Lancaster County Intergroup

November 20, 2024 **Meeting Minutes**

Jean began meeting at 7- pm with Roll Call. # attendees = 34 # of voting reps = 20

Tradition 11 read by: David
Concept 11 read by: Rick

Secretary's Report: (Interim) Mollie

secretary@lancasteraa.org

- Previous month's minutes – motion to approve: David; 2nd Sam
- Subcommittee chairs, please consider emailing report to IG secretary prior to next meeting. thanks 😀

Steering Committee Reports

Chairperson- Jean

chairperson@lancasteraa.org

- Last meeting hallelujah 😉

Vice Chairperson- Open Position

- No report

Treasurer- Bruce

treasurer@lancasteraa.org

- Balance Sheet:

		Expenses	Income		
Beginning Balance>>	$ 884.30	$7178.98	$1860.59	$3857.51	<< Ending Balance

Prudent Reserve $ 8,511.76 (Separate account)

- Treasurer's Report - motion to approve –Keith; 2nd Dan
- Julie inquired about fees listed on the report
- Terri questioned about replenishing funds from the large book order, Deb reported net was about $500 in literature sales, net gain was calculated based on the cost of literature listed on the website
- Jay's homegroup asked for a breakdown on move expenses; Bruce said he can break down the incurred costs for the move over each month since August for the record
- 2025 Budget was handed out last month and sent via email - no feedback was received
- Dale is asking why the budget for the answering service is increased by such a large amount, from 2295 in 2024 to a budget of $3840 in 2025 - the phone company merged with another and the cost was determined based on the average cost from several recent months
- Keith motioned: years ago we used to pass around a basket to support the meeting room Sam second 14 /20 the vote passes - a hat was passed $____ collected
- Dan motion to approve budget; Rob 2nd

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Office Coordinator- Debbie B

officecoordinator@lancasteraa.org

After last month's successful and smooth move to the new office at Liberty Place…

- volunteer staff immediately began gearing up for hosting the Literature Table at Area 59's request for EPGSA (Eastern Pennsylvania General Service Assembly)
- Over 18 volunteers over Friday-Sunday morning
- sold out of PLBB within 5 hours of opening
- obtained a square terminal and accepted CC payments for the first time ever for Lancaster AA CSO,Inc. J
- ○ Approximately $462…ish in net sales (depends on the price point used for purchase of books)
- ○ Approximately $5400 in deposits after close of EPGSA
- ○ (CC total for both days: 2654.02)
- ○ net total sales captured cash and CC (minus fees of about $78)=$4669.79
- Terri asked if we should upcharge to cover the expense of taking credit card payments; we pay more % for manual card entry, the average cost of using the square is around 2.5% of sales +$0.10 per transaction; for example, for sales over $2500, the fees cost about $78
- Terri asks that Deb write up her wish list for the office, a compilation of her ideas for distribution

Intergroup Committee Reports

Archives: *Collect, preserve, and share the rich and meaningful heritage of our Fellowship.*

Pete (archivist)- not present

Bruce-Assistant Archivist -present

- going through many boxes of archives, the plan is, before anything is moved into the archive cabinets, to make sure there are no duplicates getting put into the cabinets
- the archives are packed in storage bins in various homes
- Joe asked, if something happens to the archives when not in the office, will it be covered under our insurance - it would not be covered, Paul suggested it would probably be covered in part under homeowners insurance

Treatment Facilities: *Carry the AA message to facilities where the suffering alcoholic may be introduced to AA for the first time.*

Scott G - treatment@lancasteraa.org

- status quo w/ white deer run, every saturday available except for the 3rd Saturday from 7 to 8 or 7:30-8:30; current Tues and Wed commitments are "touch and go," [inconsistent] WDR is willing to get a new commitment in on Tues or Wed at 8
- Gatehouse men has new leadership, not clear if the Saturday/Sunday is still open; still waiting on hearing back from the new leadership.
- Gatehouse womens new leader is the previous mens - they are interested in bringing meetings to Gatehouse Women's -. The new contact for Gatehouse Womens is Samson Arnold. He gave permission to give his phone number and email address to groups that are interested contact Scott @ 717- if there is interest

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- contact info for taking meeting into gatehouse womens, call Scott if there is interest
- Blueprints - discussing having speakers on every other Tuesdays and Thursday 7-8
- If any group has interest, call Scott, 717-392-9193. Scott has been in contact in each treatment facility and can reach out to facilitate setting it up. Please let Scott know if your group gets a commitment so he can try to keep track of what groups are doing what and for how long.

Cooperation with Professional Communities: *Inform current and future professionals about AA—what we are, where we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do. Establish better communication between AAs and professionals and find simple, effective ways of cooperating without affiliating.*

Meeting -1st Monday 7 pm at 521 club

Scott R - cpc@lancasteraa.org - not present, Marcus

- We had a great meeting with the Manheim Township Police Department. It was a productive conversation, and we're excited about the possibilities it opened up. Here are some highlights:
- Sharing AA Resources: We left some materials for the officers to review so they can better understand what AA is and how we can help, as well as a new resource for them to hang in the break room (we've also shared this resource with the CPC chair at the GSO while at EPGSA).
- Looking Ahead to Spring: We talked about possibly doing a presentation during their workshops next spring—this would be a wonderful way to connect even more with their team and the community.
- Second Chance Program: They shared information about the program they run with the DA's office, which helps give people a fresh start. We're hopeful this could lead to even more opportunities to cooperate.
- Overall, it was an encouraging step toward building a stronger relationship with the local police department.
- CPC Chair Position Opening
- A quick reminder: the CPC Chair position will be open at the end of December. If anyone is interested (or knows someone who might be), now's the time to reach out! This gives us a chance to work together during December so the new chair feels ready to step in.
- Marcus is going to be the new chair for CPC
    - Jean inquired weather Marcus is willing to take on the PI positions as well since the PI position has been open for so long

Public Information – Open position *Convey AA information to the general public, including the media.*

- Keith made Motion to combine CPC and PI; Sam seconded the motion - 14 in favor, motion passes, prior to minority opinion being voiced
- Minority Opinion:
- Joe had good experiences with public information outreach, there are workbooks in the office free for committee members, the concern being that combining CPC and PI would take away opportunities to serve, Joe was reminded that he had time to drink so now that he wasn't drinking he'd have time for PI outreach
- After minority opinion,

- 6 people changed their vote, such that the motion does NOT pass to combine CPC and PI

Webservant

(If you have feedback or want to join the web committee, we meet the 1st Wednesday of each month at 5:45 on Zoom)

Woody - chair, not present

Greg - present, nothing to report

- Regarding seeing any outdated information on the LancasterAA website, clear your cache so that the new information will repopulate, (control H works if your browser is Chrome -Mollie)

Correction Facilities: *Coordinate the work of individual AA members and groups who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics behind the walls. Set up means of smoothing the way from the facility to the larger AA community through pre-release contacts. .* (Visit lancasteraa.org for contact info, requirements and procedures for volunteers under **Corrections Facilities Commitment Information** for more info)

Rick S - present; Gerri. not present– corrections@lancasteraa.org

- The Corrections Facilities Committee women's and men's coordinators met with prison staff recently and are moving closer to starting more meetings. We've also begun providing the prison staff with a weekly head count of inmate participants for use in services evaluation and planning. Men's attendance is now consistently averaging about 25 total for both weekly meetings and the two women's meetings continue to draw well over 30 inmates total.

- The men's and women's volunteer teams have each added a new member, but the need remains for more volunteers. The need is especially pressing for the women's meetings, and the men's team will need members who are available in the afternoon as new meetings are added. Intergroup reps are encouraged to announce this need at their home groups.

- Bruce inquired if interested people just fill out a form or can meet with committee coordinators ; Rick and Gerri are open to taking phone calls to discuss details; applications and process for becoming a volunteer

- David's home group, Easy does it, made a contribution of $200 to give to Correction Facilities committee for the purchase of literature

- Stefan donated a plain language book to the

Bridging The Gap (BTG): *Assist new members with transition from facilities or institutions.*

Dave B- not present bridgingthegap@lancasteraa.org

District Reports

District 34 (D34 meetings 2nd Thursday of each month 6:30 pm) currently on ZOOM Meeting ID: **861 9501 2493** Passcode: **945610**)

Jeff L—DCM – present

- D34 is REALLY struggling with participation
- Spread the word ANY groups in District 34 please come to the meeting (see above for zoom info)
- We want to know your needs and help facilitate those needs

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- District 34 meetings are on Zoom, more information is on the website

District 63 (D63 meetings- 2nd Tuesday of each month – Wheatland Presby 6:15pm)
Karen F—ADCM

- New members were voted in, only one? position remaining open
- Area 1st Quarterly Change-over Quarterly Meeting 2024, Sunday December 08, 2024

Brickerville Fire & EMS Company, 10 Hopeland Road, Lititz, PA 17543; **Doors open 8 AM, meeting starts at 11 AM.**

District 64 (D64 meetings-1st Thursday of each month 7 pm – St James Catholic Church, Lititz 17543)
Troi—ADCM – not present

- No report

Old Business

- Regarding taxes Our Previous Tax Attorney, Leon Rissler was contacted (717-715-2077). Leon explained we would need a notice from the IRS before he would be able to help. Keith discovered, via the website provided by Leon and using the EIN, that our non-profit status had been revoked since 2011 for failure to submit 990 EZ Tax Returns since 2008
- Keith then contacted the IRS and it was explained to him that further action will need to be completed by an officer of the corporation (Steering Committee Member of LAACSO Inc.)
- There appears to be 2 options:
    - 'Retroactive reinstatement(after 15 months) which will require all 990 EZ's re-created back to 2008. This section says there will be a penalty for failure to file annual returns in the last paragraph.
    - 'Post-mark date reinstatement'. Apply without 990 EZ-s. This require's to complete and submit Form 1023, Form 1023-EZ, Form 1024 or Form 1024-A with the appropriate user fee.
- if we do a post mark reinstatement request, the expenses will be more than $3300 and then on top of that we have to pay fines

New Business

- Josh representing Triangle group at Otterbien church, reports: the meeting is no longer in the basement, the homegroup is 4-5 active members Meetings are Monday at 7 pm;
  Otterbien church is building a homeless shelter, will open with limited capacity Christmas Eve, **the church asked if we can provide meetings for people who stay in the shelter**, full capacity 80-100 people in the shelter, shelter is co-ed, please reach out to your homegroups to help bring meetings into the shelter as Triangle alone does not have the numbers to support the volume of meetings that will be needed by the shelter

- Steering committee proposes slate of nominations: Tim for Chair, Sandy for Vice Chair, Lorman for steering, Jayme for Treasurer, the people who stood for positions were chosen by vote during the SC mtg and presented to the IG for their acceptance (or not)
- Keith motion to approve, Dan 2nd
- a vote was taken and enough were in favor to meet the substantial unanimity requirement

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- Minority opinion: Jay asked if the IG has any option for who the nominations were that stood for the positions, in other words, why does the IG not have the option to vote for other people who stood for the position
- Keith noted that the IG can make a motion to change the bylaws at any time and suggestions were made as to how the IG members could vote but no motion was made to change the bylaws regarding voting
- Rick suggested instead of changing the bylaws this evening, to look at the voting procedure, look at the way other groups handle voting - come back with three recommendations for how voting procedure
- Dale felt that concept 4 taken away from from the IG when the steering committee selected from the people who stood for positions
- Deb noted that there is typically not so many people to stand for the positions (the voting problem is atypical)
- minority discussion reopens the motion to approve the slate, 7 people who voted in favor of the slate SG committee members changed their vote such that there was no longer a substantial unanimity in favor of the slate
- Keith motioned to change the bylaws regarding voting for SG positions, no one seconded
- Keith gave many thanks to Deb for all the effort and smoothness of the move and the service at the EPGSA
- Keith mentioned some hearsay regarding paid positions and did some inquiry regarding special workers, pig roast workers could be paid special workers if they were caterers, for example. He calculated that at a rate of $15 per hour for approximately a 10 hour work week, give or take would add up to around $7200 dollars a year, based on IG funds Keith opines that paid IG positions are not sustainable. With that in mind, Keith motions to amend article 7 of the bylaws, see addendum. Keith motions to amend the bylaws, Sam 2nd, 10 in favor, motion doesn't pass
- With more work to be done on article 7; Rick suggests the bylaws are looked at holistically such that the changes to the bylaws are presented to the home groups all at once.

Returning to the election,

- Dan asked if the new committee members were actually voted in or not since enough members changed their vote in favor of electing the proposed slate of new members that there was no longer substantial unanimity. Jean suggested that since the bylaws state that the IG votes on the new members in November, and the motion was initially in favor, that the new committee members were elected.
- Dan made a motion to override the steering bylaws, Rob 2nd only 13 people voted and it was not substantial unanimity. Uncertainty remains as to whether new committee members were voted in or not

- Rob motions to create a group of four (4) IG members and 1 SG member to assess the bylaws at large, make amendments for consideration by homegroups prior to being voted on;
- Jay seconds 16 in favor
- IG members should consider if they are willing to dedicate time and effort to the bylaw committee such that the bylaws be modified with haste (but not hastily), and present yourself for consideration at the next meeting

Reports of interest to the community

Campout Zoom planning meetings on 1st Friday of the month at 5:30 pm *Zoom code 88984019791*

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https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88984019791

Reporting person-

Hand of AA (HOAA) lancasterAAconference.org

Reporting person-

Clean up next week, Tim, Lorman, Marcus, Dan +some other volunteers

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned around 8:45 pm

Intergroup helps to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous by

- *Providing an office and answering service*
- *Updating and publishing meeting schedules*
- *Maintaining an inventory of pamphlets, books and tapes*
- *Establishing and facilitating Intergroup committees*
- *Providing support to AA events in Lancaster*
- *Making decisions that affect AA in Lancaster County*

Next meeting—December 18, 2024

Respectfully submitted, Mollie I- interim secretary

(Errors may be present in draft versions— final approval at next month's meeting.)

Addendum

Article VII - Finances

Add Article VII Section 4

Lancaster AA CSO Inc. rarely has income that consistently exceeds expenses. We usually successfully operate within a reasonable margin of our annual budget and nothing more. As a result, we must be prudent and thrift. For that reason, all service commitments are voluntary and cannot be compensated for financially including wages, stipends, and bonuses. Our money must only be used to carry the message to the recovering alcoholic. This policy includes all positions in LAACSO Inc. including Intergroup.

Add Article VII Section 5

As a Group Concience, all service performed by AA members will be considered non-professional in accordance with Tradition 8. As a Group Concience, all Special Workers in accordance with Tradition 8, will only be considered if the worker is not an AA member.

Add Article VII Section 6

All expense disbursements to individuals must be listed on the Treasurers Report with the name of the recipient, the amount, and the purpose of the expense.

Add Article VII Section 7

Steering Committee Members, Committee Members, and Representatives, are assumed to serve a 2-year commitment. For that reason, LAACSO Inc. cannot justify the reimbursement of expenses for national or regional events related to a volunteer's function such as, but not limited to, National Archives Conferences, National Web Servant Conferences, and National Office

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Coordinator Conferences. Hower LAACSO Inc. will cover up to $100 of entry or admission fees. Expenses for these events can easily exceed $1,000. The return on investment just does not enrich the incorporation in relation to the expense. Attendance at these events ultimately becomes personal enrichment that does not benefit all. This must also apply to office volunteers and others whose positions are relatively permanent. Any training that is claimed to be missed by this policy will be replaced by on-the-job training administered by subject matter experts, as well as free handbooks.

Add Article VII Section 8

Expenses that exceed the budget of a committee in excess of $300 dollars for an annual budgeted period must be pre-approved by Intergroup with a simple majority vote, and Roberts Rules of Order can apply.

Add Article VII Section 9

Steering Committee will have the right to incur any expenses that are strictly related to our business operations. These expenses must be communicated within the Steering Committee before they are incurred unless guidelines or budgets have been set. Steering Committee incurred expenses will constitute, literature acquisitions, equipment, and business expenses. It will also include expenses that, if were not covered in a timely manner, could result in severe consequences or insolvency for LAACSO Inc. The Treasurer will cover all requested expenditures for literature acquisition since we can reasonably assume that our money will be recuperated. The exception for literature acquisition will be if the Treasurer reasonably believes our finances cannot withstand the expenditure. The Treasure will also have the authority to deny any other expenses they reasonably believe our finances cannot withstand. Steering Committee may override Treasurer disapprovals with a unanimous vote.

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