

RHODE ISLAND AREA ACA INTERGROUP
Event Meeting Minutes. DRAFT
10/29/2022 @ 9:30 AM in person and via Zoom

In attendance: Linda, Deana G, Joe G, Rebecca S, Pike P and anonymous fellow

9:30 AM AD Hoc hearing of anonymous Fellow Traveler's complaint of unsafe treatment on RI Area Intergroup hosted morning Zoom Meeting. Comments kept off record to protect his anonymity by request. Fellow assured his complaint was heard and validated and would be addressed with follow up action. Fellow graciously accepted and left meeting.

9:40 AM Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer

10/1/2022 Minutes:

Motion made and unanimously passed to accept Minutes of October 2022 Meeting

Agenda:

- Item 1. - Addressing issues of morning Zoom meeting.
- Item 2. - Event Planning Check-Up

Deana, Technology and Outreach, reported there are a few issues: E-mailed complaints from group members expressed concerns of conflicts of interest, control and safety among the 7 AM Zoom channel fellows resulting in a number of members to question meeting safety and concerns of former members leaving the meeting. She proceeded in reading a string of messages from members and newcomers' texts or emails she received.

Discussion of concerns:

Intergroup stewards the ACA Zoom meeting operation and its safety by asking fellows to email in for the Zoom meeting passcode in order to reduce likelihood of phishing, perpetrators, trolls, etc. crashing into meetings. Last year, regular attendees formed a group on the open channel, have business meetings, and registered with the WSO. They have recently posted the Intergroup's Zoom channel passcode publicly on WSO meeting calendar website. This is in violation of RI Area's guideline that requests meetings to not publish but only pass on to trusted members to avoid bots or Zoom perpetrators. The 7AM channel meeting group since has grown rapidly in numbers up to three-fold its former average during covid years. This prompted Intergroup to open their second channel at 7 AM for a 'Zoom-2' meeting to allow users more access to share time, Pike a fellow traveler of the 7 am meeting, announced Zoom-2 was met by backlash from several meeting members who claimed Tradition of groups' autonomy. Intergroup holds the opinion the channels, supported by intergroup are analogous to the church or meeting halls and are opening up more space, while some members of the 7AM group modeling the inverted triangle of ACA service, deem that intergroup overstepped the groups autonomy. It was noted that all the channels are 'open', and were not meant to be controlled by a separate autonomous group, especially not abiding by the Intergroup agreement to not publicize the zoom password, which negates the security check.

It was noted the 7AM 'group' has no Intergroup representative despite being invited and It is not self-sufficient or supportive of Intergroup's Zoom infrastructure through 7th Tradition contributions as the other regularly held Zoom meetings. Though some individual donations have been made, the 'group' prerogative seems to siphon potential 7th Tradition support and/or membership. The group not owning their zoom channel and planning to form their own treasury conflicts with Intergroup's Zoom ownership and safety controlling rights. Subtle control issues of meeting versus Intergroup continually plague fellows. Last month, in support of and request of 7AM Zoom fellows, Intergroup gave the Zoom host key to trusted servant members. The host key gives a person with the key the ability to control the meeting attendees by blocking or silencing a participant, among other advantages. The complaint came from a newcomer who joined under an alias name, was disruptive and triggered a few members, then was blocked from the meeting by the host, more than one time. Intergroup holds that a Host does not have the authority to cut someone from the meeting and that joiners have the right to remain anonymous, especially newcomers. This is a second breach of the Intergroup guidelines for Zoom meetings. The following motions were made:

A motion was made and unanimously accepted to have the Zoom password removed from the public WSO meeting calendar as per Intergroups stipulation for Zoom use.

A motion was made and unanimously accepted to change Intergroup's Host Key passcode.

Agenda Item 2.- Tomorrow's Event

Full and quarter page Flyers were printed and posted through groups. It has been announced in meetings, the donations and registration is on the website and offers \$10. fee, scholarship and gift options. Deanna reminded that the talk will be recorded and published.

Linda has organized all the sundry items and took charge of purchasing. Ice, water, trash bags, breakfast items, donuts, danish, yogurt, fruit salad, coffee, cream, tea, cups plates utensils, and trash buckets. Discussion followed with questions on purchases, and comments on additional pot luck contributions. A donation box will be there.

Joe is bringing tents and at 9am. Eric, and Kevin will do set-up for literature / registration table Deanna went Thursday to pre check acoustics and staging. Linda, Rebecca and Pike will be there at 9 AM to set up food tables, arrange chairs and make coffee.

The guest speakers graciously are volunteering their service. It was decided to give \$150 gift card to the couple speakers to a nice restaurant in Providence, to be determined.

Motion made and accepted give \$150 gift card to Dr. and Mrs. Guzman, the presenters.

Motion made to close meeting

10:30 AM Meeting Closed with the serenity Prayer

Next Month the meeting is held 11/12/2022 the Saturday following the Event.

Respectfully submitted, Pike, Secretary