SRG Group Conscience meeting 5-18-2025

Host: Courtney.

Guests: Larry; Jon H. (Sonoma Co); Bruce (LA); Michele K (Miami); Kiefer; David B; Ibby; Beth; Tim (Albany); Jane G.; Kiefer; Bruce (St. Louis), Steve G.; and Dan W.

The minutes from last month’s Group Conscience meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Old Business**:

 1. **New representatives needed:**

a. AA GSR rep **- no change/on hold** until AA changes their GSR policy so that the GSR
 doesn’t need to live where the group is registered; Courtney is current GSR; AA
 has been struggling as to how to accommodate on-line AA meetings’ representation at
 the GSR level.

 2. **Replacement IT person for Courtney**:

(a)  *We will continue to look for “replacement IT person.”* Rich L. is SRG’s “legacy access
 person” though he is not an IT person – he is registered with SRG’s service
 providers - this means Rich has access to the SRG website and if SRG needs to
 hire a non-SRG IT expert to make necessary changes, Rich can offer that person
 the access to do so. *Will continue posting in minutes as reminder*.

3. **Treasurer’s report**:

Expenses and revenues cover up to May 18, 2025. The budget is not posted on the SRG website, consistent with majority of AA groups.

**SRG PayPal available balance** **as of** **today is $9,991.56**

**Payouts**/Money in:

Money In: $142.03 USD

Money Out: $211.99 USD

**Forecast** expense: server Admin Portal renewal Jul 2025 of $1139.88.

**Prudent Reserve** (PR) is $2,000.00 (how much it costs to run SRG website per year- this
 may need to increase later this year as some fees have increased).

**Balance less PR**: **$7991.56**

4**. Treasurer:** Jon H (Sonoma County) offered to be Treasurer once he moves to different house; he has lots experience being Treasurer in other AA groups; once he can be Treasurer, his name and contact information will be forwarded to PayPal so PayPal recognizes our new Treasure. Peter-SF continues as alternate treasurer while Courtney continues as the interim Treasurer.

**New Business:**

**1. Update Schedule for SRG Hosts and Timers** – all times in Eastern Standard Time, USA

Dan W. will not be able to be a host, cohost or timer from May 27 through July 8th – during this time , Ibby will be the host on Wednesdays and Thursdays; Lauren S. offered to host in June; Kelly is not available to be timer for Sundays; Kiefer is unable to host Tuesday night Intro mtg starting June 1st.

**Revised host/cohost/timers beginning May 27**:

 Sunday - 1 PM: Host: Rich L., Timer: open

 Monday – noon: Host: Courtney; Michele K (Miami) is co-host; timer - open

 Tuesday - noon: Host: Courtney.; co-host and Timer: Dan W. till May 20, then TBD

 - 8 PM: Host: Keifer C until end of May 2025, then will be Thomas K; alternate
 host: Gail L. when available; Rich L. is emergency backup
 host/cohost; Timer - open

 Wednesday - noon: Host: Ibby, cohost – Dan till May 21, then TBD; Timer: Louise W.

 (Wednesday IQ [Inspirational Quotes]);

 Thursday – noon: Host: Dan W through May 22, then Ibby;

 Timer: Bruce D. (St. Louis) (Secular on Thursday or Topic thursday)

 Friday – noon: Host: Dan W through May 23, then Lauren S.; Timer: Melissa

 (Fearless Friday)

 Saturday – 1 PM: Host: Rich L; Cohost: Michelle (Denver) or Jim F; Timer: Jim F.

 (Secular on Saturday) ***Jack volunteered to cohost for 3 months –
 details to be determined***

 **Sober She Devils** - <https://sobershedevils.org> - Various hosts/cohosts per meeting:
 Sunday 10 AM; Monday at 9 PM. Michelle K (Miami) is the SRG liaison person with
 the Sober She Devils; hosts change each quarter.

**2. SRG Donations**:

* 1. Per Group Conscience, SRG will continue to donate $100.00 to AA GSO each quarter. All SRG payments are recorded in the main PayPal ledger.
	2. SRG will continue to donate $100.00 to Secular AA (as of today, Secular AA website is not working, so Courtney will revisit later this month to make that donation).

**3. To post information/recovery articles/recovery musings on our website blog**, go to
 <https://srgrecovery.org>, under tab at top of page “contact us,” that will open to a page
 that lists the “SRG Service Group Contacts” on the right side of page, and on left side of
 page is “Contact Secular Recovery Group Webmaster” and complete that form, once
 submitted, Courtney will review and if vetted, will be formatted to fit the website blog
 “Secular Outlook” is name of SRG blog. **No decision made as to whether to add to
 preamble or drop in the chat periodically.**

4. **Group Conscience Decision from last month** was that the phrase “this group has agreed
 that cross-talk is OK provided it is respectful and supportive” be added to the Preamble of
 each mtg.

**5.**  Politics: Group Conscience Decision was that during Preamble of each mtg, we continue
 announcing that there will be NO politics discussed during the formal one hour Secular
 AA mtg – and that politics may be discussed during the “parking lot” provided: (a) it is
 announced at onset of parking lot that politics *can be* discussed, (b) provided discussion
 is civil and respectful, no personal attacks, and (3) that the AA traditions are upheld
 during the parking lot.

**6. The Grapevine** “our meeting in print.” Discussion ensued as to whether SRG should pursue
 asking The Grapevine admin to donate a digital copy so it can be added to SRG website.
 Courtney will contact the Grapevine admin and find out re: donation of digital copy to
 our website.

**7. ICSAA (**International Conference of Secular AA) will be virtual September 19 – 21, 2025.
 Bridget has communicated with Courtney asking whether SRG would like to be part of
 the agenda. Discussion ensued as to whether the one hour slot for SRG should be a standard
 SRG meeting, or a topic meeting, or whether it is more prudent to ask Bridget what
 topic she or her committee would like us to present that isn’t already on the agenda (reduce
 redundancy); For today, Bridgett needs to know whether SRG does or doesn’t want to be on
 agenda. A motion was made and passed that SRG does want to be on the agenda – Courtney
 will contact Bridget; topic options to be discussed in future Group Conscience meetings

**8.** A motion was made to remove the word “suffering” from the preamble. Discussion ensued
 and Group Conscience Decision was to remove the word “suffering” from the preamble.
 Discussion ensued as to change the word “alcoholics” to “in recovery” to reflect that not all
 who attend SRG meetings are recovering from alcoholism. We were reminded that
 Tradition 5 states “Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the
 alcoholic who still suffers.” It doesn’t say message is to be carried to “people in recovery.”
 Similarly, alcoholism and recovery therefrom is our “singleness of purpose.” **A motion
 was made and passed to remove the word “suffering” from the SRG preamble.**

**9**. A member brought up idea about contributing a portion of our SRG financial reserve to an
 organization that is committed to preserving the constitution of the USA. Discussion
 ensued. We were reminded that Tradition 10 states “Alcoholics Anonymous has no
 opinion on outside issues, hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public
 controversy.” Courtney said that this similar issue has been brought up years ago regarding
 AA input on politics and the results were disastrous…hence, Tradition Ten. No motion
 was made about this today – the person who brought it up withdrew his idea.

**10.** Discussion ensued as to how to handle the “parking lot” when the host cannot stay beyond
 the formal mtg. There are security issues is an already designated host or cohost cannot
 stay to facilitate the parking lot – as if there are zoom bombers or if members violate the
 parameters of “respectful feedback” would a less experienced SRG member know what to |
 do? A motion was made that if the host cannot find another host or cohost already
 present at the parking lot, then the mtg will be closed and an announcement will be made
 about the next SRG mtg. A review was made as to how a host can handle people who are
 violating SRG “conduct parameters.” A review was also made as to how to handle
 attendees who either don’t or refuse to turn on their video when asked to do so by the host.
 Under the **host tools**, a drop down menu is as follows:



**Discussion ensued and agreement was reached that if someone refuses to turn on their video** despite being asked to do so by the host, for security reasons, the host has the option of removing the participant from the meeting, and in the case of zoom bombers showing disrespectful videos (porn, violence, etc.) that the host has the option of selecting “suspend participant activities, then closing the meeting. Then the host can reopen the mtg and click the top menu item, “lock mtg” so that only bonafide SRG members can be admitted.

**11.** A member brought up the “instructions” for new hosts, as the most recent update was at
 least several years ago. Ibby agreed to send a copy of her “host instructions” to Courtney,
 Dan, and Michelle (Miami) for review and updating, then Courtney will review “final”
 product for distribution to all hosts/cohosts.

Submitted in service,

Dan W.