

Hello Everyone!

We held a General Service Board meeting on 08/14/2013.

Attendees:

- Annette H, Phoenix AZ
- Julie E, Longwood, FL
- Vanessa S, Longwood, FL
- Catherine, Del Ray Beach, FL
- Brenda, Minnesota

Notes:

- We reviewed and approved minutes from the 07/10/13 GSB meeting
- We discussed start-up kit additional guidance suggested by Rachel (and feedback from Alita)

We agreed that the EDA Starter Kit and email response to new meeting announcements should include a "Starter Kit Welcome Letter" that includes the following and information from the EDA Start a Meeting page.

- Be prepared for little attendance during the first six months
 - Provide information to halfway houses/treatment centers
 - Post flyers in health centers of local universities
 - Start meetings in as central a location as possible
 - Pick a meeting time and days that are viable for most people
 - Provide information to local therapists/psychologists/psychiatrists that treat eating disorders (you can find information on edrefferral.com and somethingfishy.com)
 - Ask such resources if they know anyone in recovery who could help run meetings
 - Ask them to pass on your contact information (if you feel safe in so doing)
 - Be prepared to take serve as the meeting chairperson for the first six months
 - Attend online and phone EDA meetings (and/or attend other 12 Step meetings if applicable to you) while your fellowship is growing. You need to be healthy too.
 - Keep to the 12 Steps!
 - Follow the 12 Traditions!
- **Action Item:** Annette to extend Rachel's suggestions with material from the Start a Meeting website page and from the EDA Meeting Guide and include it in a "Starter Kit Welcome Letter"
 - **Action Item:** Annette to update the Meeting Starter Kit (online and physically) with "Starter Kit Welcome Letter" content. **Action Item:** Someone (not Julie) will update the email correspondent template for new meeting announcements with the "Starter Kit Welcome Letter." Annette will talk with Rachel about making the updates.

- We discussed website updates
 - **Meeting update requests:** Vanessa has been having physical health issues for the past few months the situation is getting better and she is able to take on updating the website again. Thank you, Vanessa! ☺
 - **Meeting Test Spreadsheet:** Alita was going to fill out a spreadsheet of meeting information that Vanessa was going use for test data but has also had physical health issues and has not responded to recent requests. We hope everything is ok, and want to reduce the burden. Vanessa volunteered to populate the spreadsheet with test meeting data. Once again, thank you, Vanessa!
 - **Mobile Device Support:** Vanessa has been looking into using an Adobe tool to update the website to enable the Meetings and Chatroll pages to load properly on smart phones and tablets. The tool generates standard HTML and CSS, so the updated website could be maintained with a normal editor. We love this idea!
 - **Link requests:** Annette volunteered to screen and send acceptable links to Vanessa. Vanessa agreed to review them also, meeting the requirement for two reviews. We can discuss any viable links at the next Board meeting for the required GSB review. **Action Item: Annette to send list of potentially approvable links to Vanessa.**
 - **We reviewed the ChatRoll situation and discussed alternatives**
 - There have been 4 or 5 EDA meetings where people were blocked and could not get in.
 - We are paying a basic rate of \$19/month
 - Response from ChatRoll has been late (4 day delay once) and not very helpful (Essentially, “We know we have a problem and are working on it,” with no ETA or explanation until prompted for more information.
 - Before the issues surfaced, we had up to 16 people on Chatroll at a time for meetings. Now, we have at most ten. This is not helpful to EDA; in fact the unreliability of the ChatRoll service may be driving people away. - very hard when support goes away
 - There was consensus that the situation is untenable
 - Annette does not have time to research alternative services this month and offered to see if paying a higher monthly rate would move our ChatRoll instance onto a different platform or different servers. If the monthly rate to move to new servers/platform is less than \$100, we could perhaps stall for a couple of months while we research alternatives. **Action Item: Annette to research benefits associated with paying a higher Chatroll monthly fee. All are invited to propose Chatroll alternative services.**
- **We reviewed a process for onboarding new email correspondents**
 - There are concerns about people wanting to help but then not really engaging
 - The existing process seems adequate and includes sufficient support for new correspondents
 - It could be that people are interested in helping but then things get complicated. We might not hear back because the potential correspondent is embarrassed.
 - If you have suggestions for process improvement, bring ‘em on!

We adjourned at 6:50 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)