

Intergroup Minutes
May 1, 2008

Members Present: See attached list.

Meetings was called to order by Steve S. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity prayer. The Traditions were read by Danny S.

April Intergroup minutes were reviewed, a motion made to accept, seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Robert reported that it was a good month with revenues up and expenses about the same. He reported that we had no large book purchases this month and that we continue to break even. Robert said that we still have not received the \$434.50 from the Area Assembly. Robert said that Paxton would address the issue at the next Area Assembly on May 10th.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made, seconded and passed.

Central Office Report

Paxton began by mentioning the article in the Clarion-Ledger on under age drinking, saying that he thought that the article covered the material fairly well. Paxton said that he had not heard any more from the health fair coordinator. He said that the pamphlets that we give away at health fairs are in .

Paxton said that he has been contacted by the Yazoo Federal Prison looking for speakers on a monthly basis. There will be an NCII background check. There can be no DUI convictions in the past three years.

The Central Office has several new volunteers that are working out well. Paxton asked for prayers for Mike R., a volunteer at the Central Office who is having medical issues.

Paxton received the information about the Central Office AAWS seminar. The seminar is in Edmonton Alberta, Canada, September 26 through 28. Canadian immigration rules are very strict when concerning convictions. You must contact the Canadian Embassy to request permission to enter Canada for the seminar. Paxton said that there was a form from the site selection committee that we might be interested in filling out and submitting a bid.

Hugh T. asked if the Yazoo Prison was the satellite prison. Paxton said that it was the Federal Prison. Paxton has forwarded the information to Steve S. The lady that contacted Paxton said they were interested in what she called motivational speakers as well as speakers for graduations which are once a quarter.

Paxton asked if we had decided on a treatment center chair. Country Oaks has purchased a case of Big Books and is desperate for men to come in to speak. Brian H. asked if a flyer could be produced and kept in the Central Office so that groups other than those that participate in Intergroup could be aware of the need.

Paxton then expressed concerns about the lack of 12th step volunteers and lack of participation from the groups in the mid Mississippi area. His concern is that we are not carrying the message as we should. Steve asked that Paxton bring this up under new business that that he would appoint an ad hoc committee to bring back a recommendation to perform outreach better.

Hugh T. asked if the Central Office was going to have a literature table at the Old Timer's Round Up in August. Paxton stated that we would. It was asked if Al-Anon literature would be available at the Round Up as well. Hugh said that he would contact Deb from Al-Anon if they would be having literature at the Round Up. If they decide to, they will need to contact the Round Up chair person, Jeff.

There then was a discussion about the pager system and how it worked or in some cases wasn't working. Clara then some very nice compliments about the Central Office and the job that Paxton does ensuring that is staffed and open.

A motion to accept the Central Office report was made, seconded and approved.

Prison Report:

Hugh T. reported that Book for Prisons was doing well. It currently has a balance of \$1147.26. Steve. S. did report that while Hugh was out monies from some groups may have been placed in the Central groups Books for Prisons container and that the donation amount listed may be off.

Hugh T. said that the next orientation for prison volunteers will be held on July 22 and 23., but applications must be in before June 4, in order to have time to complete the required background check. Hugh said that applications are available from Paxton at the Central Office. He stated also that his biggest problem is that once people get approved and get their badges, they then don't show up. He reiterated that we need to get people to follow through with their commitment. Steve asked those present to prod those who have prison badges to participate. Hugh said that the men's group would be losing their GSR in two weeks and would need to elect a new GSR. Hugh said that the womens groups were doing well. There are six women who are carrying the message on regular basis and they have two groups of approximately 50 women each.

A question then brought up the fact that if you are signed up at prison as a visitor or correspondent you cannot participate in the AA activities.

A motion was made to accept the report, seconded and approved.

12 Step Pager Committee:

Brian stated that he had clarified that the answering service in Mobile has as fifteen minute waiting period before contacting the second level person. The answering service did not report any problems with the pager response last month. Brian continued to emphasize the fact that volunteers who carry the pagers need to be aware the pagers are only active in the immediate Jackson vicinity.

Brian then asked that when filling out the pink volunteer cards that the intergroup representatives be sure that the cards are filled out completely. The information on the card such as sex, location (north Jackson, south Jackson etc), times available, is used to help the person carrying the pager find the best person to help if he is not able to do so personally. Brian also asked that an email address be included if possible because it can be used to contact the person easily to see if they are still wish to be included on the list. Brian also asked that if possible, indicate on the card if the individual would be willing to provide transportation for someone.

Alice asked if the pagers were called before those on the volunteer list. She stated that she and her mother received multiple calls each week from the answering service. Brian stated that the reason was probably that the pager was not being answered in a timely manner and the answering service had a history of good response from Alice and her mother.

Clara from Pearl Hope asked Brian to make a presentation to the group about the pagers. Pearl Hope volunteered to carry the pagers for November and the Way Out group volunteered for December.

For the month of May, the pagers are being carried by Positive Flow for the women and Lambda for group for men.

A motion was made to accept the 12 Step committee report, seconded and approved.

Treatment Center Committee:

Randy said that he had talked to Country Oaks and Restoration. He requested to meet with Steve and Paxton to review what the duties of the Treatment Center chair were. Paxton asked about calling the groups going to Whitfield the week before to remind them. Steve said that he had the group contact and number on a separate list.

Web Page Report.

Richard reported that he had added the hit counter to the web page and currently we are receiving approximately 10 hits a minute on the web site. Steve asked Richard to research the cost of an asynchronous line in order to allow more internet traffic to be served. Richard continues to keep the web page updated as necessary.

Old Business:

Steve S. stated that Chris P. was no longer the CPC chair. He said that he would contact the new chair at the Area 37 assemble on May 10th about conducting a CPC workshop.

Robert S. has put up a flyer on the web page about the Grapeleaf. He still need additional articles, stories, etc. He has three blank pages. He does have one local story.

New Business:

Brian H. asked that those present volunteer to assist the Eddie H. the Intergroup Liaison, in visiting the A.A. Groups in the area especially those that don't participate in Intergroup. Those groups need to know that their participation in Intergroup is missed .

Alice suggested that the groups be divided up by geographic area and that the volunteers could then more easily visit groups close to them.

Steve stated he had a map that showed the groups and whether they participated in Intergroup or not. Eddie and Steve will try to pull together a list of groups and their participation and get it on a map.

Hugh T. asked that someone take over the publication of the Sobriety Gazette. He has published it for 22 years and is just not able to continue. Steve S. asked for a motion that Intergroup take on the publication of the monthly Sobriety Gazette. Alice D. made the motion to combine the Gazette and the Grapeleaf and publish it on a monthly basis.

Motion was made, seconded and passed.

Robert S. was asked to form a committee to help him with the publication of the Gazette/Grapeleaf.

Jackie reported that there was a new group forming in Pearl, Spirit of Faith, at 426 Bierdeman Rd. She will contact the Central Office about the necessary paperwork that needs to be filled out. Also Pearl Hope asked where new officer information needed to be sent. They were directed to the Central Office as well.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded, and accepted.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.