

The Bridge Group Business Meeting Minutes

Date: November 3, 2024

Open: 6:30 pm Eastern

Present: Paula S. Chairperson, Lisa, C. Vice Chair, Clare B. Secretary, Cindy A. Treasurer, Mary Jane L. VR/WSO Rep, Carol C. WhatsApp Mod, Ellen G. Service Coordinator, Jeff E. Web Team, Diane T., Kayeri A., Deborah E., April W., Lois M.

Minutes approved: , 2024

Treasurer's Report: received by email from Cindy A., Treasurer
OA Bridge Treasurer's Report -- October 6, 2024 to November 2, 2024

Income:

Venmo: \$32.00 (6 contributions)

Paypal: \$15.00 (1 contribution)

Total contributions: \$47.00

Expenses:

none

Starting balance: \$1,354.13

Contributions: \$47.00

Expenses: \$0

Ending balance: \$1,401.13 (\$427.93 in PayPal, \$973.20 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.

70% to virtual region, 30% to WSO

- WSO is asking for an increase in percentage of donation between WSO and VR from 70/30 to 50/50. The group discusses the merits of this, proposes 60/40, and decides that more information on the budgetary needs of the 2 organizations should be considered. Diane T. will provide this information and it will be placed on next month's agenda.

WhatsApp Report: Carol C., WhatsApp Moderator

- Carol provides a brief update on the WhatsApp group, noting a slight decrease in new members joining but overall stable communication. The group discusses the possibility of adding a direct link in the chat to join the WhatsApp group but decides to keep the current manual approval process in place for security reasons and to continue to encourage service involvement regarding administration of the WA account.

Motion: Keep WhatsApp signup process as it currently is. Passed unanimously

Service Coordinator Report: Ellen G., Services Coordinator

Ellen reports on the ongoing challenges with finding volunteers to serve as leaders and Zoom hosts for the Saturday meeting. Currently there is no zoom host or leader for Saturdays in November though other positions have been filled.

Ellen has held several 5 min. business meetings on each Saturday that she has attended, asking for host and leader volunteers and no one has come forward, except for Kayeri as host and AJ as lead in October. Kayeri states she was hoping their example would encourage others to sign up, but that has not happened.

Several members share their perspectives, with some advocating for keeping the meeting going without required service positions, while others express concerns about the security risks.

Jeff stresses the 5th Tradition principle that our primary purpose is to carry the message, not provide security. However, other members express concern that this could impact other Bridge meetings (Tradition 4) by creating an atmosphere of distrust if there are significant intruder disruptions at unhosted meetings.

Kayeri relays a story of a traumatic zoom disruption when she was hosting and would like to discuss closing entry of any new attendees at 15 minutes into the meeting. *This will be placed on the agenda for next month's meeting.*

Jeff proposes a motion which is amended to refer to the Saturday meeting only:

Motion: The Saturday 1pm Eastern Bridge meeting will continue with or without a host.

Motion fails: 3 in favor / 7 opposed.

There is further discussion of whether the Saturday meeting should close, with varying viewpoints of what can be done to attract service commitments. Jeff proposes a motion that he be given the job of "host seeker," that once a host volunteers, they will find the host for the next month.

Motion: That Jeff be given the role of "zoom host seeker," recruiting one host volunteer for the Saturday Bridge meeting; then that person would find a volunteer for the following month.

Motion passed unanimously.

Given the time constraints, other agenda items are tabled for the next meeting.

Meeting ends @ 6:32 with the Serenity Prayer

Next Business meeting: Sunday, December 1, 2024, 6:30 pm Eastern

NOVEMBER SERVICE COMMITMENTS:

Sunday - Julie C. Leader, OPEN Zoom host

Tuesday – Joy D. Leader, OPEN Zoom host

Thursday - April W. Leader, Kristen B. Zoom host

Saturday - OPEN Leader, OPEN Zoom host

Minutes submitted by Clare Buckley, Bridge Intergroup Secretary