

Just for Today Virtual Business Meeting Minutes

Time and Date: 20 Mar 2021 8:15am-9:30am

Join Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83283572014?pwd=QkJCN29LNm9MU2qrS2JOaDFIN0JWZz09>

Telephone Dial In: 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 832 8357 2014 Password: 951387

I. Opening (JFT Secretary)

- A. Thanks to Hilary V. (Host/Tracking Raised Hands); Trish M (Taking Notes); Chat Open
- B. Volunteer to read [*The 12 Traditions*](#) (Lisa); An Informed A.A. Group Conscience (Todd)
- C. Meeting process and guidance
 1. All JFT Meeting Attendees are invited to attend this business meeting; we ask that discussion and voting be limited to those who consider themselves a *JFT Group Member*
 2. Please mute when not speaking and unmute when speaking; VMHs will assist to keep order
 3. OnSite Liaison (@ St. Camillus with zoom access and projector) will monitor raised hands in room and request the 'floor' via raised hand feature
 4. Please limit comments during the discussion period to critical comments, keep them brief, and please do not duplicate what someone else has shared
 5. If multiple people stand for specific service jobs, we can vote as needed to select
- D. Purpose of meeting/review agenda
 1. Standing reports
 2. JFT Service Jobs new suggestions and rotations
 3. Recommendations from Steering Cttes/Task Force: a) District Workshop, b) Group Inventory, c) Steering Committee Scope and Structure
 4. Any other topics raised by group

II. Secretary's Report (Wendy MO)

- A. Virtual meeting management and processes: **Continued to carry the message as aligned with the 12 Traditions. Continued to develop, learn new strategies. Recommendations from Steering Committee Task Team pertaining to fluidity and flexibility within this structure.**
- B. Update on plans for website transition from .com to .org: **In process, not done yet. Mostly performing regular updates.**
- C. In-person meetings and recommendation for Alt-Secretary to manage in-person business meetings and service jobs going forward: **Virtual/In-person Meetings both going well. We will continue to monitor progress and effect of vaccinations; and changes in State/Church Guidelines and how that will impact both meetings. Guidelines for in-person meeting is status quo: maximum of 10 people; wear masks and social distancing. Will continue to monitor and update over the next 3-6 months.**

III. GSR Report (Kit M)

- **Kit M is currently representative for JFT in District 22. Todd A is District representative.**
- **JFT is part of Area 30 which covers Eastern MA.**
- **General Service Board oversees all AA Groups.**
- **Annual Worldwide Conference # 71 upcoming - attendees are delegates out of Areas. Requesting input from groups to develop agenda and issues of concern. Groups submit issues and committee narrows down to reasonable amount of topics to be discussed. A survey will be distributed (Kit M) requesting members to submit their thoughts, issues and/or concerns. There are 26 questions on the survey, such as:**

- Literature of AA; Fifth Edition of BB?; 12 and 12 Updates; Update to pamphlet “Questions and Answers about Sponsorship”; Discussion of how virtual meetings are here to stay; Preamble and gender neutral language
- The survey is due to the delegate by April 16, 2021.
- Currently there are 97 agenda items. There will be a Pre Conference Assembly to which all are invited. Date to be posted. Meeting was not held last year due to COVID hence, the long agenda. This assembly will run over 5 days.

IV. **Central Service Liaison** (Les P)

- Meeting was held on March 17th
- Public Information Committee
- How Central Service assists new persons inquiring about the program.
- Nomination form for 2021 Steering Committee: requirement is 3 years sobriety and former or current delegate to Central Service; 16 member board for a 2 year term. 8 new members and 4 alternates; Board coordinates recommendations from AA Groups, meeting lists and phone service at Central Service; Focus on Unity and how to resolve issues for all Eastern MA AA Groups; Election to be held on April 21st, April 14th deadline for delegate nomination form
- Financially in good shape. Feb 2021 contributions \$ 12,071.00 vs Feb 2020 contributions of \$ 3,292.00

V. **Treasurer’s Report** (Jennifer L)

- A. [Treasury update](#)
- B. Contribution distribution recommendations
 - Finances are looking good. 3 month window. Typical quarter
 - Tax forms for Non Profit declaration are completed

VI. **Meeting Steering Committee Reports**

- A. 6am Virtual Meeting Steering Committee update (Bray M)
No issues. All going well.
- B. 7am Virtual Meeting Steering Committee update (Alane W)
**No issues. Implemented steering committee recommendations
Made some changes to the script to include reminder about cross talk**
- C. Onsite Meeting Update (Jim S)
**No issues. Following current COVID guidelines of max 10 people, masks and social distancing.
Will update when/if any changes**

VII. **JFT Member/Contact List, JFT Google Group, and JFT E-Contact List Report** (Lisa W.)

- Lisa W transitioning out of position. Carol Ch to take over.
- Will sent out blast email to JFT attendees asking if they want to be included on this list. Received over 100 responses. Will be sending out a second email to see if any new people want to be added and to also include email addresses for individuals

VIII. **JFT Service Jobs** (Secretary) - [For Reference - Chart of Current JFT ALL Service Job Descriptions](#)

- A. [Change/New Recommendations \(see bottom of page 2 here\)](#)
 1. change minimum sobriety for JFTVirtual Platform Liaison and JFTVirtual Service Jobs Coordinator
**Change to 2 year minimum sobriety to ensure continuity; Todd and Les Motioned
Vote was unanimous, no persons abstained or opposed**
 2. Suggestions to develop additional JFTV Service positions

- **E-Card Role proposal to extend current individuals roles for another 3 months; no vote needed as this was part of initial proposal**
- **Web Master currently Wendy O requirement 2 years sobriety**
- **Virtual Greeter job for persons with newer sobriety 30, 60 or 90 days - may need to turn chat feature on to enable greeter to connect with those new to the meeting**
- **Chip Person - spread out Friday chip person to include more people**
- **Will send these suggestions to Steering Committees to consider**

B. Service Rotation

1. Thank you to all who are rotating out of service jobs!
2. **JFT Service Jobs open for rotation**
 - a) JFT Contact List: **Carol Ch**
 - b) Onsite Cards and Chips: **Maryanne**
 - c) Onsite Coffee Buyer: **Jason extending**
 - d) Onsite Literature: **Brian D**
 - e) Onsite Milk Buyer: **Jason extending**
 - f) Onsite Supplies Buyer: **Jason extending**
 - g) Virtual Service Jobs Coordinator: **Ric Q**
 - h) 6 am Virtual Steering Committee Chair: **Justina**
 - i) 6 am Virtual Steering Committee Member **Trish M, David H, Scottie M, Jo W**
 - j) 7 am Virtual Steering Committee Chair: **Lee D**
 - k) 7 am Virtual Steering Committee Member: **Trish M**
 - l) Virtual Meeting Documentation: **Larry L**
 - m) ECard Coordinator - trial to continue for an additional 3 months w/ Julie and Gwen
 - n) Virtual Chair Sign-Up Genius Monitor (monthly beginning May)
 - o) Virtual Meeting Hosts (One week at a time; added and integrated into the rotation)
 - p) Virtual Meeting Chairs (daily via signupgenius)
3. All those rotating in, please send JFTSecretary@gmail.com your email address, telephone number, and new service job so you can be connected with the outgoing person, who will train you. You can agree on the transition timing, etc.

IX. Recommendations from Steering Cttes/Task Force

- A. District Workshop: Governance and Maintaining Multiple Meetings (Todd A.)
Zoom workshop to be held on April 27th "How do meetings evolve now that Zoom is here to stay"; 3-4 panelists; 3-4 topics
 - **Hybrid meeting concept and best practices**
 - **How do meetings - two formats continue to monitor group conscience**
 - **Accessibility to Zoom meetings**
 - **Other suggestions for topics welcome**
- B. JFT Group Inventory led by neutral AA from Area Assembly (Kit M./Todd A.) Examples
 1. Go to [page 29 of The AA Group Pamphlet](#);
 2. [See this inventory that considers the virtual/Covid19 context](#)

Motion made to pursue a Group Inventory in about a month (Lee moved; Todd seconded); After a short discussion considering the value of holding a group inventory; a vote was taken with substantial unanimity to arrange for this; but there were seven abstentions and the group determined that we had not given enough time to the discussion and minority perspective - further discussion of the pros and cons of moving promptly to schedule and minority opinions that identified concerns about having the meeting in short time frame (people getting informed) and including all (access to zoom, etc.). Opinions were changed and it was voted to table the motion and pick up for further consideration at an additional JFT Group Conscience/Business meeting to be scheduled in approximately six weeks (TBD)

- C. [Steering Committee Scope and Structure](#) (Liz D.); this web page provides a [summary of the recommendations](#); access to the [detailed recommendation](#) about scope and structure of the Steering Committees, and the [agenda/notes from task team meetings](#) - including [feedback](#) and minority viewpoints.

This agenda item was not considered due to time constraints and will be postponed until next meeting.

X. Other business (all)

- **Motion was made/seconded to hold an additional JFT Group Conscience/Business Meeting to be scheduled in approximately six weeks (TBD); with two agenda items - a) Group Inventory, and b) Steering Committee Scope and Structure Recommendations - passed unanimously**

XI. Close with Serenity Prayer (all)

AA Resources to Support Group Discussion and Decisions

An Informed A.A. Group Conscience: The group conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive action is taken. This is achieved by the group members through the sharing of full information, individual points of view, and the practice of A.A. principles. To be fully informed requires a willingness to listen to minority opinions with an open mind. On sensitive issues, the group works slowly — discouraging formal motions until a clear sense of its collective view emerges. Placing principles before 29 personalities, the membership is wary of dominant opinions. Its voice is heard when a well-informed group arrives at a decision. The result rests on more than a “yes” or “no” count — precisely because it is the spiritual expression of the group conscience. The term “informed group conscience” implies that pertinent information has been studied and all views have been heard before the group votes. (*The AA Group* https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-16_theaagroup.pdf)

Concept 12. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action. (*The Twelve Concepts for World Service* https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-114_en.pdf)

Anonymity Online and Digital Media https://www.aa.org/assets/en_us/smf-197_en.pdf

The AA Group https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-16_theaagroup.pdf

The Twelve Concepts for World Service https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-114_en.pdf