

## DA HOW Intergroup Business Meeting

March 13, 2022 @ 10am PT

**Meeting Start Time:** 10:04 AM PT

**Meeting End Time:** Approx. 10:55 AM PT

**Business Chair:** Rene

**Attendees:** Barbara, Maria, Linda, Melissa, Sarah, Domingo, Lynn, Michelle B, Dixie

**12 Traditions:** Melissa

**Timer:** Barbara

### REPORTS

**Treasurer's Report:** Michelle B.

*March 2020 report submitted via email by Andy, the outgoing D.A. HOW Intergroup treasurer. Read by current D.A. HOW Treasurer Michelle B. as follows:*

On Feb 20, 2022 Sara helped me obtain the password to the D.A. HOW intergroup account that was funding the Tuesday zoom meeting.

The balance was \$5,122.00 and this balance was transferred to the, then current, DA HOW intergroup account.

Michelle B created a new, and now current, DA HOW Intergroup PayPal account and created a link that was updated on the DA HOW Intergroup website as the receiver of contributions on 3/6/2022

The balance in the previous PayPal account could not be transferred to the new PayPal account created by Michelle, so, with some reluctance, Andy transferred this balance of \$7,946.89 to his personal bank account to send to the new PayPal account

On 3/9 I attempted to transfer the \$7946.89, however, even using the sending to a friend option that claims no fees from PayPal there was a fee. I adjusted the transfer down to \$7723.00 with a fee of \$224.27 for a total amount \$7,947.27.

#### **Outflows:**

\$223.89 - Service fee for moving balance of old PayPal account to new PayPal account.

**\$7946.89** [Balance of old PayPal accounts] - **\$7723.00** [balance of current PayPal account] = **\$223.89**  
[service fee to transfer balance to new PayPal account]

#### **Inflows (Last 30 days):**

\$Not reported

**Balance as of 3/13/2022:** \$7,723.00

**Intergroup Service Representative:** Domingo

Domingo said that according to the 1Q2022 issue of the DAfocus that the WSC is planned to be in London in August 2022. The estimated cost is \$1435 USD which includes registration fee, meal plan, lodging

(single room, Wednesday through Saturday nights), Fellowship Day, and Gala. The cost of air travel is still to be determined.

He also gave an update on the issue and concern that he plans to submit to the WSC this week.

**The key points are:**

To notify the WSC that the current DA Service board believes that we do not meet the qualifications to retain the D.A. Intergroup designation that was granted to us in 2015.

To state that we disagree with the DA Service boards interpretation and are asking that we be allowed to continue our service as a D.A. Intergroup until the WSC can clarify what the qualifications of forming a virtual D.A. Intergroup are and how to form one. We recognize that the guidance on telephone and virtual D.A. Intergroups is unclear and does not adequately meet the needs of the fellowship.

**Section 1 – Introduction to D.A. Intergroups** of the Intergroup Service Handbook for Debtors Anonymous (ISHDA) states that “An Intergroup can also serve the needs of members who attend meetings on the telephone (Debtors Anonymous Telephone Intergroup – DATIG), or on the internet.”

This current guidance on D.A. Intergroups who support a set of virtual D.A. groups states that an intergroup can serve the needs of members who attend meetings virtually. It does not state that all telephone or virtual groups must belong to only one virtual intergroup (Debtors Anonymous Telephone Intergroup – DATIG).

We are also aware that there are additional D.A. members who want to form D.A. Intergroups to support a set of virtual D.A. groups.

**Further Background:**

We are (1) of three (3) D.A. Intergroups who support a set of virtual D.A. groups. The reasons we come together are as varied as the number of members in our groups, but the unifying force is a desire to stop incurring unsecured debt.

This topic is of growing relevance especially since the current health restrictions have driven the growth in telephone & virtual meetings. Many, if not most, D.A. members now attend meetings virtually. Many of these virtual groups have attracted home group members from various parts of the world.

We are aware that the **WSC Intergroup Caucus** recognizes the need to clarify the guidance currently in the various D.A. service manuals in respect to Intergroups. Especially because of the growth in the number of telephone & virtual meetings. Larger numbers of D.A. members are finding recovery through telephone or virtual means.

**From 1Q2022 issue of the DAFocus:**

**Sponsor An Intergroup + DAMS/Intergroup Service Manual**

Also, working on revising, updating and aligning the intergroup service manual and chapter 3 of the DAMS including ‘how to start an intergroup’.

**Intergroups For Virtual Meetings:**

With global changes affecting the way we run our meetings and the sudden change to virtual meetings, we are discussing how intergroups might evolve to meet the needs of groups in this new 'territory'. We aim to share knowledge and skills for groups, particularly with regard to hybrid meetings as many previously face-to-face meetings have attracted international home group members while on Zoom.

Discussions about the role of intergroups in the structure of D.A. and regionalisation are ongoing.

### ~ End of Issue and Concern draft

**Website Chair:** Andy

**Website Co-Chair:** Maria

**Phone List Chair:** Lynn

**Phone List Co-Chair:** Jessica

**E-mail Announcement Coordinator:** Melissa

## Old Business

- Melissa proposes we set up a new DA HOW contact list that is combined with a DA HOW events list and that it be a Google groups document.
  - Melissa has been doing some pre-work and trials to see how this process would work.
  - She would like this process to keep subscribed D.A. members up to date with event information and IG mtg announcements.
  - There was various discussion regarding this process. The secretary had technical difficulties so was not able to capture additional discussion on this matter.
  - It was ultimately decided that for now, the DA HOW contact list that Lynn is managing and the DA HOW events notification, would operate separately.
  - Melissa stated that she will continue her work to get the notifications process working consistently.
  - Sara made a motion that our group should approve using the DA Contact list for the purpose of announcements
    - The motion was not seconded, and no further discussion was had.

## New Business

- Sara stated that we do have an EIN number and that the process to have our D.A. HOW Intergroup designated as a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization was begun but was not submitted. Sara volunteered to help in the process if we did want to submit for that designation.
  - **Sara moved that we submit for 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization**
  - Michelle seconded motion
  - Discussion:
    - Domingo suggested that we form a subcommittee to investigate whether we need to submit for the designation and what would be the pros and cons to doing so. This process might take a lot of resources and it would be prudent to find out if we even need to before we decide.

- Andy suggested that we check with World Service for guidance on this topic before moving forward.
- Michelle said that she had experience in doing this process with other groups and agreed that it would be best to make sure it is necessary before moving forward.
- Melissa suggested we check with other intergroups to see how many have this designation.
- Motion was brought to a vote and did not pass. There was (1) vote in favor of the motion and at least (5) opposed with (0) abstentions.

### **Business Carried Forward**

- No business was carried forward to next month's meeting – Woo Hoo! Thank you all for your service 😊