

PALM BEACH COUNTY INTERGROUP BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 11, 2019

Start time: 6:18 PM

Open Meeting ----- Serenity Prayer ----- 12 Traditions

Number of attendees: 44

Declaration of Unity: This we owe to AA's future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on AA unity depends our lives; and the lives of those to come.

Introduction of new reps:

Gerald N. – High Noon – Rep
Kathryn P. – High Noon – Alt Rep
Ervin K – Sunrise Group - Rep
Ken G. – Sunrise Group – Alt Rep
Tom G – Monday Night Men's @ Triangle Club
Joe – Comfort Zone - Rep
Keith G. – Comfort Zone – Alt Rep
Adam B. – Longest Day - Rep

Chairperson: Roger B.

If you have a motion you would like seen on the Agenda to be presented next month, please e-mail it to me at rwbrand@gmail.com or the Intergroup Office no later than December 25th, 2019 – the deadline to be placed on the Agenda.

I would like to thank our Alternate Chair, Bob, for stepping up and chairing the November Business Meeting on very short notice. I was held up at work and unable to attend the meeting. I am told he did an excellent job and I had no doubt he would.

I would like to address an issue that came up regarding the upcoming annual Christmas Party and meeting put on by the Riverbottom Group in Jupiter. Following the November Business Meeting, I was informed many people were upset regarding a flyer that had been passed out at the Intergroup Meeting for the event and that is was being discussed at the District 8 Business Meeting. Someone in the meeting was kind enough to send me a picture so that I could see what was going on. What had upset people was that the group was planning on raffling off donated services from local businesses and that many people felt that was going against the 7th Tradition as an outside contribution. The consensus I was getting was that if they chose to raise funding in that manner, we, as Intergroup, should decline any contributions from the Group if they were offered. To give you just a little history, the Riverbottom Group has done this Christmas Party/Meeting for many more years than I have been here and generally contributes the proceeds to Intergroup as a token of appreciation for our work. This year's flyer for the event was a change from what we were used to seeing in the past.

I called Vince F, of the Riverbottom Group and spoke with him at length regarding the event, including the history of it and where it is today. We came to agreement on many topics. Vince explained that over the years, there has been declining interest in the event and dwindling support contribution wise. I told him I could definitely relate to that. He stated that he has tried to be a little more creative in trying to stimulate interest and that is where the raffle and advertising came from. He did acknowledge that he absolutely understood how this could be viewed as a violation of the Traditions. I invited Vince to attend the Advisory Committee this past Monday, which he did. At the Advisory Committee meeting, he stated that the Riverbottom Group was returning the donated gifts to the businesses and would ensure that any contributions from the meeting would be from within. The event would be as it has been in the past, a

food, fellowship, and speaker meeting. He went further by apologizing and offered to make amends for any damage he had caused to Intergroup or any of the people involved.

Now, to address the part we played in this. Unfortunately, nobody from Intergroup reviewed this flyer before it was distributed at the meeting. While we are not the AA Police and operate on a loose set of guidelines, there are things that we can observe that we know will generate controversy. If we had noticed this before the flyer was distributed, we could have had the talk with the Riverbottom Group before there was a controversy, but we didn't. Fortunately, we were able to talk after and come to some agreeable solutions. I have already discussed this with the other Officers and the Office Manager. The last item to address has to do with some concerns I heard through the Grapevine from two Group Business meetings. While nobody has contacted me directly yet, I felt I would go ahead and answer a couple of questions concerning the process for annual evaluation and salary increase recommendation for our one employee. The annual review is conducted by the Advisory Committee meeting at the summer or fall quarterly meeting, as the Office Manager's hire date was in August. At that time, the review is discussed, recommendation for increases are discussed, as well as general financial health of Intergroup in order to facilitate any type of increase. This is authorized on Page 9 of the by-laws under the Advisory Committee responsibilities, Item #3, which states, "Conduct annual performance review of Office Manager and makes recommendations for salary increase". This year, the Advisory Committee discussed two different amounts of increase and chose 4%. This was reported at the meeting on 9-11-2019 and is in the Minutes. This is almost exactly what happened last year under Deb M, except the amount is not in the Minutes. There is no guidance in the By-Laws for what the next step is after the Advisory Committee meets and agrees on an increase to recommend. When there is no clear written guidance, there are many different options depending on the situation. For Administrative matters such as this, I look to see how past Chairs handled this annual event. Going back through 10 years of Minutes and remembering what I can, I find that approximately 1/3 of the time a sense of the meeting was taken, 1/3 of the time the Advisory Committee made their recommendation and that was it, and 1/3 of the time I can't locate exactly what was done based on records available. So basically, I proceeded the same way we did last year. The year before that, we did not have an annual review because that is the year the Office Manager was hired. The year before that, a sense of the meeting was taken. If any Group is interested in reviewing the ByLaws, they are available on our website and the procedure to Amend is described on Page 5, Article XI.

I apologize for the lengthy report tonight. I will try to get back to normal next month.

Thanks,

Roger B

PBC Intergroup Chair

Co-Chairperson: Bob W.

ALCOTHON:

The Christmas and New Year Intergroup Alcothons are upon us. They will be from Noon Christmas Eve, Tuesday December 24, through the 11:00 am meeting on Christmas day, Wednesday December 25; and from noon New Years' Eve, Tuesday December 31, through the meeting at 11:00 am on New Years' Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2020. The Lunch Bunch gets the noon meeting for both Alcothons. The format of the meetings is up to the individual groups.

The Christmas Alcothon is at the Triangle Club. The New Year's Alcothon is at the Intergroup Meeting Room because the Institutions Committee of The Palm Beach County Intergroup is putting on the annual Big Book Ball at the Triangle Club. Please help get the word out for all events to your home groups and AA friends.

The meeting slots were drawn last month, and the schedules are set. I have the schedules if you need to check with me after the meeting. They are also available on the front page of the December TODAY.

Intergroup provides the coffee and the groups provide their own snacks. We would like 2 volunteers per hour to monitor coffee and trash and be available to assist the groups in any other manner. We would ask

volunteers to take 2-hour shifts. If you are ready to commit to a time slot for volunteering, see me after the meeting.

In Love and Service, Bob Wilson

Treasurer: Kate D.

Basket passed in accordance with our 7th Tradition

Revenues for November 2019 were \$4,772.59 and Expenses were \$6,103.11 resulting in a net deficit of \$1,330.52. Group Contributions were \$3,091.14. The opening checking balance for November was \$4,215.25 and the closing was \$4,882.29. The Prudent Reserve balance for November was \$15,547.76 including the 13 cents we made in interest. We wish to thank the Groups of Palm Beach County for their very generous support for the month of November.

Thanks for allowing me to be of service,

Kate D – PBC Intergroup Treasurer

Secretary: Heather K.

Please fill out new group rep sheets and email in any committee reports by Thursday evening. Please send in either a word format or in the body of the email. If you did not get the reminder email, please make sure I have your email address. Thanks! Heather

Registrar: Rhonda B.

Minutes for November and agenda for December were sent out via email. If you did not receive these items, please complete a new rep form. Please print all information clearly. Thanks, Rhonda B.

Office Manager: Tracy D.

My name is Tracy and I am an alcoholic. Our office total was at 779 for November.

I have reached out to the Bahamas several times however, still no response. I will continue to try to contact Chris to get the books to him.

We are gearing up for the Alcothons and volunteers are needed. Please see me after the meeting if you would like to assist us.

The new 2020 calendars should be here by Friday at a cost of \$13.00 each. With Love and In Service,
Tracy

General Service/Intergroup Liaison: Maria P.

No report.

South County Intergroup Liaison: Jonathan K.

No report.

Archives Committee Liaison: Richard M.

No report.

Advisory Committee Minutes:

Intergroup Advisory Meeting Minutes, December 9, 2019

Open Meeting 6:05 PM with Serenity Prayer

Present: Roger, Bob, Kate, Heather, Rhonda, Cindy, Linda & Maryann

Chair: Roger

Riverbottom Group Christmas Party flyer, donation, and traditions were discussed with Vince from the group.

Office Manager increase questioned by groups.

Both matters will be discussed in chair report at monthly meeting.

Alternate Chair: Bob

Alcothon volunteers needed for coffee and trash.

Big Book ball will be held on New Year's Eve. Tickets are \$20, dinner at 7:30 PM.

Treasurer: Kate

All finances are in order and ready to be presented at monthly meeting on Wednesday.

Registrar: Rhonda

Monthly meeting agenda was sent.

Secretary: Heather

No report.

At Large Members:

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Information: Dani P.

No requests. Thanks! Dani

12 Step List: Mark S.

No report.

Phone Volunteer Committee: James N.

The list still has some issues, but most slots are covered. I am in need of overnight volunteers and an updated 12 step volunteer list. There are no active 12th step contacts on the current list and my volunteers are dependent upon their own supports for 12 step support.

TODAY: Shauna M.

Nothing to report! Thank you, Shauna M.

Birthday Club: George

December sent.

Website Committee: Billy J.

-December Agenda Posted

-Various meetings updated on the App.

-November Minutes posted

-November Today posted

Group Contact Committee: Glenn B.

This month I visited ... Tell it Like it is (Men's group) --Meets 9 am Saturdays at St Mark's Episcopal in PBG. Great group of guys, speaker meeting. The Upper Room--listed on the ap to meet Fridays at 6pm at St. Andrews Lutheran in Lake Worth. Nobody there, I walked around the church and it was mostly dark. One door was open, but nobody was around from AA. Big Book (Step) Study--meets 6pm at Unity Church of Palm Beach in Jupiter. It's a Big Book study meeting, not just step study. Small informal group, very welcoming. Glenn B

Bridging the Gap Committee: Debbra M.

I have been awaiting a contact list from Lynda H for all Institutions Reps so I may be able to go into the facilities that are currently set up for Institution meetings. I myself have contacted 4 local facilities and gave them contact information so if they have any Recovery Alcoholics going back home that need help getting in contact with their local Inter group and or meeting lists for their local area, they may contact me. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Institutions Committee: Lynda H.

The Palm Beach County Institutions Committee currently brings a total of 121 meetings per week into 36 facilities consisting of treatment centers, detoxes, and jails with 102 active meetings per week. We currently have about numerous openings for committee volunteers in these facilities where suffering alcoholics need AA meetings. If you would like to carry the message, enhance your sobriety, and become a member of the Institutions Committee, please come to our Member Orientation which is at 4:30-5:00pm on the first Sunday of every month in the Triangle Club Serenity room. Our next meeting will be Sunday, January 5th. Our General meeting is 5:00-6:00pm in the Triangle Club's big room, which we encourage all our volunteers to attend monthly to report updates and have a voice on the committee. Thank you, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve and we look forward to your joining the Committee!

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Upcoming Events:

Christmas and New Year's Alco-thons

Meeting Adjourned: 6:53 PM