentioned that World Service may subscribe to a library of images. Julie agreed to write up a policy, asking if there was a template for policies and Karen B. offered to help her, with Alan H. looking into Region 7 Bylaws and Finance Committee. Karen B. says she has the authority to approve non-Intergroup content before the meeting. Benjamin said he will start up a new Constant Contact demonstration but will also look into alternate providers.

- **B'More Healthy Baltimore Health Expo** Jane urged the group to consider participation in the Expo. If we participate, they will promote us to the general public. The cost would only be \$2,100 but we will need to commit by January 31st and she will need to provide them with a copy of our liability insurance – Karen B. will send a copy to Jane. The expense for printing & literature for the event will be done through the Region Trustee and Jane should go to Bob Law who provides reduced prices for healthcare events. Benjamin asked what the response had been before Covid and Karen told him we did not see a lot of results. Logistics: the date is March 8 and there needs to be 2-3 people at the table at all times. We will use the banner, "Is Food a Problem for You?" and provide of a list of local meetings as a handout. \$2,000 will be needed to cover all expenses. Jane asked for a motion to approve, which was seconded by Sue B., and it was unanimously approved. Benjamin offered to be the literature person and it was determined that Karen B. is the designated person to sign the contract for the Expo.

OLD BUSINESS – none

- **Abstinence Anniversaries:** Lina has three months; Jane has 45 years.

- **Key Takeaways:**

- We will be discussing the agenda questionnaire
- If there is a table available at the Expo, we'll attend

- The *Steppingstone* template was approved and the newsletter is moving forward
- We are developing policies for *Steppingstone* and the website
- Sue B. raised the concern about the timing conflict of the upcoming conventions: A Vision for You convention will be held in New Jersey at the same time as our convention. Karen B. will contact Region 7.
- The next meeting will be on February 16.
- OA Promise read by all.

The Next BAIG Meeting: Sunday, February

16th 1-2:30pm

ADJOURNMENT: 2:36pm