

Agape Note for Group Conscience

7/3/2020

A general Group Conscience meeting to reopen the Gibson Building was conducted with Agape members and Steering Committee members totaling 17 people. These are the key takeaways from the session.

Notifications to all Agape members:

- A. The Zoom meetings will continue their current schedule. If you host an Agape Zoom meeting and intend to attend a face-to-face meeting at the same time on the same day...please coordinate with your Zoom meeting members to identify who will assume your Zoom host responsibilities. Written instructions for hosting Agape Zoom meetings can be obtained from mike@mikepalm.com.
- B. Each Zoom host/secretary should announce that the Gibson Building has reopened. Use the following:

The Gibson Building is available for face-to-face meetings

- Maryland, Baltimore County and Sheppard Pratt reopening requirements have been posted on a sign in the entryway to the Agape rooms.
- The orange chairs have been stored and replaced by 21 metal, folding chairs. The floors have been marked identifying where to sit for social distancing.
- Masks are mandatory. Wiping down all surfaces with the supplied sanitizers is necessary. Hand sanitizers are supplied.

- C. All Agape members should be made aware of the following motions reviewed, edited, and supported by the Group Conscience on July 3, 2020. (Zoom host/secretaries should review these with Agape members in their next meetings.):

1. The Maryland, Baltimore County and Sheppard Pratt Covid requirements should be followed (described in the hallway sign). Walking past the hall sign, entering a meeting room I agree to follow the requirements. (Motion was edited and passed, 15 yes, 2 abstentions)
2. The secretary for each meeting will be determined by the attending members. (Motion passed 14 yes, 2 no, 1 abstention)
3. If someone enters the room without a mask, the secretary and the meeting participants will ask the person to put on a mask or leave. (Motion passed 17 yes)
4. If people will not comply with social distancing and respect room capacity limitations, the secretary and the meeting participants will ask the person(s) to leave. (Motion passed 16 yes, 1 no)

(Group Conscience comment: Go to another room. Agape has no capacity for reserving seats to let people know ahead of time that there will be no seats available.)

5. If a self-identified newcomer cannot get into a room because of capacity limitations, a meeting member will exchange phone numbers with the newcomer in the hallway. (Motion passed 13 yes, 3 no)

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6. If a person refuses to wear a mask or comply with social distancing, and refuses to leave, the meeting should be ended. (Motion passed 15 yes, 2 no)

(Group Conscience comment: *Walls signs listing these agreed motions should be posted in each room.*)

7. Coffee and snacks will not be provided. (Motion passed 14 yes, 2 no)

(Group Conscience comment: *Coffee machines have been stored away.*)

8. Literature and directories will not be available. (Motion passed 10 yes, 5 no)

(Group Conscience comment: *Books can be bought through Baltimore Intergroup.*)

9. Readings for meeting will be brought to the meeting by the secretary. (Motion passed 7 yes, 2 no, 5 abstentions). Alternative developed: The Prologue, How it Works, and the Promises will be posted on a wall in each room (along with existing Steps and Traditions) for opening the meeting.

(Group Conscience comment: *Readings and literature can be accessed by smart phone.*)

10. The donations basket will not be passed around the room but basket will be available in the room. (motion passed 10 yes, 1 no). Detail developed: the announcements will include (following the 7th Tradition) donations can be dropped in the basket available in each room that the secretary will put in an envelope and deposit in the safe.

(Group Conscience comment: *A sign will be posted in each room that donations can be made at aa-agape.org using the installed Venmo app.*)

D. Next steps

1. Post copies of the Prologue, How it Works and Promises on the wall in each room. This came up discussing motion #9 – secretary bring readings. The Group felt that having them on the walls would facilitate that, and also allowing use of smart phones would enable having “germ-free” readings. (Virginia B)
2. Make a wall poster telling people in each room that donations can be made on the aa-agape.org website using Venmo. This came up discussing motion #10 on making donations. (Joe C)
3. Make a poster in each room listing the motions agreed by the Group Conscience (in the attached notes). These will help people in the face-to-face meetings keep order. These are written rules to which they can refer to (for example) end a meeting is someone refuses to wear a mask. (Virginia B)
4. The Group also said that we should send out the Group Conscience notes to as many Agape members as we have emails for, ASAP. We will need as many emails as we can get for me to make the distribution. The Zoom hosts should announce that Gibson has reopened. (Mike P)