

New York Crystal Meth Anonymous-- Intergroup Monthly Meeting December Meeting 2012

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Attendees:

Mark V (NYCMA Vice Chair); Fernan R (NYCMA Structure & Finance); Richard K (GSR Monday RC & Tuesday Beginners Meetings); Kemett (GSR Harlem); David H (NYCMA GSO); Jeffrey F (NYCMA H&I Chair); Billy U. (NYCMA PI&O); John H (NYCMA Treasurer); Jeffrey S; Christopher E (GSR Friday Beginners); Sze Y; Nadir W (NYCMA Chair); Edward P (PI&O Chair); Stephen L (NYCMA Share A Day Chair); Bill B (NYCMA Activities Chair); Conor M (NYCMA GSR Coordinator); Carmine N; Bruce W (GSR Sat Solutions); Brett S (NYCMA Secretary)

As the meeting began, there was a concern over whether **Quorum** would be achieved.

The meeting began with a discussion of issues that could precede actual voting, that is temporarily skipping reports that would require an approval vote.

The meeting began with a discussion of whether the fellowships sale of *Expressions of Hope* violated **a sales tax/profit issue**—with our showing an income/profit for literature in a bank account that exceeds our level of expense. The resultant suggestion was to phrase the request for a **“suggested donation of \$5”** for a copy of the book.

With only 11 attendees that could vote, the meeting continued with reporting that did not require voting.

Billy U. gave the **PI&O Officer Report**, indicating that the phone line and NYCMA email are still being monitored.

The committee did not meet in December.

Billy also indicated that he believes the **helpline is underutilized** considering the # of active addicts in NYC, and suggested we look at ways to increase awareness of the helpline during 2013.

Billy also provided an update about **the World CMA public service announcement**, indicating that the General Services Committee had just voted on the final version of it along with the final version of

the CMA-wide anonymous fellowship survey. He expected both would “go live” in January.

Jeffrey F provided an H&I Committee report indicating that there is an ongoing panel commitment chaired by Richard K at the St. Christopher’s Inn facility in Garrison, NY. He also shared that negotiations are currently in play with Beth Israel and Phoenix House to begin panels, possibly set up by January. Finally, he indicated that H&I is working on creating an orientation day on the last Saturdays of the month at 6:30 or 7, to orient people interested in H&I service around the specific needs and likely experiences doing service at prison, detox, aftercare facilities, etc.

With at least 14 voting attendees, the Intergroup meeting achieved Quorum and reintroduced the Secretarial and Treasury reports.

Brett S presented the November (“October”) minutes that were read and reviewed in the meeting. No corrections were offered. After a motion to approve minutes, a vote occurred to approve the minutes with 1 abstention, 0 negative and all other votes affirmative.

John H. presented the Treasurer's report. He began by complimenting the Holiday Party to draw our attention to “the incredibleness of the holiday party” saying it was “fucking amazing on a multitude of levels.” He reviewed that \$2050 had been taken in at the door, and another \$1307 from the raffle, with \$2175 in from the auction.

He indicated that from the previous month to this month, \$4,718.69 had come in (with \$1901.78 incoming during November). He reviewed that after the prudent reserve is considered, there was almost \$5,000 available in the account. In addition, we were reminded that \$629 remained from the Locker Settlement and \$600 from the separate place-holding literature account, that \$329 was to be deposited from Long Term Sobriety. In addition, the Anniversary Committee had earned money, especially due to Chet K’s generous donation of the medallion expenses.

John reminded us that some account expenses had not posted yet and were not reflected on the account—such as a \$12.57 monthly phone charge that had been billed for this month yet.

Additionally, 170 *Expressions of Hope* have been sold.

John H. pointed out that he anticipated approximately \$7,000 would be available to carry over into FY 2013. He pointed out that our YTD expenses of \$18,353 were close to our revenue of \$23,422.46 (pre-recent income). John also reminded us again that we may want to consider developing and maintaining a budget that secures an entire fiscal year, as some older larger fellowships do (approximately \$20,000 for us).

John H. noted that his spreadsheet did not reflect an August approved Share-A-Day \$1,000 budget expenditure increase, which he said he would correct. He additionally indicated that the January 2013 treasury report would cover expenditure/revenue through Dec 31, 2012 before turning over to the new treasurer. He also asked committees to keep their FY 12 budget and actual expenditures available for planning purposes.

After a motion to approve, 12 voted affirmative with 0 opposed.

Edward P gave a Public Information Committee report, indicating that there was “not much to report.” In response to a question on information promotional “cards,” he indicated that both he and Billy U had cards at their house and a small stack at Rainbows and Triangles. In addition, H&I indicated that they have business cards.

Edward indicated that we did not have current authorizations to distribute at new agencies. He shared that Harlem United had given approval for display. Fernan asked if we could put some cards on the public boards at the Gay & Lesbian Center and Edward affirmed calling it a “great suggestion.”

David H offered the Literature Report filling in for Mark L. The committee had put in a new order for pamphlets. Fernan affirmed that literature materials could temporarily be stored at Rainbows and Triangles if plastic bins were purchased, but pointed out that based on having another business partner, that he can't affirm that stored items would always remain safe or viable or accessible, especially if he was not on site.

The issue of obtaining a new, non-basement storage locker was raised again, with a suggestion that we hold off on the additional AA/NA literature purchase and other items until storage is reestablished. The original contents in the basement at Fernan's store had doubled in size, and literature and activities collectively could definitely make use of an official storage space.

David indicated that NYCMA was thinking about a new newsletter at the beginning of 2013, but that World might take over the newsletter with David at the helm as the only NY rep to World. Carmine N raised a concern over sustainability of the newsletter if it becomes a World venture, and indicated that the issue should be addressed in January at the 1st conference call with world. It was agreed that the new Literature Chair would address the issue.

The Literature Coordinator report reviewed that Ray had given David almost everything including pamphlets and order forms, and that John had some ceramic chips salvaged from the storage locker that after cleaning represented a \$400 value. It was restated that we will need to order new AA and NA books once we have a storage space.

Conor presented the GSR report indicating that there was nothing to report.

Bill B offered the Activities Committee report, reiterating the incredible experience had by all at the Holiday Party, reporting:

- \$2,080 was raised at the door
- \$ 3,427 dollars were raised...not including \$2,175 from the silent AUCTION
- With \$ 2,163 in expenses there was a \$3,500 profit...

In response to a question about whether exact dollar figures would be shared throughout the fellowship regarding the literature fundraising and breakdown, Fernan suggested we generally share “we did really well” and direct those that want a breakdown to ask GSRs to review meeting minutes.

Bill offered top compliments to Edward P, who offered compliments back as they debated joyfully who did 52% of the work and who did 48% with smiles. Fernan’s masterful leadership of the silent auction was also complimented. Bill also said the display was impeccable and asked that all Intergroup attendees and Conor’s GSR notes let everyone know how much appreciation the committee had for all volunteers from “those who untangled balloon strings” to those who helped with setup and breakdown, to those who cooked Chili for planning meetings, etc.

Bill also shared his tremendous gratitude at his time as activities chair, seeing growth in himself, the growth in the stature of the

Activities committee growing to a full voting position thanks to Structure & Finance, and the exponential growth of annual tradition events that the Activities committee has brought to NYCMA (celebrity, stepping stones trip, holiday party, etc.).

He also shared that the efforts around events, especially the recent holiday party, showed that the organization had tremendous fundraising capacity without spending too much money. Additionally, he indicated with only 2-3 weeks of preparation time, the event served as an organizing benchmark, showcasing sheer power of volunteerism, including non-fellowship members who baked goods and volunteered, showed the “respect and honor” that we can provide for ourselves and for newcomers by bringing people into our mission and showing what “absolutely miraculous things can happen.” Fernan complimented how much the effort showed about the power of recovery and how far the progression had been from the first few meetings.

Mark V offered the Vice Chair Report, indicating that the December 3 Anniversary Meeting had 9 celebrants and had taken in \$65 in 7th Tradition. The Quarterly Report to the Treasurer had approximately \$200+ to be turned in to the Treasurer based on Chet K’s donation of medallions.

David H offered the General Service Officer to World CMA report, reiterating that the World survey would be out within 2-6 weeks. He additionally affirmed he would follow up on World CMA’s exploration of Queer and Sober’s site references to alleged donations that CMA policies would not have accepted. David also shared that changes in World Policy now allow 2 NYC delegates in an effort to increase participation in World conferences—in Minneapolis in 2013 and Los Angeles in 2014.

Old Business

After an initial motion to table old business until after the elections, it was determined that there was no old business.

New Business

Edward shared research on a new storage locker, indicating that a 4’ x 5’ x 8’ locker is available at:

17th and 11th; 21st and 11th (not functional); 23 and 10th; 29th and 11th

for \$100 a month with a pretty simple process for signing up. Fernan suggested that the 23rd street location had easy bus access and an indoor loading dock, suggesting it might also be on high enough ground.

Billy U pointed out that our body had previously approved the storage locker and that a new motion was not needed—just a direction to the newly elected Literature Coordinator to execute the locker. A vote was proposed to renew the 2012 locker decision for 2013, with a 14 affirmative, 1 opposed, 1 abstention vote to renew.

John H made a proposal to formalize a large-scale holiday party like other fellowships. Pros and Cons were shared.

Edward shared the Con that he was not sure that such fundraising events were formally needed. John H clarified it was proposed with a goal of expanding toward a 1-year financial level of prudent reserve to insure long term financial stability and avoid moments like the previous months' meeting where committees were debating sacrificing their budgets to fund events like the Holiday Party and Anniversary Party, both of which had revived veteran fellows into action alongside new fellows.

Richard K offered a Pro that people in the room could be trusted to learn from mistakes of the past and effectively use the funds to embody principles/traditions and support the newcomers and the fellowship.

Additionally a Pro was made that a Parliamentarian position created in addition to large scale fundraising could support the development of 5 year and 10 year plans for the fellowship.

David raised a con/question, about whether a formal vote to initiate a formal fundraising element to the Holiday Party was needed, given that the fellowship had established effectiveness to informally organize layered fundraising at such events—capitalizing on people's desire to give.

A motion to table the vote until after a new board was voted in was made with 13 in favor of tabling, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

The final New Business item was Elections for the 2013 service positions, which was started through a review of the nominations grid that had been passed around. After some discussion of the

process and order, it was determined to begin with a clear review of positions and formal votes to allow clarity on what names could be removed from nominations for other positions.

A formal nomination document is attached.

The following set of NYCMA service positions for 2013 were voted into effect:

Chair	Mark V
Co Chair	Bill B
Treasurer	Brett S
Secretary	Jeff S
Structure & Finance	Fernan
Public Info Chair	Billy U
Public Info Officer	Nadir W
Literature Chair	Christopher E
Literature Coordinator	Carmine N
GSO	David H
GSR Coordinator	Kemmet T
Activities Chair	Edward P
H&I Chair	Jeffrey F
Share A Day	Richard K

A brief “adjournment” was proposed to vote for the 2nd delegate to the World Conference position. Ken indicated he believes that the body pays for delegates to attend without asking or allowing the attendee to pay to insure the best nominees can run without deference to finance, with David arguing that the body can set the allocation.

Ken’s assertion that the Intergroup offers assistance to the delegate as a representative was challenged by the assertion that the Intergroup is not in the World structure and therefore contributes to delegates as good faith and not direct placement.

John H and Conor were nominated and Conor was selected for the Delegate position.

Edward P also indicated that two years ago there was a vote to empanel 3 “board trustee” officers to serve on the 501(c)(3) non-profit board of the fellowship that needs to meet once per year. After a review of the fact that these three officers would have their full names as part of the public record searchable online, it was determined that Edward and Bill, two of the previous

representatives, would talk that night to locate the 3rd and organize the board holding its new elections to maintain continuity in roles. It was noted that the by-laws request that this have already happened in October.

All were thanked for their participation and Nadir W was thanked for his leadership efforts.

The meeting was closed.