

BAIG February Meeting Minutes
Sunday, February 16, 1-2:30 pm

ATTENDANCE: Karen B, Karen M, Sue M, Alan H, Benjamin D, Lina, Mim from the Ashton Thursday meeting, Janis from the Thursday Baltimore meeting, Connie, Julie D

1. SERENITY PRAYER

2. INTRODUCTIONS/ARE THERE NEWCOMERS?

All attendees introduced themselves.

3. READINGS

- 12 Steps of OA – read by Karen M
- 12 Traditions of OA – read by Alan H
- 12/12/12 Concept presentation – Step/Tradition/Concept 2 – read by Karen B
 - BAIG Benefit #2 - BAIG is directly responsible to the groups it serves. We rely on the voices of meeting representatives to let us know what is important to members.

4. REMINDER ABOUT BAIG MEETING CONDUCT

- 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

- January, 2025, edits were made, reviewed, Alan H moved to approve, Karen M seconded, minutes were approved as amended
- A request was made to the secretary to provide the minutes several days prior to the meeting

6. ONGOING BUSINESS-BOARD REPORTS

- **Chair report:** Karen B.
 - The chair and the treasurer went to the bank, the treasurer now has the access she needs
 - The banner and literature were provided to Benjamin B to be used at the Health Expo on Saturday, March 8
 - The chair has stepped down as Convention Chair
- **Vice Chair report:** Lina
 - Lina spoke to the Serenity Center; the treasurer now has permission to use the Center as the BAIG mailing address
 - She will begin visiting meetings to talk about what BAIG provides and to hear what the meetings want from BAIG
 - She had a question about whether a particular meeting was Zoom or hybrid, Alan H said it was Zoom only and Benjamin D offered to fix the listing on the website
 - She will ask individual meetings to update their registration with world service. Karen offered to remove the phone number
 - She will follow up with the Serenity Center to confirm it is okay to have the BAIG meeting there.
- **Secretary:** Connie A. Nothing to report.
- **Treasurer:** Karen M.
 - Everything has been successfully moved over to her. She now has access to the bank and the PayPal account. She suggested BAIG open a debit card, which would be extremely helpful.
 - She will post information through GoogleDocs soon.

- There was an email asking if donations to OA are tax deductible. Karen M. explained that donations to OA, Region 7 and World Service are tax deductible as they are 501c3, however donations to Intergroup are not tax deductible
- She will check into the option of web insurance but was told we did not want that.
- She needs our policy on paying the webmaster. Alan H said we paid the last time we received an invoice. We have Zelle as an option for payment.
- Karen M also asked who owns our liability insurance. Karen B said it is paid up through the fall and is something the treasurer or chair handles.
- **Region 7:** Alan H
 - There is a Region 7 poll for Intergroups
 - The Region 7 Assembly will be on 3/29. It will be virtual, with times TBD
 - Region 7 has \$1,000 to support outreach events but that money is distributed on a first come, first serve basis
- **World Delegate:** n/a

ONGOING BUSINESS - COMMITTEE REPORTS

PI/PO: Jane. Jane was not in attendance but an update on B'More Healthy Expo was provided:

- Still recruiting volunteers. Need to set up a digital sign up sheet
- She has made no progress in contacting medical schools at the moment

12th Step Within: Vacant

Communications: Benjamin D

- Benjamin D is looking at different companies for distribution of the digital newsletter but needs to figure out the number of contacts and our budget. Currently the *SteppingStone* email is forwarded to the Google list and he is looking further into the list
- Karen M. suggested proposing an amendment to the budget. It was decided Benjamin will do so in March
- A new in-person meeting will be starting on Thursdays in Ellicott City

NEW BUSINESS

- **Review and determination of items proposed for WSBC 2025**
 - **Administrative items – discussion**
 - The decision was made to change the term “young people” to “young adults”
 - Noting that Region 4 has been disbanded, Region 7 remains the same
 - Decision to reduce the number of trustees
 - Volunteers can address WSBC
 - **RESULT:** BAIG voted all the issues listed above can be discussed at WSBC 2025
 - **Substantive items – discussion**
 - Proposed update to the unity with diversity policy: do not try to convince any member to adopt a belief in God.
 - **RESULT:** BAIG voted it should be discussed
 - OA has no opinion on medical management
 - **RESULT:** BAIG voted it should be discussed (6 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention)
 - To amend the bylaws to remove a proviso, need a $\frac{3}{4}$ ratification
 - **RESULT:** BAIG voted it should be discussed (8 yes)
 - Make a change to the Steps and Traditions to change “Him” to “God” (This would only affect English language versions, in other languages “God” is a masculine noun). In the past, World Service has always wanted to keep all meetings following the exact wording.
 - **RESULT:** BAIG voted it should be discussed (8 yes)

- Motion to hold World Service meetings only virtually
 - RESULT: BAIG voted it should be discussed (2 yes, 5 no)
- Proposed that non-affiliated meetings may choose to affiliate to a geographic or virtual region
 - RESULT: BAIG voted it should be discussed (8 yes)

Executive Board Meeting: it was determined that Karen will send out a Doodle Poll for the Region 7 survey

Abstinence Anniversaries:

- Benjamin – 1 year
- Karen B – 41 years
- Julie D – 1 week caffeine free
- Janis – 2 ½ years

Key Takeaways

1. World Service Business Conference agenda questionnaire was discussed and voted on. Recommendations will be sent to WSBC.
2. BAIG will participate in the B'More Healthy Expo at the Baltimore Convention Center on March 8. Volunteers are asked to sign up for a two-hour slot. A flyer will be coming out soon with information about this important outreach opportunity. In the meanwhile, feel free to contact Jane at timandjanes@msn.com or Karen B at karen.beck@conduent.com
3. The *SteppingStone* newsletter is moving forward. The new issue should appear in April. The editor is actively seeking articles. To submit an article or ask a question, please contact the editor at steppingstone@oabaltimore.org

The Next BAIG Meeting: Sunday, March 16th 1-2:30pm

Serenity Prayer

ADJOURNMENT at 2:31