

SI Minutes

April 14, 2020

STATEN ISLAND AREA SERVICE MINUTES

Steering Committee Attendance: Thomas – Area Chair – Present, Jimmy –

Area Vice Chair – Present, Dana – Area Treasurer – Present, Ray – RCM Chair – Present, Kurt – Asst. RCM Chair – Present, Desiree – Area Secretary – Present

Sub-Committee Attendance: Jessica – H & I Chair – Present, Walter – PR

Chair – Present, Troy – E&A Chair – Present, Jesse – Technology Chair – Present,

Richie – H&I Vice Chair – Present, Tim – Convention Chair – Present
Meeting Opened w/Serenity Prayer **Roll Call for**

GSRS: 20 Present

AREA CHAIR called for the suspension of ALL Area Business to discuss Virtual Meetings. Vote Passed.

AREA CHAIR stated because of the Stay at home orders surrounding the Covid 19

Virus pandemic, Staten Island Area is in new territory. As discussed at the Steering

Committee Meeting (4/7/2020), Area Chair posed the idea of buying Zoom Accounts for all Area approved meetings that have not already signed on to Zoom and need help. He explained, SI Area is not forcing any groups to comply. If you already have a Zoom account and need help financially SI Area will help. Area Chair then turned meeting over to the Area Vice Chair for clarification.

VICE CHAIR explained, SI Area would purchase a set amount of Zoom accounts to be used multiple times a day amongst Area approved meetings. No groups would have duplicate IDs/passwords. Vice Chair informed groups that the Technology Chair would manage, set up and pass out ID's & passwords. This is only for groups who have not signed on to Zoom, need financial help and want to continue their meetings. Vice Chair then provided the groups in attendance his personal phone number to be contacted for help getting started on Zoom. We will determine how many Zoom account to purchase after feedback from Groups. Vice Chair and Technology Chair will coordinate this effort. Technology Chair would also setup some kind of online cash account (via Vimeo, Cashapp, paypal) for groups to be able to send their Area donations.

QUESTIONS

Recovery by the Water – Gladys, GSR – Do you want all meetings to go thru Area Service? Ans. Chair - No, if groups want to continue their meetings on Zoom thru their own account they can. If the group is having financial difficulty maintaining the account give the Vice Chair a call and Area will help those groups financially.

Why we Recover – Jerry, Secretary – We haven't done 7th Tradition in our Virtual meeting, are we supposed to? Jerry further stated, an addict paid out of pocket the upfront cost of Zoom for the year, need guidance. Ans. Chair - If the meeting chooses to pay the addict that's ok. With regards to 7th Tradition that's a sticky area. No one person should hold the groups money. No money should be put into a person's personal account. As for collecting a 7th Tradition in a Virtual meeting, Area is waiting for guidance from Region. Technology Chair is working on setting up a online cash account (Vimeo, Cashapp, paypal) we want to follow NA guidelines. As soon as we get answers from Region we will pass to groups.

Addict, Frank R – Each group is autonomous. Each Treasurer should have an account (Zoom account) then donate to Area. If individual created a Zoom meeting group should pay person back then donate to area.

Spiritual Kindergarden- Michelle, GSR-Thought each group should be fully selfsupporting? Ans. Chair – We are not carrying the group. This is all new. If a group does not need help from Area great. The message is the Area is here if groups need help.

Michelle asked if other Areas are doing this? Ans. Chair – The suggestion to offer financial help to Area groups was suggested by Region as a way to help. We are waiting on further guidance from them. We don't know how long this will last could be 2, 3 months or longer.

Step up to Learn- Johnny, GSR – If we go along with Area will we keep our meeting ID's? Ans. Vice Chair – If you go with Area Zoom meetings you will get new ID's/password.

Cleantime – Walter, GSR – If group wants to keep their Zoom meeting can we give receipts to Area? Ans. Chair – Steering Committee did not discuss reimbursing groups for existing accounts. Vice Chair we did touch on this a little. To try to keep cost down the suggestion was maybe groups could share Id's.

Addict, Don – Read 7th Tradition, everything has its price. Groups appreciate the intent and afford of this Area. Ans. Chair – Its true meetings open/close every day. We are facing something new with this shelter in place. We will make mistakes but we are trying to get a handle on this. People coming out of Detox/Rehabs are a big concern. We will do the best we can to be visible to these people. We are trying to keep meeting open during this pandemic. Some groups don't have a lot of attendance and Region is steering people to those meetings.

Not Just for Women Only – Barbara, GSR – Are you offering help with groups that need help. Someone setup meeting out of their pocket but will not be able to support every month. Ans. Chair – Yes, if the group cannot financially pay for their Zoom account, Area will help.

Carrying the Message – Lincoln, GSR – Does PI have telephone #'s to give list of Zoom meetings approved by Area to Institutions?

Ans. H&I Chair – H&I is still carrying the message to institutions so they have updated information.

Men Working it Out – Tim, GSR – If group starts a meeting under someone's name will it be recognized by Area? Ans. Technology Chair – Group can edit name to maintain anonymity and be recognized by Area.

Time to Live & Give – Ruth, GSR – 7th Tradition states each group should be fully self-supporting. Why does Area need to refund groups? Ans. Chair – We don't have too.

Motion to Close

Meeting closed @ 8:30pm