

Hello Everyone!

We held a General Service Board meeting on July 9, 2014. What follows are brief minutes of the meeting.

**Attendees:**

- Susie – Chico, CA
- Leann – Charlotte, NC
- Annette – Phoenix, AZ
- Rachel – Phoenix, AZ
- Vanessa -- Longwood, FL
- Regina -- Rockland, NY
- Sara -- Scranton, PA
- Trish – Del Rey Beach, FL

We reviewed and approved minutes from our June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

We discussed action items from prior meetings:

- Vanessa updated the EDA website, changing “Chatroom” to “Online Meetings” everywhere. This was quite a time-consuming effort since a new image had to be created for the Online Meetings tab, and every page in the website needed updates to reflect the changed label and image. Many thanks to webmaster Vanessa for clarifying the nature of our online meeting room.
- Vanessa also sent logos for our discussion today.
- Annette removed online meeting listings that did not have facilitators.
- Annette posted a flyer, “Are You New to 12-Step Programs?” to our publications webpage and added it to the EDA Starter Kit.
- Sara sent several examples of how a sample flyer would work with different logos.

We discussed an issue with the Online Meeting Room configuration:

- In June, the General Service Board opted to remove person-to-person chat except during online meetings.
- Vanessa discovered that the process of turning person-to-person chat on and off could only be handled through administrative override. The administrative capabilities are not really designed to be managed by meeting hosts, and having to access the admin features would both add to the burden of meeting facilitators and pose a security risk to the site.
- Since June, no one has complained of harassment over person-to-person chat.
- At present, the risk of leaving things as they are (with person-to-person chat enabled even when the online meeting room is closed) seems less than the risks associated with burdening facilitators with additional work and opening up the site to potential security issues.
- A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed: The General Service Board EDA online meeting room will be left with the current configuration: open only during meetings and with person-to-person chat enabled.

We discussed the topic of guidance regarding anonymity and “attraction, not promotion” for Public Service Announcements and flyers regarding EDA meetings:

- We agreed that there should be guidance offered for those posting public service announcements and flyers about EDA meetings. There is already some guidance in the EDA Starter Kit and on the website under Start A Meeting:

Make up flyers. **Please be careful to share information without "promoting" EDA.** It is easy to get overzealous. Our program is based on attraction, not promotion, but it is essential to "carry the message". Half of EDA's primary purpose is to carry the message of recovery to others with eating disorders. When we share information about meetings and about our own experience, strength and hope we are doing just that.

- Provide flyers/information to local therapists/psychologists/psychiatrists that treat eating disorders (find these on [www.EdReferral.com](http://www.EdReferral.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)
  - Provide information to halfway houses/treatment centers
  - Post flyers in health centers of local universities
  - Contact newspapers about your meeting. Community pages often list 12-Step meeting information free of charge
  - We agreed that there should be guidance offered for those posting public service announcements and flyers about EDA meetings. There is already some guidance in the EDA Starter Kit and on the website under Start A Meeting:
- We agreed that there should be guidance offered for those posting public service announcements The main concern was that we need to be clear about the entirety of Tradition Eleven, especially the part about personal anonymity.
  - *Tradition Eleven – Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, film and web.*
  - We agreed that it is important to add “for more information, visit [www.4EDA.org](http://www.4EDA.org)” to flyers and announcements
  - **Action Item:** Annette agreed to update the Start a Meeting web page and EDA Starter Kit

We discussed reviewed the sample brochures Sara sent to demonstrate how different logos would look.

- After much discussion, we unanimously approved Option 4 (attached). Yay, Sara!!



Sara offered to help Vanessa with a website redesign. Yay again, Sara!!!

- The website's current "scrapbook" theme requires a long time to load and cannot be changed easily to support mobile devices.
- It is important to support mobile devices so people searching for a meeting can find one when they are out and about. More people have ready access to a smart phone than to a fixed-location computer.
- The new web design will be more consistent with the logo option unanimously approved.
- We are all extremely excited and happy about this new development effort! HUGE thank you to Sara and Vanessa for getting this started up again.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the contributions of former General Service Board Chair Kelly M. Kelly had developed a set of logos, including ones that inspired the one selected by the GSB, and had been working to redesign the brochures in keeping with the cleaner design. Kelly had also started redevelopment of the website using a simplified design that would have been more mobile-friendly. Unfortunately, Kelly had not been able to complete the work she had envisioned. It is a wonderful thing to be able to see things moving toward realization of her vision.

Annette sent out a two submissions recently received material for consideration that will be reviewed at the next General Service Board meeting: one is an update to the 12 Traditions of EDA that references AA literature, and another is a request to list The Seeds of Starvation, a book by Anne Beattie, on the EDA links page.

We adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM MST. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 13, 2014.

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)