

Hello Everyone!

We held a General Service Board meeting on 07/10/2013.

Attendees:

- Roger, near Boston, MA
- Julie E, Longwood, FL
- Annette H, Phoenix AZ

Notes:

- **Minutes from prior meeting**
 - Julie helpfully read the minutes from our 6/12/2013 meeting. After amending the New Business section (per Alita's feedback), replacing "Vancouver" with "Vancouver Island," we approved the minutes from our 06/12/2013 GSB meeting. The revised minutes were posted to the EDA website, www.4EDA.org/generalserviceboard.
 - Action Items from 6/12 for Annette were completed
- **Email Response Management**
 - We could really use help responding to EDA email!
 - If you are able to help, please write info@eatingdisordersanonymous.org and let us know.
 - Handling EDA email even one day a week would provide tremendous help to volunteers who have been doing this service for a long time.
- **Website updates**
 - **We agreed the world time clock application is really cool: thanks, Vanessa!**

In Progress:

- Administration Page to add or deactivate Meetings without having to perform web page updates. No special knowledge required.
- Reconstruct the way the meetings page works so it dynamically displays what is in the database
- Alita is populating a spreadsheet with test data offline so Vanessa has data with which to complete testing of the database display (admin page can follow later)

The following items are on the back burner as the prior items take precedence:

- Update the meetings page so it displays properly on mobile devices
 - Add a web form to capture the needed information from those wanting to announce a new meeting and store it in the database (longer term, major change)
-
- **Retreat on Vancouver Island**
 - Last month, a member from the Vancouver Island, BC group suggested holding an EDA retreat on Vancouver Island
 - A member of the Nanaimo Group (Vancouver Island) volunteered to organize the event

- The retreat would be held at a “cabin at the woods” kind of place which would be paid for by tickets sold to attendees
- Air fare and/or ferry costs would be paid by attendees
- The GSB discussed the proposal:
 - We agreed it is a great idea to hold a retreat if members of more than just one group are able to attend
 - Concern was expressed about travel costs and accessibility of the location
 - Vancouver Island is a beautiful setting, and we would love to encourage people to attend
 - If there is a sincere commitment to hold an EDA retreat held anywhere in the world, the GSB would be very willing to support the effort by
 - Sending flyers to all EDA groups for which we have email addresses
 - Listing the retreat as an Event on our web page.
 - We can add a web page for Events – or –
 - We can feature Events on our Meetings page
 - We can set up an email address that enables people to “sign up” for the event
 - We cannot collect money to help purchase airfare but the GSB could possibly (would require a vote with more members) support the effort with a financial contribution to help defray costs borne by the organizers
 - **Action Item:** Alita will follow up with the Nanaimo Group (Vancouver Island) to assess commitment and to gather Event details
- **Recording EDA Meetings / Speakers**
 - We discussed another suggestion from the Vancouver Island group to look into the possibility of recording some different EDA meetings and putting those recordings on the website for people to play back
 - We agreed it would be a great idea to have recordings of EDA members telling their stories available on the website
 - We used to have cassette tapes of EDA speakers available for sale, but the sound quality was so poor it was embarrassing to send the tapes out. Then masters got misplaced and it seemed like worse and worse of an idea, especially since practically no one has a cassette player anymore
 - If .wav or .mp3 recordings could be (semi-)professionally edited, and the GSB has the ability to review and recommend edits, we completely love the idea of making these available on the website free of charge
 - The GSB or a subgroup would need to review and approve material posted on the website
 - **Action Item:** Alita will follow up on recording and editing EDA Meetings and/or speakers before the next GSB meeting, when we will discuss this again
- **New Business**
 - **GSB attendance**
 - Annette will try to be more diligent about sending out agendas and reminders
 - Julie volunteered to encourage online meeting attendees to participate in the GSB meeting

- **Issues with the Thursday/Sunday phone meeting dial-in line**
 - Roger noted that he was unable to attend the last Thursday and Sunday phone meetings due to issues with the phone service. No one else was aware of the issue.
 - **Action Item:** Roger volunteered to follow up with the meeting coordinators to see if they or others had any issues to report

- **Criteria for adding Links to EDA website**
 - In general, the criteria for listing a website or service on the EDA website are
 - At least two EDA members need to have reported the site or service is useful and
 - The GSB has to review and approve the submission
 - Occasionally, a site or service is submitted by non-EDA members and the GSB is able to determine that the site or service is of sufficient value to merit addition to the EDA website links page
 - Treatment Center comparison services should be non-profit and should stick to quantitative descriptions of location, treatment modalities offered and resources available. Unsupported statements about success rates should not be listed.
 - Website content should be consistent with the EDA message of recovery

- **Who answers emails requesting information for listing the EDA website?**
 - Annette volunteered to answer such emails.

- **Who answers the “I showed up but no one was there” emails?**
 - Julie recalled that Rachel had been answering these
 - Annette answered the last batch
 - **Action Item:** Annette will contact Rachel about answering the “I showed up but no one was there” emails

We adjourned at 6:38 PM MST.

Please send these minutes to members of your group if your group maintains an email contact list!

Thank you to all who attended and to all who serve EDA!

Best regards,

Annette (aka Michelle)