

9:05 am: Jeff D. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer followed by role call:

Attendance:

Jeff D., Business Manager, Secty.
Mary Ann G., Asst. Business Mgr., Chair, Aesthetics Committee
Nancy K-D., Online Meeting Coordinator, Webmaster, Hybrid Meeting Host
Bob W., Literature & Supplies
Michele S., Treasurer, Secty
Julio B., Asst. Treasurer
Eric L., Secty
Andres, Secty,
Steve, Intergroup Rep., Secty
Loa, Secty
James K., Secty

Online Attendees:

Catherine K., Secty
James T., Liaison to Project 1744 Board, Secty
Pastora, Secty
Martha V., member

Minutes of the Dec.7 meeting were read by James K. Nancy K-D noted that the subject of Once A Year election of secretaries be amended to "Semi-annual election of secretaries" since the term of service for secretaries is 6 months. This change does not affect the outcome of the failed proposal. ***Dec. 7 minutes were approved with this amendment.***

Reports:

Pastora asked the business group for guidance: her term as secretary is up but she has not found another secretary to replace her. Several opinions were given. It's ok for the secretary to stay on longer while trying to find a replacement if the secretary is available and open to it. The need for a replacement should be announced every time the group meets. If no replacement can be found, a secretary beyond their 6 month term should not feel obligated to continue. It is OK to suspend a meeting until a new secretary steps up.

In person Meeting Coordinator: Ron G.: No report.

Webmaster: Nancy K-D: The website is going fine. Will reach out to Ron G. to get an update on open positions to post online.

There is a zoom access conflict between a 4:00pm and 5:15 pm zoom meeting. The group discussed possible solutions. Nancy will find out if we can move one of these meetings to avoid the overlap before recommending that we purchase another Zoom license to prevent the overlap.

Nancy to update in February.

Treasurer: Michele S.:

The Open House Potluck was well attended and successful. The fellowship thanks Tony, Jonathan, Daniel and everyone who helped with food,, setup and cleanup. Thanks to James T. for getting up

extra early to supply the open house with delicious BBQ chicken and ribs. Due to the weather, food service remained indoors and that may have helped prevent random people from coming in and taking away large plates of food.

Michele recommends that we continue to serve food indoors even when weather permits our meeting to be held outdoors. 7th tradition contributions were relatively light but we remained within the \$500 budget.

Mary Ann G. commented on how amazingly self-organizing the event was and how wonderfully the fellowship came together to make it happen.

Michele noted that Venmo is increasing the preferred way members are making 7th tradition contributions.

Asst., treasurer, Julio B. said we are about \$1,500 below our savings goal. With the renovation of Fellowship Hall and the New Year event, we have had some unusual expenses. Julio suggests we re-evaluate our savings goals after a few months of regular expenses.

General Svc Rep: Pamela

Mary Ann G, reporting for Pamela. Mary Ann reported that our General Service district still has positions open that can be volunteered for even if you are not the GSR. She reminded us that our local GS district meeting is a place where anyone can bring up issues affecting AA . Contact GSR Pamela for more info.

Project 1744 Liaison: James T.

James reported that we remain in good standing with the church and things are going well. The outdoor hall lights are on and a welcome feature for members coming to meetings in darkness. James reported that the church is OK with us painting wooden doors inside Fellowship Hall if we want to.

Last month, Daniel offered to do regular housekeeping in the Hall for the Fellowship. James reported that Jovaughn is responsible for that work and other than asking everyone to pick up after themselves and tidy up after meetings, Jovaughn does not need any help with housekeeping at this time. We thank Jovaughn for his service and Daniel for his generous offer.

Intergroup Rep: Steve

Steve reported that the Intergroup Board voted to use budgeted funds to support ASL interpretation at one meeting. Jennifer T. mentioned that she is an ASL interpreter and would be willing to do ASL interpretation if needed.

Steve reached out the Rockridge Fellowship to offer BFAA help to conduct a Holiday Alcothon meeting. Steve and Ron ran the meeting and had a good time. Unfortunately there wasn't much time to get the word out and no one from BFAA showed up. Steve will keep in touch with Molly, IG rep at Rockridge to see if there are further opportunities for our fellowships to work together.

New Business

H&I Rep.:

This vacant was announced and James K. volunteered. He has at least 1 yr sobriety which meets the position requirement. **James was nominated, seconded and elected unanimously as our H&I Rep.** Julio will help James get started in this role.

Desire Chip: Mary Ann G. proposed that the fellowship add a “desire chip” to our chip collection. A desire chip can be a 24 hour chip that can be given out to attendees regardless of their sobriety time as a way of recognizing their desire to stay sober. The recipients can be any one, a struggling in their first 24 hours, an old timer going through a rough patch, or anyone in between.

A motion was made, 2nd, and passed to support making Desire Chips available.

Mary Ann will draft a statement for the meeting scripts.

Catherine K. volunteered and was unanimously elected to be responsible for mailing chips to online members.

Steve asked if it was ok for secretaries to give out a chip occasionally at meetings that are not birthday meetings. The consensus was that this is ok and up the secretary’s discretion.

International AA Conference in Vancouver:

Loa said she is planning on attending the International conference in Vancouver this July and asked if the BFAA could provide some financial support.

After discussion, a motion was made, 2nd and passed:

- **BFAA will make available 6 scholarships to pay the early bird registration fee of \$160 for members in financial need. That registration fee is valid until April 15.**
- **A flyer will be posted in Fellowship Hall and online informing members of scholarship and how to apply.**
- **Applications will be accepted online or on paper in Fellowship Hall between Jan. 27-31. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the Feb. 1 business meeting.**
- **If more than 6 qualified applications are received, recipients will be selected by random drawing on Feb.1.**

Meditation/Child Care Room:

Mary Ann reported that there is a small room adjoining fellowship hall that the church will allow us to use, potentially as a meditation room or child care room. **No decisions were made, will discuss again in February.**

Plant Maintenance: Mary Ann noted that a member was watering the plants regularly, but no one has been given this responsibility. **Loa volunteered to be the plant maintenance person. Thank you!**

Julio B.,
Substitute recording secretary