

September 10, 2023 Business Meeting Minutes:

1) **Roll Call:** Martha (Friday Format GR, Eunice (GSR Monday Morn), Domingo (Sunday GSR, Rep for DA HOW PMI), Michelle (Meeting Chairperson, Treasurer), Melissa (DA HOW Committee Chair, Email Announcement Coordinator,) Note: Renee joined meeting post roll call and served as Chairperson for 2nd portion of meeting)

2) **Serenity prayer** shared

3) **Review & Approval of meeting minutes** from August 2023 meeting. Read by Michelle. Motion made and 2nded by Martha and Eunice to approve minutes. Motion passed.

4) **Treasurer Report** (Michelle) **\$5,23374** *is current balance* in account as of August 31st

- Note: *A new Link* is now on Website for members to set up monthly contributions This has resulted in 4 members newly making monthly donations.
- **\$123.18** has been returned to group treasury for WSC funds not needed by our ISR

5) **ISR Report:** :(Domingo) **Important Announcement: All DA groups (Including DA HOW groups) need to again register their group between Sept 25-Nov 30th** this year to receive a ballot and vote on 2 matters: 1) Changing to gender neutral language (To replace “He” with “God” in the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions)

- . 2) Update Tradition 11 (Note: This is with the approval of AA) There needs to be a **vote of at least 75 % of all CURRENTLY registered meetings to submit their ballot and** to vote “Yes” in order to approve these changes
- . Any registered meetings that don't submit a vote will be automatically assigned a “No” vote for this matter.
- Note: A detailed copy of this announcement will be sent by our ISR today's Secretary who will send this to Website Chair for posting on our Website. Please spread the word to other groups!
- Renee requested approval of report. Motion was made and seconded to approve.

6) **Other Service member Reports:** Email Announcements Coordinator (Melissa:)

No new additional members were added. A new coordinator will be needed starting JA of 2024. If interested please leave contact information via dahowintergroup.org or attend our next meeting.

- **GR Friday** Format 2:30 Format Meeting (Martha:) Noted that meeting has changed from 2 hours to 1 and ½ hrs.
- **GR Sunday** 2pm Meeting:(Maryanne) Changed Name of Meeting to be more inclusive.

7) **GSR** (Eunice) serving on the WSC **Literature Committee:** Unexpectedly met with several

- other DA HOW Members at WSC. She noted BDA pamphlets have been created as conference approved literature, and yet there is currently no DA HOW format pamphlets represented. There is a need currently for DA HOW Format pamphlets to notify both new and potential members about this method for working the DA program and to better represent this in our fellowship. She will be working on this in her role with the Literature Committee of the WSC.
- Also, currently there are no links to information on DA HOW format on the DA Website. Noted that DA HOW format information is not readily available to most people.
- Suggestion: (Domingo suggests in addition to the creation of conference approved literature to also create a variety of additional informational formats for representing DA HOW to the public such as “Voices,” write articles for Ways and Means, include podcasts on the DA website
- Write articles for other conference approved publications to better 'get the word out'

- Melissa noted that DA HOW Format Literature was already drafted by a DA HOW PMI Literature Committee that met over a period of months. Melissa will send these drafts to Eunice for use towards the WSC Literature Committee to use regarding formation of a pamphlet or other forms of Literature.
- Maryanne noted that a 'sister 12 Step program, OA already includes OA HOW information on it's website and perhaps this can be used as a template for the WSC Literature Committee. Eunice was invited to view this in researching improving Literature related to DA HOW's existence as part of DA.
- Chair extended meeting for 10 minutes.
- **GR**(Sunday Ways and Means report (Michelle) No new announcements.
- No old business.
- New business: (Melissa) Suggested at our next meeting we hold a discussion and a vote on registering with the World Service Office this year. Options:
 - 1) register as an Intergroup even if rejected.
 - 2) Register under a new group name to be able to have full voting rights and be included
 - 3) Don't register again.

(Post Meeting Ideas to consider in preparation for the next meeting:)

- **Benefits and drawbacks of registering.**
- **Registering under current name**
- If we decide to register drafting a letter to be sent either with our registrar or if our registrar is rejected stating our reasons why we believe we should be included as a registered intergroup.

- **Register under a new group name** to be able to have full voting rights and be included:
- Example:
- Virtual DA HOW Virtual Groups (VG or VPG for Virtual & Phone Groups)
- DA HOW Consortium Business Meeting
- DA HOW Virtual & Phone Inter-Groups
- DA HOW VMI (Virtual Meetings International)
- DA HOW VMC (Virtual Meetings Central)

Sample of what we can send either if we register as DA HOW PMI at the time of registration or solely if we receive a rejection letter:

- 1) We are serving all DA members and have no special requirement to join or participate and speak at our meetings. We are simply a more structured and disciplined method of working DA for those persons who need this to succeed in their recovery.
- We use only DA approved literature
- 2) We have been serving the recognized functions as an Intergroup for over 8 years.
- 3) We provide a central point of service for newcomers to find out about both DA as a whole as well as all DA HOW Format meetings
- 4) We provided a scholarship to help fund a member to attend the WSC
- 5) We consist of International members from the US, Canada, Europe as well as outside these areas
- 6) We have maintained a treasurer and treasury, something that DATIG has had challenges with
- 7) We have funds available to assist new and struggling groups that are just getting started
- 8) We have Group Representative from different meetings that regularly attend our
- 9. The decision to end our Intergroup status was made non-transparently with no forewarning, dialogue or being informed by the WSO. This is not in keeping with the foundational principle that 'our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.'
- 10. Another longterm 12 step group, OA is inclusive of OA HOW format intergroups and lists these on the general OA Website. DA however does not currently have this feature.