

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

Date: January 5, 2025

Open: 6:30 pm Eastern

Present: Paula S. Chairperson, Clare B. Secretary, Cindy A. Treasurer, Carol C. WhatsApp Mod, Ellen G. Service Coordinator, Jeff E. Web Team

Meeting opens with the Serenity Prayer.

Minutes approved: December 8, 2024

Treasurer's Report: received by email from Cindy A., Treasurer
December 8, 2024 to January 4, 2025

Income:

Venmo: \$48.00 (12 contributions)

Paypal: \$53.39 (3 contribution)

Total contributions: \$101.39

Expenses:

Distribution to WSO: \$150.00

Distribution to Virtual Region: \$350.00

Web BlueHost: \$31.16

Starting balance: \$1,503.13

Contributions: \$101.39

Expenses: \$531.16

Ending balance: \$1,073.36 (\$490.16 in PayPal, \$583.20 in Venmo)

Prudent Reserve: \$1,000.00

Upcoming expenses:

March 2025: approx \$160 for Zoom fee (from PayPal) May 2025: approx \$400 for WSBC

July/August 2025: \$15, \$9.99 & \$89.88 for Bluehost fees (from PayPal)

WhatsApp Report: Carol C., WhatsApp Moderator

Service coordinator report given first and meeting does not return to this report.

Service Coordinator Report: Ellen G., Services Coordinator

Discussion continued from the last business meeting about how to appoint zoom hosts and leaders in the absence of a service coordinator.

The group decided to decentralize the responsibility of finding hosts and leaders for each bridge meeting. The service coordinator position is now ending, and no one has stepped up to take it on. The group voted that each individual meeting will now be responsible for finding their own hosts and leaders in whatever manner they prefer, whether that's having one person for each individual meeting volunteer to find a host and leader for 6 months, having each new host/leader find their successor, or another self-organizing approach.

MOTION: Decentralize the appointment of zoom hosts and leaders and put the task to the group conscience of each Bridge Group meeting.

Motion passed unanimously 7/7.

Further discussion ensues as to how to best communicate this change to the individual meetings, including making announcements at each meeting in January, posting the announcement on WhatsApp and via email. The group will create a script for the announcement that will be shared with the meetings. People need to be given notice, but the change must be made for February, as currently there is only one leader slot filled.

MOTION: Announce at all meetings throughout January, in email, and by posting on WhatsApp, that individual meetings will be responsible for arranging their own zoom hosts and leaders, effective February 1, 2025.

Motion passed unanimously 7/7.

Commitments were made to make these announcements for each of the 4 meetings:

1. Sun: Clare
2. Tue: Carol
3. Thu: Paula/Carol/Ellen
4. Sat: AJ

Several people will stay after meeting adjournment to draft the script for the announcement. The Secretary will finalize the announcement, email it to each of the above and all officers, and after it is approved by consensus, post it on WhatsApp and email it to the Bridge membership.

A copy of this announcement can be requested from the Intergroup Secretary.

Upcoming Events and Service Opportunities:

1. *The Virtual Region Representative position is now open.* This position is a one year term commitment and includes attending two virtual assemblies.
2. The Virtual Region 2025 Convention, "In the Solution," held February 28th to March 2nd, will house the Newcomer's Open House.
3. Bridge meeting @ Newcomer Open House: March 1st @ 3pm EST (speakers confirmed)
 - o Moderator position still open.

Old Business:

1. In the Bridge meeting script, in a line following the nine tools description, Paula would like to strike the word "quote."

MOTION: Remove the word "quote" from the following sentence in the Bridge meeting script: *"OA defines abstinence as **quote**: the action of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight."*

Motion carries 100%.

2. Response to Intergroup Representative (IGR) proposal letter sent to Bridge members in October 2024. Continue discussion of group interest in having IGRs for each meeting.
 - a. Discussion of having 4 separate groups.
 - b. Would making this change eliminate the need for a separate intergroup meeting?

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

New Business: None

Meeting adjourned 7:26pm Eastern

Next Business meeting: Sunday, February 2, 2025, 6:30 pm Eastern

Minutes submitted by Clare Buckley, Bridge Intergroup Secretary