**GMNI Meeting 3/21/2024**

***Attended by Karen G, Judi S, Amy B, Nance K, Ramona A***

Karen read Concept of Service 2 (Conscience) and 3 (Trust)

January minutes typos were corrected as follows:

 (Under Reports) 1. last bullet  present -> presence

                                2.  Katrin -> Katrine

                                3.  last bullet  is-> if

Karen will correct the minutes as noted, and get the pdf version changed with Joshua.  Minutes were accepted as corrected.

**Reports:**

**Board Report:**

1)      Karen reported on an emergency board meeting last month, called to review WSBC motions for the May 2024 business conference attended by Karen, Judi, Amy, and Nance.  After discussion the group felt all motions were worthy of consideration.  Karen submitted the completed survey to WSO.

2)      Karren noted that she missed the R6 chair forum last Sunday on 3/17;  she plans to seek and, if found, review the forum recording and will report back to the board

3)      Karen noted she would like officers to meet the Thursday prior to the bimonthly GMNI meetings but was unable to find available attendees last week.  Judi moved to establish a recurring meeting at noon on the Thursday before each GMNI meeting for GMNI officers.  This motion was approved.

**Treasurers Report:**

1)      Balance as of 3/1 if $9523.92.   Income (January only) was $100.60 in T7 donations and $1000 grant from R6.   Expenses were $205.89 in January and $78.54 in February.  The high Jan expense was due to one of the Zoom accounts moving to an annual payment vs monthly.  She plans to move the remaining 2 Zoom accounts to annual payments as well.

2)      Amy will start tracking T7 income by group name (i.e. meeting day, time & location-- original location for Zoom only meetings).

3)      Amy will contact our web platform owner Ionis to see if they will manage our annual domain name registrations.

**Webmaster Report:**

1)      No web report from Joshua.

2)      Karen noted that Joshua intended to research and report on security options for phone meetings using GMNI’s free conference call number.  Nance reported that the Bristol Mon 5:30pm phone meeting uses security features successfully.   Someone needs to connect as host to employ security.  Also, phone meetings must establish protocols to avoid talking over each other.  It was suggested to have members say ‘Pass’ whenever they’re finished speaking. Karen will follow-up with Nance to better understand the Host function on the phone.

**Phone Report:** No phone report from Katrine.

Karen requested email addresses of people interested in GMNI business to add to the GMNI email distribution list.

**Old Business:**

1)      GMNI discourages the use of personal phone numbers as official meeting contact.  Joshua was to contact the 3 personal phone numbers on the GMNI meeting list, and has not yet reported back.  Nance reported contacting those people when she was chair.  She discussed the exposure danger and each person wanted to continue with their personal phone listing.

 2)      Progress on the decision to add an online pay button to either Paypal or Venmo or both was discussed.   A question was raised if this was really needed.  Judi said that many non-Vermonters attend both the Wednesday noon Big Book meeting and the Thursday 7:30am Step Study meeting and newcomers often ask about an online pay button.   Amy asked whether an online button could have an option to donate funds to a specific meeting instead of GMNI in general.  Nance said that would require separate PayPal or Venmo accounts for each meeting.  The group agreed that was untenable.   Amy noted that Venmo has a Memo/For field that could potentially be used to capture meeting info. We decided to ask the webmaster if it would be possible to include a dropdown menu listing GMNI active meetings, and have the selection recorded as part of the transaction to enable Amy to track T7 donations by group.  However, Karen said she felt this should be setup with the sole purpose for group treasurers to make electronic contributions to GMNI. How groups collect and track their own 7th Tradition money should be left to them.

Both Paypal and Venmo require a social media account and cellphone.  We agreed that it would be reasonable to create a Facebook account for GMNI.  This account would exist only for this purpose, but if GMNI decided to use the site for postings, someone could be delegated to manage those.  For the cellphone, Judi suggested the webmaster hold the cellphone. Karen intends to make a motion to act on this matter at the next GMNI meeting.

3)      The newspaper advertising campaign was discussed.1)       Karen spoke to the Caledonia Record and got pricing for a display ad. A free listing is already running in the Orleans Chronical.  Ramona added that the Addison Independent has the same free opportunity.   Amy offered to contact the 50+ newspapers and determine which offer free postings and the advertising rates for the others. There is money in the GMNI budget for PIPO outreach, and Region 6 has “Blitz Funds” available to help with such a project.

**New Business:**

1)      GMNI has excess funds.  After discussion, we decided to look into holding a retreat in the fall.  Judi offered to provisionally chair a committee to work on planning.  People are asked to announce at meetings that we are seeking members for a retreat planning committee.

 2)      Ramona will assemble an electronic packet of OA information intended for distribution to local doctors.

**Upcoming Dates:**

4/6  R6 Assembly

5/7-11 WSBC

5/16 next GMNI meeting

6/7-9 OA Retreat at Hampshire College in Western Massachusetts

***Submitted in Service by Judi S, 3/23/24***