

Minutes: Ontario Intergroup of SLAA
Thursday, September 24, 2015. 7:00-8:30 PM
Room 1004, Cardinal Carter Wing, St. Michael's Hospital

Present: Dionne F. (Acting Chair, Vice-chair, Sat. 5:30 IR); Jim D. (Secretary, Hamilton Fri IR); Daniel W. (Treasurer); Susan O. (Literature Rep.); Alan B. (FWS Delegate, *interim* Niagara IR); Brian C. (Website, Holland Landing Thu 7:30 IR); Marc S. (Fall Conference Chair, Fri 6:00 PM IR); Irene B. (Spring Retreat Chair, Sun 10:00AM IR, Mon 7:00 IR); Bill G. (Oakville, IR); Thomas T. (Thurs 7:30 PM, IR); Linda S. (Brampton, IR); Kate T. (Tues 7:00 IR); Ron R. (Wed 12:15 IR); John G. (Fri 12:12 PM, *Interim* IR); Tim W. (*interim* Lit Rep, Guest).

Absent with regrets: Jody N. (Chair); John F. (Phone and PI, Pickering IR).

1. Meeting begins with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.
 - done
2. Introductions.
 - done
3. Attendance.
 - done
4. Reading of Trusted Servant's Prayer.
 - done
5. Reading of The Twelve Traditions.
 - done
6. Accept / Amend previous meetings Draft Minutes (circulated via email prior to the meeting).
7. Secretary's Announcements – Jim D.
 - Updated archiving of minutes. Other items under Old Business below.
 - Jim added said a few words acknowledging the significant contributions of the IG members that had recently left IG.
8. Reading of Reports:
 - a) **Treasurer** – Daniel W.
 - See attached report
 - Accepted, group conscience.
 - b) **Literature** – Susan O.
 - See report attached.
 - June- July, positive balance over reserve
 - July – August, negative balance over reserve

- August - September, positive balance over reserve
 - Report accepted.
- c) **Website** – Brian C.
- See attached report
 - Large number of website hits (over 8000/month – more to come in September yet).
 - Intergroup Application Form updated and now on-line.
 - Looking at adding pop-ups giving information for Intergroup positions.
 - Updating meeting lists with new SLAA Preamble.
 - Brian asked for permission to renew web account; agreed.
 - Accepted, group conscience.
- d) **FWS Delegate** – Alan B.
- See attached report
 - Went to Houston meeting and completed the Travel Equalization Form
 - Has had expenses paid already.
 - Reported on Handouts
 - Should we advertise our Fall Conference on the FWS Events Webpage? OK to do this; group conscience.
 - Conference approved Literature information is also available from a link on our Ontario SLAA website.
 - Jim will circulate the questions from FWS to Intergroup for people to respond to Alan by email.
 - Accepted, group accepted.
- e) **Phone Line and Public Information** – John F. (Absent, with regrets)
- See report for July and August; September to come next month (accepted, group conscience).
- f) **Correspondence received and sent** (checking mailbox) – Susan O. (Picked up by Daniel W.)
- One check received.
 - Accepted, group conscience.
- g) **Outreach Committee** – Tanya G. (absent, Dionne F.)
- Dionne read this report (attached)

- Tanya is leaving Intergroup.
 - Accepted, group conscience.
 - h) **Fall Conference** – Marc S.
 - See report attached.
 - Looking for Intergroup Members to help find facilitators.
 - Regarding ‘Newcomers’ and providing them with Newcomer Packages; probably not too many newcomers (about 10 at most). They cost \$6.50 each. Decided that Marc will pay for Newcomer Packages out of his current budget.
 - Question that we have a Newcomer’s workshop. Irene responded that not many showed up for one of these in the past. Suggestion that a Step 1 workshop might be more appropriate.
 - Report accepted, group conscience.
 - i) **Spring Retreat** – Irene B.
 - See report attached.
 - Accepted, group conscience.
9. Old Business:
- Secretary is looking for feedback on the reformatted “announcements” page.
 - i. Jim explained he is now putting newer items in bold and/or larger font compared to older stuff.
 - ii. Generally people liked this revised format.
 - Discussion on the “Description of Intergroup and FWS” document (circulated with Handouts).
 - i. Suggestion that the Description, in abbreviated form, appear in the Announcements”.
 - ii. Accepted, group conscience.
 - Discussion on the “Description of Intergroup Positions” (circulated with Handouts).
 - i. Jim described the “Description of IG Positions”.
 - ii. Brian asked if he could use these for the above mentioned Ninja popups on the website. Jim agreed and suggested adding footnotes ‘To see the Bylaws for more information’.
 - iii. Alan suggested removing the words “the newly formed” before “Outreach Committee”. Agreed that this should be done (version attached here has been revised).
 - iv. Accepted group conscience.

10. New Business:

- Susan gave notice to Jody earlier that she was resigning as Literature Rep as of this September Meeting; so Intergroup requires an interim Literature Rep to fill this position until the upcoming Election in November 2015.
 - i. Tim W. (former Literature Rep) agreed to do this position but does not want to be considered an Intergroup member. He would keep the books and report to Intergroup through the Treasurer Daniel W.
 - ii. Questions were raised about having access to bank account. Tim can deposit already and access fund via Daniel.
 - iii. Question about the literature on hand and Tim and Susan will arrange moving the literature.
 - iv. After question Daniel stated he is willing to the reports on behalf of Tim W.
 - v. After further discussion Tim was elected to this position temporarily, for a few months, until a replacement is found.
 - vi. Further Susan states that the Literature Rep should be changed to two positions as it is too much for one person to handle. This includes:
 1. Someone to handle the Literature and
 2. Someone to handle the financial aspects.
 - vii. Also, to restrict our Ontario Intergroup to providing service to Ontario only. Others can buy literature directly from FWS.
 - viii. Susan further commented that she went to a Recovery Celebration Workshop and the absence of SLAA was noticed (only Susan attended). We should have an Official Presence at this Workshop.

11. Other Business:

- Brian received a request from a PhD student for information from addicts. Comments on this were that this might violate our Traditions. What kind of information was requested (Brian thought 'stories of recovery')? Suggestion that we refer this student to FWS and see if it comes back to us as a 'conference approved request'.
- Question about providing information about Intergroup Elections at the Fall Conference. Agreed, group conscience.

Next Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2015 7:00 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM with a moment of silence. followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Handouts for September Meeting Following:

Treasurer's Report:

Balance Sheet Jun 22 -Sep 21 2015		
ASSETS		
Current Assets		previous balance
Cash	5954.63	
Other		
Total	\$5,954.63	\$5,954.63
Income		
Spring Retreat con (e-transfer)	237.66	
Oakville Group	146.00	
Monday Noon Group	100.00	
sundy bellwood Pioneer group	400.00	
Thursday night slaa anorexia group	250.00	
Total	\$1,133.66	\$ 1,000.00
Total Assets	\$7,088.29	
Expenses		
Current Liabilities		
fido june/july/august	91.53	
bank fee june/july/august	14.85	
Friday Noon Group s/u june 23/Wednesday evening s/u	\$100.00	
UPS yearly renewal (address)	141.25	
fall conference june 21	3.4	
Outreach pamphlets july 2	293.19	
FWS Contribution june 29	904	
FWS Deligate flight	383.22	
Total	\$1,931.44	\$ 35.46
Assets minus Current Liabilities	\$5,156.85	
FWS Fund	\$179.20	\$ 907.92
Reserves		
Fall Conference 2015 includes \$500.00 travel expence	1000.00	500
Spring Retreat 2016	500.00	500
Out Reach Program start up	\$300.00	10.96
FWS deligate fund 2016 (build to \$1800) \$100.34 remainder	\$279.54	483.56
AA Ont Rec Conf 2016	400.00	400.00
Total	\$2,658.74	\$ 2,802.44
Assest minus Reserves	\$2,498.11	\$ 3,152.19
Total Liabilities and Networth	\$5,156.85	\$ 5,954.63

Literature Reports – Susan O.

Literature Report

June 25-July 27, 2015

Account Recieveable		Account Recieveable	\$3,408.03	Treshold	\$8,500.00
Bank Amount (06/25)	\$2,759.11	Account Payable	\$50.81	Lit/Sale/Bank	\$8,891.25
Payment	\$606.42				
Fed-ex Copy Card	\$42.50	Total:	\$3,357.22	net/loss	\$391.25
Total:	\$3,408.03				
Accounts Payable		Bank Amount (07/27)	\$3,314.72		
		Fed-ex Copy Card	\$42.50		
		Total:	\$3,357.22		
		Inventory/Bank Amount/Literature Sales Total			
Shipping	\$45.86	Inventory	\$4,980.50		
Bank Fees	\$4.95	Bank Amount (07/27)	\$3,314.50		
Customs		Literature Sales (06/25-07,	\$596.25		
Total:	\$50.81	Total:	\$8,891.25		

Literature Report

July 28-August 27, 2015

Account Recieveable		Account Recieveable	\$3,403.46	Treshold	\$8,500.00
Bank Amount (07/28)	\$3,314.72	Account Payable	\$21.66	Lit/Sale/Bank	\$8,330.30
Payment	\$46.24				
Fed-ex Copy Card	\$42.50	Total:	\$3,381.80	net/loss	-\$169.70
Total:	\$3,403.46				
Accounts Payable		Bank Amount (08/27)	\$3,339.30		
		Fed-ex Copy Card	\$42.50		
		Total:	\$3,381.80		
		Inventory/Bank Amount/Literature Sales Total			
Shipping	\$16.71	Inventory	\$4,884.50		
Bank Fees	\$4.95	Bank Amount (08/27)	\$3,339.30		
Customs		Literature Sales (07/28-08,	\$106.50		
Total:	\$21.66	Total:	\$8,330.30		

***The reason why for the negative amount, I have yet to receive payment from three groups.

Literature Report

August 28-September 21, 2015

Receivable		Account Receivable	\$3,892.71	Threshold	\$8,500.00
Account (08/28)	\$3,360.96	Account Payable	\$1,552.79	Lit/Sale/Bank	\$8,895.24
	\$489.25		Total: \$2,339.92	net/loss	\$395.24
Copy Card	\$42.50				
Total:	\$3,892.71	Bank Amount (09/21)	\$2,170.74		
		Fed-ex Copy Card	\$42.50		
Accounts Payable		Total:	\$2,213.24		
Balance	\$1,547.81	Inventory/Bank Amount/Literature Sales Total			
	\$0.00				
Assets	\$4.95	Inventory	\$6,016.75		
	\$0.00	Bank Amount (09/21)	\$2,170.74		
Total:	\$1,552.76	Literature Sales (08/28-09)	\$707.75		
		Total:	\$8,895.24		

***The reason why the unbalanced amount is, I am still owed money from five different groups. Also, I am owed \$47.81 from literature.

September 2015 Delegate Report – Alan B.

1. Houston
 - a. All expenses paid
 - b. Travel Equalization Form submitted
 - c. Outcome of motion to follow upon release of minutes
 - d. Board of Trustees Election
 - i. Re-elected to a 3 year term
 1. Steve B.
 2. Susan G.
 3. Chris D.
 - ii. Confirmed
 1. Jack S
2. Handouts
 - a. Conference approved literature
 - b. Anonymity, the Law and SLAA
 - c. Did You Know That the Fellowship Wide Services (F.W.S.) Office...
 - d. Journal Subscription cards
 - e. SLAA Twelve and Twelve Book Project Draft
 - f. Augustine Fellowship donation envelopes
 - g. Index to the basic text bookmark
 - h. Literature Start-Up Pack flyer
 - i. Anorexia Group Starter Kit flyer
 - j. SLAA Step Questions Workbook
 - k. 100 Tools for Recovery list
 1. SLAA Anorexia Recovery Tools Draft
3. Intergroup Questionnaire

Webmaster Report for July, August, September 2015 – Brian C.

	July	August	September
Information Emails	6	3	4
Website Hits	8823	8734	6123
Canadian Hits	1141	1001	593
Meeting List Downloads	343	363	230

1. Important Changes:
 - a. Meeting lists updated
 - b. Manresa meeting changes
 - c. Poster for Fall Conference Posted
 - d. Updated nomination form
2. Goals for next two Month:
 - a. Enter meeting list information into online database (not done during summer)
 - b. Questions for delegate

<http://slaa-ontario.org/application.htm>

SLAA Ontario Intergroup Application Form

The purpose of this form is to let the Ontario Intergroup know about your intention to run for an intergroup position. The information you provide will be kept confidential and only used to help the voting body of intergroup get to know you better. Nominations of Intergroup officers will be made from the floor by any member of the Intergroup voting body at the election meeting.

Qualifications
Any member of S.L.A.A. in Ontario is eligible to hold office provided they meet the following criteria:

1. are present for the Intergroup meeting at which they may be elected;
2. have been in the Fellowship for a minimum of one year;
3. attend S.L.A.A. meetings on a regular basis
4. work the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions
5. possess the skills necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the office.

In addition to the qualifications, the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair have a one year sobriety requirement.

* Required

First Name *

Last Initial *

Position You Are Applying For *
(Description of positions can be found in our bylaws - see the Intergroup link on the side of this page).

Your Home Group *

Intergroup Rep/Officer Who Will Nominate You *
In order to stand for a position, you need to be nominated by a current Intergroup Representative or Officer. Please provide the name of either your intergroup rep. or someone on the intergroup committee who will endorse your application and nominate you for your desired position.

Tell Us About Yourself

How long have you been a member of SLAA?

Do you have a sponsor?

Do you have any sponsees?

Tell us why you want to run for an intergroup committee position

Tell us about your qualifications for the position

Tell us any other information about yourself

Thank you for your interest in Intergroup service.

Your information will be kept strictly confidential and will only be available to the voting members of Intergroup for the purpose of getting to know the prospective candidates and to ensure the requirements are met.

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.

2015 Fall Conference September Report

The 2015 SLAA Fall Conference Planning Committee had our most recent meeting on September 3rd, 2015. At that meeting, we reached consensus about our keynote speaker, coordinated signage for the conference, and made plans to contact St. Andrew's regarding contract signing and booking a space for a facilitator's orientation on November 5th.

We are pleased to report that Rita H. from Montreal, who served on the Board of Trustees of SLAA FWS and has been an active member for many years, will be our keynote speaker! Our costs for bringing her here will likely be less than budgeted for. Yay!

We are reaching out to the larger SLAA membership for potential Sharing Session facilitators, with the following suggested topics:

- Healing shame
- Top lines
- Living in sobriety
- Healthy relationships: new or reconciled
- Five S's as cornerstone for healing
- Shame and gender identity
- Healthy sex
- Meditation
- Living alone in sobriety
- Friends in recovery
- Sponsorship

Reminder of IG's Guidelines for Facilitators:

1. Regular members of SLAA meetings
2. Work primarily with SLAA approved literature and the 12 steps
3. Active members of the fellowship (meaning active members of their home group or intergroup or committees)
4. If the individual is a professional or member of a separate organization – they are welcome to lead an SLAA workshop - provided that they are in no way attempting to benefit their own causes, organizations, or businesses (Tradition 6).

We also discussed having subsidized Newcomer Packages available - will IG cover this? - and will have Registration and Literature together on the day, as well as refreshments. Rather than having bottled water, the church has offered the use of their jugs so we only need ice and cups. We have a dozen volunteers lined up for the day, as well as three confirmed entertainment acts. Finally, we reached consensus on passing a 7th basket ONLY if registration is unexpectedly low.

Our next meeting will be on October 1st.

Yours In Service,
Marc S.
2015 Fall Conference Committee Chair

SLAA TELEPHONE REPORT FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2015 – John F.

(Absent, with regrets, due to illness he has only been able to report for July and August and will catch up with September and October next month)

Total telephone calls for the two months came to 28.
All were looked after in a timely manner by SLAA volunteers.

PUBLIC INFORMATION REQUESTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2015

0 requests

John F.
Pioneer Group, Pickering

2016 Spring Retreat Report

The 2016 SLAA Spring Retreat Committee has been formed:

Irene B., Chair
Kate T., Treasurer
Justin H., Executive Member

Dates for the retreat have been confirmed at Scarboro Missions for April 8, 9, and 10.

A "save the date" flyer has been created and is ready to be placed on the SLAA web site (and see flyer on next page).

The committee will meet to discuss a theme, budget and general organization and will provide more information at the next intergroup meeting.

Thank you,

Irene

SAVE THE DATE!!

SLAA SPRING RETREAT

April 8-10, 2016

Location: Scarboro Missions, 2685 Kingston Rd., Scarborough, ON M1M 1M4

Includes: Workshops, Keynote Address, Fellowship, Crafts, Walk to bluffs, and so much more!



More information to follow: <http://www.slaa-ontario.org/>

Outreach Committee – Tanya G.

Tanya indicated that she can no longer do the Outreach Committee position. She did write that:

“I am hopefully giving the materials to Brian on Sunday and I won't be making a report. My computer has a virus so everything I am doing is by phone. Also nothing has happened since our last meeting except that I sent 6 packages to Hamilton.”

Description of Ontario Intergroup and Fellowship Wide Services (FWS):

Ontario Intergroup works for the good of S.L.A.A. as a whole. Quoting from our Ontario Intergroup Bylaws:

“Intergroup exists to support the Twelve Step and Twelve Tradition work of S.L.A.A. groups registered in Ontario in their common primary purpose of carrying the message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.”

This service work includes, in part: organize retreats and conferences, maintains the website, and sells conference-approved S.L.A.A. literature.

Fellowship Wide Services: While Intergroup is the Ontario body, the world service body is FWS; quoting from FWS:

“The specific and primary purpose of this Corporation is to be of service, through a Twelve Step program of recovery, to those persons who identify themselves as sex and love addicts.”

Among other activities this includes: producing S.L.A.A. literature, organizing worldwide events, and maintaining a comprehensive website for S.L.A.A..

Description of IG positions from Bylaws

Overview:

The following description of SLAA Officers and related positions is abbreviated from the SLAA Ontario Bylaws and is not meant to replace the Bylaw description. For more information see: slaa-ontario.org/PDFs/bylaws.pdf; pp. 5-9.

Any member of S.L.A.A. in Ontario is eligible to hold office provided they meet the following criteria:

1. are present for the Intergroup meeting at which they may be elected;
2. have been in the Fellowship for a minimum of one year;
3. attend S.L.A.A. meetings on a regular basis
4. work the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions
5. possess the skills necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the office.

In addition to the qualifications, the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair have a one year sobriety requirement. The positions of Chair and Vice-Chair are for one year as are Service Committee Chairs (with a possible renewal for a second year); all other positions are for two years with a possible renewal for a second two-year term.

Abbreviated Descriptions of IG Officers and Other Positions:

Chair: Sets the agenda and chairs the IG meetings, delegates duties to IG members, and facilitates the process of determining group conscience on IG decisions.

Vice- Chair: Assumes the responsibility of the Chair in the absence of the Chair.

Secretary: Takes and distributes minutes at IG meetings; distributes reports from IG Officers before the next IG meetings, and maintains a list of IG members.

Treasurer: Maintains and reports on the financial activities of IG, oversees the IG bank account, makes donations to FWS, and acts as a financial advisor to all IG committees.

Literature Coordinator: Supplies conference approved literature to SLAA groups, keeps a supply of SLAA literature, reports on the financial activities on literature purchases and sales to IG, and maintains a chequing account for SLAA Literature.

Phone Line and Public Information Coordinator: Oversees a team of volunteers to respond to calls/emails to our SLAA phone line/email address. Acts as a liaison with the public and media in accordance with the 12 traditions and SLAA guidelines. Reports on the above to IG.

Website Administrator: Maintains the website with up-to-date information on meetings, events, IG meeting dates, etc. Forwards emails received to the appropriate person.

Fellowship Wide Services Delegate: Acts as liaison between FWS and IG and attends the FWS Annual Business Conference/Meeting (at the expense of IG). Report on recent FWS activities on the ABC/M to IG. It is suggested that the delegate have one year of recent service to SLAA beyond the group level.

Committee Chairs: Intergroup appoints committee chairs to handle IG service duties such as: Fall Conference, Spring Retreat, Prison Outreach and Outreach Committee. These committee chairs are responsible to IG and report regularly to IG on their activities. The positions are one year terms & are separate from the regular November elections.

End of Handouts for September 2015 IG Meeting.