

The Bridge Group Business Meeting Minutes – **DRAFT NOT APPROVED**

Date: December 8, 2024

Open: 6:30 pm Eastern

Present: Lisa, C. Acting Chair, Clare B. Secretary, Cindy A. Treasurer, Mary Jane L. VR/WSO Rep, Carol C. WhatsApp Mod, Ellen G. Service Coordinator, Rosalie D-R, Kayeri A., Deborah E.

Minutes approved: November 3, 2024

Treasurer's Report: received by email from Cindy A., Treasurer

Income reflects extra week this month:

Venmo: \$62.00 (11 contributions)

Paypal: \$40.00 (2 contribution)

Total contributions: \$102.00

Expenses:

none

Starting balance: \$1,401.13

Contributions: \$102.00

Expenses: \$0

Ending balance: \$1,503.13 (\$467.93 in PayPal, \$1,035.20 in Venmo)

Prudent Reserve: \$1,000.00

Upcoming expenses:

March 2025: approx.. \$160 for Zoom fee

May 2025: approx.. \$400 for WSBC

July/August 2025: \$15, \$9.99 & \$89.88 for Bluehost fees

Suggested Distribution twice per year in June and December.

We are going to have a discussion on changes to the percentages.

IF WE KEEP IT THE SAME:

70% to virtual region, 30% to WSO (of \$500.00 to distributeS)

\$350 to Virtual, \$150 to World Service Organization (WSO)

After discussing the difference between the budgets, assets, and expenses for VR & WSO, Cindy recommends keeping it the same or increasing the amount to Virtual Region.

MOTION: Leave distribution as is, 70%:30%, VR:WSO.

Motion carries with 1 abstention. Distribution amounts will be made as stated above.

WhatsApp Report: Carol C., WhatsApp Moderator

WhatsApp is running steadily and smoothly, often with one person emailing to be added after each meeting is held.

Service Coordinator Report: Ellen G., Services Coordinator

All positions have been filled for December.

1. There is an urgent need for volunteer to manage leader/host assignments: it is 8 months out for Ellen who has taken the Service Coordinator 6 month commitment and no one is answering her emails or announcements regarding the open position. She is hoping to work with someone to help get them going on this process.
 - a. Discussion continues regarding the feasibility of maintaining this intensive job for one person versus other options of having host and leader commitments made, such as each meeting appointing their own.
 - b. The Saturday meeting is currently doing something of this nature but it may not be workable if another coordinator takes the position.
 - c. There is significant discussion of potentially restructuring the Bridge into four separate groups which would hold their own business meetings and select hosts/leaders, but this discussion is partly dealt with in the old business discussion of Intergroup Reps (IGRs) and tabled for continuance at January's meeting.

Action: Ellen will again send out an email and she and others will make the announcement at meetings they attend. (Without IGRs, there is no way to reliably communicate with every meeting.)

Action: Ellen will create a job description for the Service Coordinator to attract volunteers. *Perhaps this job description can be posted to the website.*

2. Time limit on service commitments. There is an issue with one person signing up to lead on Sundays who will by February have led for 7 months. Other members have expressed interest in taking the lead on Sundays.
 - a. There is much discussion of the spirit of rotation of service which is a 12 step program principle and not allowing meetings to become a personality meeting rather than maintaining diversity. Discussion again of having each meeting find leader/host without breaking up the idea on 4 meetings/one group.

MOTION: In the spirit of rotation of service, leader and host positions will be limited to 6 months.

Motion carries with 4 voting for the motion, 3 opposed, and 2 abstentions. The opposition voiced was to consider one month on, one month off.

*****CONTINUED:** The discussion is continued till next month pending a new coordinator versus the position remains open and other options need to be considered for filling monthly leader/host commitments.

Old Business:

Response to Intergroup Representative (IGR) proposal letter sent to Bridge members in October 2024.

There was one response.

- Discussion ensues as to the service positions available in the Bridge lacking IGRs as other intergroups have; the question of whether the Bridge, in wanting to be unique, wants to distance itself from OA and perhaps needs to have the humility to accept the likenesses.
- Discussion again regarding whether the Bridge should be 4 separate groups.
- It is brought up that many people don't read their emails about issues like this and perhaps it needs to be announced more often at regular meetings. This brings up the issue that having IGRs in the first place would make that dissemination of information more reliable.

Action: Announce the issue for the next business meeting at the 4 regular meetings. *Perhaps the website can be used to post this information.*

*****CONTINUED:** Discussion of the IGR item to the January business meeting.

New Business:

*****CONTINUED:** Closing entry to meetings after "X" minutes to exclude potential intruders. – Kayeri A.

*****CONTINUED:** In the Bridge meeting script, following the nine tools is the paragraph with the definition of abstinence. Recommend removing the word "quote:" from this sentence. – Paula S.

Meeting closed at 7:36pm EST with the Serenity Prayer.

Next Business meeting: Sunday January 5, 2024, 6:30 pm Eastern

DECEMBER SERVICE COMMITMENTS: 🎄

Sunday - Julie C. Leader, Denyse Zoom host (backup host 12/29, Clare B.)

Tuesday - Jeff E. Leader, Kayeri Zoom host

Thursday - George R. Leader (Backup leader - Deborah E. 12/5), Kristen B. Zoom host

Saturday – Avis J., Zoom host