

**July MINUTES**  
**Arizona Serenity in the Desert Intergroup**

**Date | Time 7/15/2023 1:00 PM | Meeting called to order by Pat H: Chair**

**OPENING:**

Meeting held via Zoom, opened with the reading of the preamble, standing rules, concept of the month and the Serenity Prayer. Pat asked attendees to rename themselves to identify meeting reps, committee chairs, and board member in lieu of verbal introductions. Board members in attendance: Chair = Pat H, Recording Secretary – Mindy C, Treasurer – Janece B, Vice Chair – Vacant, Rep/Delegate present: Dottie D, Second Rep/Delegate: Wendy A, Alternate Rep/Delegate: Vacant. Attendance report: 25 present, 23 voting members, 2 visitors.

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

As posted in Ecares and sent by Pat H. via email to ASDI contacts.

The June minutes were accepted as presented.

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition announcement made. Pat H reminded everyone that literature can now be purchased at the office using PayPal.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Elections:**

- a) Elections: We have an opening for Vice Chair, Lisa's term ended on June 30<sup>th</sup>. There were no nominations but Mara presented an interest in serving as an appointment on a monthly basis as she does not meet the service requirements to be elected into the office. Pat H, as Chair, appointed Mara as Vice-Chair for the next month.
- b) 2 new Rep/Delegates were voted in last month, Wendy A and Dottie D. We do have openings for 1 additional Rep/Delegate and 1 alternate Rep/Delegate. No one spoke up to run for either of these open positions.

**2. Excess Funds:**

Pat H. presented that per our by-laws Prudent Reserve should be 40% - 60% of expenses to cover unforeseen expenditures. We are limited to a 60% max. We are currently \$9,821.01 above the 60% Prudent Reserve Maximum. Pat H asked if there were any suggestions on how to appropriate the additional funds.

Pat H. Suggestions:

- 1) A billboard in the Phoenix area for the ASDI Intergroup would be approximately \$35,000/year, which would be over our budget;

- 2) Tucson has invited us to go in on a billboard with them outside of Eloy. There are two different locations, but both are outside of Eloy. The estimated total cost would be \$9,000/yr with ASDI being responsible for ½. One of the billboards is lighted from dusk until morning. There could be additional costs for artwork. Pat H then called for additional suggestions.

Dottie D Suggestions/Questions:

- 1) What is the deadline for spending the money. We need more time to research and investigate. Pat H. asked the group but no one had an answer to the question of when the decisions had to be made.
- 2) Investigating FaceBook groups, Andrea had been working on this in the past and could possibly set one up for us;
- 3) Set up a new PIPO committee and regroup;
- 4) Update the website;
- 5) Advertise ASDI meetings on the website and cameo a different meeting each month (Pat H said this is already being done in Ecares)
- 6) Create something around Spiritual Awakening
- 7) Create small group with discussions with younger people. Out older members are vital and important but if we do not bring in younger members the program will die.

Brenda Suggestions:

- 1) Hire a professional to enhance our web presence
- 2) Small classified ad in local papers
- 3) Hire a designer to develop a flyer and have members leave this in areas they frequent.
- 4) Get OA literature in book stores. They have a big book and limited AA literature but no OA

Rachel V Suggestions:

- 1) Send money to World Service to assist others in being able to attend world service conference. (Pat H said that John had researched this and funds can only be sent to World Service to go into the General Fund or for Translations).

Marlo Comments:

Funds discussion is reminiscent of last year and we were able to spend excess funds in an hour. Suggested sending to World Service rather than just trying to spend \$9,000 in an hour without any research.

Mara Comments:

We should go to Bariatric clinics and speak with patients regarding after care. Showing examples of people who have had the procedure or who have lost significant weight. Mara said she would not be the best spokesperson but could attend with the speaker.

Pat H brought up that we really need to redevelop the PIPO committee, as these are all great ideas but would fall under that purview. We really need to focus more on the excess funds and how to distribute them. The question was then asked if anything inside the office needed to be replaced or addressed. There was no initial response.

Brenda said she cleans the refrigerator and that the existing one is rusty and very old and was probably donated many years ago. She said we need a new refrigerator/freezer for ice and water preferably with the freezer on the bottom. New units are also more energy efficient.

Dottie suggested another way of carrying the message is to share the 15 questions with other 12 step meetings. Office committee responded by saying that liability issues make doctor's hesitant about sharing OA. Pat H. said that Kingman put together a ½ page flyer that they took to Doctor's offices and asked if they could just leave on a public table. They got 5 newcomers in one meeting based off of the flyers. This is not really an expense to reduce prudent reserve but is good promotion for PIPO. Encourage all members to see if they can leave at their Doctor's offices.

Phyllis said this discussion was leading her to take over the PIPO committee. There are lots of good ideas but needs focus. Internet is the future of this organization. She feels Doctor's are woefully uneducated about this disease. The focus should be more on FaceBook campaigns as a search for one or two keywords can lead you to multiple different websites. She has been involved with PIPO in the past and would be willing to head up a new PIPO committee. She would like to see a couple of medical professionals on the committee.

Kay asked for clarification on sending fund to World Service to fund travel to conferences. Pat stated that funds can only be earmarked for General Fund or Translations. Kay then asked if we could start a fund for transportation. Pat H responded that sounds very involved and that considerably more information would be required. She did remind the Intergroup that funds are available for scholarships for ASDI retreats. None was used last year and she is unsure about what was or has been used for the upcoming retreat next week.

Annlee announced this was her first meeting as a Prescott representative. Agrees with getting a new refrigerator and would like to see us send quite a bit of the excess funds to World Service.

Karen agrees with the refrigerator but reminded that we were hesitant to send money to World Service and Region 3 last year as they are both stating they are doing well financially. Would like to be involved with PIPO. We need to spread the message especially to medical professionals.

Nanci made a motion for Phyllis to chair PIPO and to buy a refrigerator. Pat said no motion was needed to form a committee.

Phyllis circled back to PIPO and suggested putting the money into the PIPO budget. She is concerned that a new refrigerator wouldn't last as long as a new one. Wants to research more on Facebook and Internet campaigns as well as searches. We need more focus on PIPO web presence and getting our name out there. Pat H brought up that internet advertising is very expensive and that \$10k would not get us very far. Pat then called for a motion.

Marlo made the motions that the excess funds be donated to World Service. There was no 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion died.

Karen made a motion that 25% of funds get divided equally between World Service and Region 3 and the additional 75% go to PIPO. There was no 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion died.

Nanci stated that she would like to serve on PIPO, since she is a nurse.

Sheila is completely for following the lead of Kingman and dropping off flyers to doctor's offices as it brought 5 newcomers to one meeting. She also suggested reaching out to Therapists.

Mindy C expressed concerns about helping delegates with transportation costs. We have money now but maybe not in the future and you will have people depending on those funds.

Dottie D suggested we assist other meetings that may be wanting to go back to face to face meetings but don't have funds to pay rent to get a space. Pat H asked if anyone knew of any meetings that had this type of request and reminded everyone that there is a \$100 loan program to help new meetings get started but no one has taken advantage of that for many years.

Sheila reminded everyone that the normal distribution to World Service/Region 3/Local is 60/30/10 not 50/50.

Kay made a motion to buy a new refrigerator and then see what is left to determine distribution. Annlee seconded the motion.

Pros for the above motion:

- 1) Office committee should be in charge of researching items for the office and they should be presenting
- 2) Basic refrigerator should only be about \$2,500

Cons for the above motion:

- 1) If we only address buying a refrigerator then we are in the same boat in a month or two dealing with excess funds.
- 2) Allocation of funds should be done through committee. There was no refrigerator in the budget. By-laws used to state that excess funds goes to WS and REG3, but that was changed. If money was to be designated for PIPO it would have to be a set aside, since there was no budget

With 5 for and 11 against motion did not carry.

Karen made a motion to set aside note to exceed \$1,000 for a new refrigerator and 12% to WS and 5% to REG3 and remaining funds to go to PIPO. Phyllis seconded the motion.

Phyllis then questioned whether this would be an ongoing budget for PIPO. Pat exclaimed that any funds they receive are just for the remainder of this year. They would then need to reach out to the Finance Committee for funding request for the next year.

Pros for the above motion:

- 1) Karen agrees that we need a new refrigerator but it only needs to be a basic unit. It is prudent to send funds to WS and REG3, but if we are in agreement to spread the message then PIPO needs to be funded.
- 2) Good compromise for all concerns

Cons for the above motion:

- 1) Phyllis doesn't feel that the remaining roughly \$5k would not be sufficient funding for PIPO. Could the refrigerator come out of the Office Committee budget.
- 2) Sheila believed that all the ideas are good but is causing decisiveness between the members and that an ad-hoc committee should be formed for more research
- 3) Greg brought up that we already have a process on how to spend money. We have a budget committee and they have a process of putting together a budget. Finance committee needs to go back to other committees and get input and put together an amended budget.

Susan L from the Office committee responded that they are not responsible for purchases of major items or repairs. They are responsible for cleaning and minor maintenance, Their budget, \$700, is for cleaning supplies.

Marlo agreed to put together a committee on how to allocate the excess funds.

Motion was 3 for, 10 against did not carry.

### **Announcements:**

Karen reminded everyone of the retreat coming up next weekend.

Mindy reminded everyone about raffle donations.

**Good and Welfare** – not to be recorded

### **Closing:**

Closed at 2:29 p.m. with the Responsibility Pledge

### **Next Meeting:**

**8/19/2023 1:00 PM**, via Zoom: 894 4070 1236 PW:oaunity