

President's Report

AGM 2023

March 19, 2023

General

Now that COVID has eased, more meetings are being held face-to-face, which is great to see. According to our current records, we have 50 groups and meetings, of which thirteen are face-to-face or hybrid.

Our new Operations Manager, Kheri came to this position from the board. For the first time we used a rigorous system of interviewing for the position and are happy to have Kheri on board for this role!

We purchased a new laptop for the office in April and changed website hosting companies in the same month.

We recently decided to offer our book on Amazon. To do this we had to become a registered society. We now have a GST number and must add GST to our sales (other than the book). We are in the process of sorting that out.

We continue to use Lulu to sell our book via print-on-demand. This is going well. We also listed ourselves on extended distribution via Publicious in Australia.

Our members in Israel have restarted the Hebrew Translation. We look forward to a report from them. We allocated some money to them in June, but they decided not to take it for now. We can look at helping them out in the upcoming year.

Board Membership

Last year the Fellowship passed a special resolution at the AGM decreasing our minimum number of Directors to 7. This works well as we have been consistently hovering around that mark.

We will be presenting another Special Resolution to overhaul our bylaws. A draft copy is on the website for review. Please take a look so that we can discuss, make any necessary changes, and approve them. They have been approved by this board and we are now seeking input from the Fellowship.

We have 5 continuing directors at this AGM: Myself, Tammie N, Joan J, Christina W and Shelby S. Mackenzie joined us in June so will need to be officially voted in at this AGM. We are saying goodbye to June S, David F and Judy B. We thank you all so much for your self-less service to this board! We wish you all the best! Thank you also to Kheri and Maria to your contributions to this board as Directors

We will need nominations for President, Treasurer and Vice-President. The Treasurer position is simplified by the accountant's participation and the automation of our systems. Vice-President acts as President in the event that the President cannot act, so it is a good way to get familiar with the work of the Board without the full responsibility of the President.

We are welcoming any nominations for new Directors. If the person is in ABA, the requirement is one year of sobriety.

Finances

We are managing reasonably well financially, with a balance just below our prudent reserve lately. We set that at \$9,000, which accounts for 3 months of operating expenses. It would be great if we could gather a bigger buffer in the upcoming months. Dan Cohen at HC Professional Corporation will present a financial report for the meeting. He is willing to continue on as our accountant at the same rate. We will need to vote on that at the AGM.

Committees

All the committees continue to work hard on improving things for our fellowship. You will hear more about what they have been up to in their individual reports.

We had a temporary committee which developed a safety statement regarding young people attending our Fellowship. This statement was approved and sent out for use by the groups. It is also available on the website. We are grateful to Kheri and Judy for developing that guideline. It is an important contribution to the evolution of the Fellowship.

Upcoming Year

Further work is needed regarding the 12 Concepts. When they were developed we took a lot of the terminology from Al-Anon and AA. We should get their permission for having adapted their language.

We are close to having enough submissions for the Meditation Book! Let's get those last 5 submissions in and finish up this important project.

I would like to see our meeting list become easier to navigate and more accurate. Currently we have a number of meetings listed for which the contact people are not current. Please email the office if you have an update.

This is my last year as President. I am willing to stay on as Past President in order to assist the new President. Thank you all so much for the opportunity to serve. Once I found my 'groove' it was quite enjoyable! Thank you to everyone who has helped to make that role easier for me.

Respectfully submitted by Amy G.