

EDRG Group Conscience Meeting Notes - June 6, 2024

Opened with the Serenity Prayer

1. Group Rep Report-Laura: We are in District 43. There have been 3 meetings. Jim was elected as DR and Susanna(?) volunteered as Secretary. The group is getting to know one other. Laura will share meeting topics with the EDRG group.

2. Treasury Report- Bill R:

As of June 1st, 2024, EDRG has the following

\$2,135.62 in the Treasury. (Including \$250.00 kept in prudent reserve).

\$529.00 was collected in May.

\$0.00 disbursed to GEA for May.

\$0.00 disbursed to WSO-AFG for May.

Anticipated expenses are as follows:

NO MORE ANTICIPATED EXPENSES IN 2024

Zoom One Pro Annual \$159.90 due March 22nd, 2025.

Zoom 500 Participants \$600.00 due March 22nd, 2025.

Website Hosting (3 years) \$396.00 due January 5th, 2026.

Domain Registration (10 years) \$126.10 due January 1st, 2033.

As the Group is solvent, Bill put forth a proposal last GC meeting to establish the following:

Prudent reserve: \$250.00

Zoom One Pro Annual reserve: \$160.00.

Zoom 500 Participants reserve: \$600.00.

Website Hosting reserve: \$396.00

Treasurer also offered other resources for individual donations:

Use **EDRG** group number: **30784325** to donate on group's behalf

1. Electronic Funds Transfer, Venmo, PayPal or credit card

Go to the Global Electronic Area's contributions page - <https://givebutter.com/gea>

2. Mail a check to:

Global Electronic Area

PO Box 273077

Fort Collins, CO 80527

3. Send a payment using Zelle through your own bank account

Recipient name: GLOBAL ELECTRONIC AREA GEA

email: geatreasurer22@gmail.com

4. Mail checks or donate electronically to:

[World Service Office](#) AFG Inc.

1600 Corporate Landing Parkway

Virginia Beach, VA 23454

3. Secretary Report- Sammy: Chairs and hosts have been making announcements about service transitions. So far 2 service positions are filled. *Please mention phone list coordinator & sponsor contact positions as well!*

New Business:

1. Perhaps we could discuss an additional line in our script to welcome newcomers.

Discussion highlights:

- *Recommendation to highlight after-meeting at the beginning so that newcomers will know it is available
- *Advise newcomers to look in the chat for a lot of helpful information.
- *Feeling special & welcomed as a newcomer is helpful.
- *What would specific wording be?
- *Observation that current chairs often mention newcomers though it is not formally in script.
- *Reminder that the format is available on the website. There is mention of newcomers in the script for the after-meeting.
- *Any addition to the script should be short.
- *Consider adding information about after-meeting for newcomers at the beginning of the meeting when describing the format.
- *Not everything that is said is heard; people arrive late; people's minds take in information when they can.
- *Trust that the program is welcoming and newcomers will come back because of the program.
- *Appreciative of the meeting's quick start, believes reference to newcomer's questions belongs at the end.
- *The after-meeting script and transition to after-meeting feel like there is more ad-libbing and confusion around the transition.
- *A request to emphasize the phone list and participation in the phone list so that it will be more used and useful.

*A newcomer has found the meeting very welcoming; she has found the phone list and a sponsor through the meeting over time as she became less overwhelmed.

Chair requests wording in order to make a motion

*Typical Welcome with addition “especially if you’re new”

* “This group welcomes newcomers. Please check the chat to access the welcome packet and stay for the after meeting at 8:30 to ask any questions.”

*Should discussion of wording be assigned to a committee?

*Can we vote on the desire to make a change in wording?

*Proposal to form a small group to think through the proposal and make a recommendation.

*Proposal to follow the serenity prayer with “welcome to the newcomers” and a suggestion to check the chat.

Resolution: Deborah G. is willing to lead a committee for discussion of the proposal.

Reach out to Deborah G. if interested in joining this committee.

2. Could we discuss Members repeatedly sharing at our next Group Conscience? (Perhaps we might consider REPEATING the caution (to not share if you have recently) and the start of the parking lot meeting)

Discussion Highlights:

*Attends the parking lot often and notices people don’t adhere to the idea of keeping shares to once/week in that setting; would like to repeat the caution in the script because she believes more quiet will allow space for newcomers to share.

*It is a good idea to be explicit in the after-meeting so that the space is shared.

*Having the chair address frequent sharing has been effective, people are receptive to that feedback so if members notice an individual with this pattern they can alert the chair.

*Given the size of the meeting, regulating share frequency is important.

*Previously the after-meeting was a place to chat. GC came up with a format to enable others to speak up. Script can reinforce that the after-meeting is considered an extension of the meeting rather than something looser.

*One chair does not notice too many people over-sharing and asks whether it is okay to leave the room open after the after-meeting?

*There is a balance between inviting others to not share and the controlling nature of monitoring the frequency of others’ shares. Clarification of the recommendation will help people to not feel shame for misusing the meeting.

*It may be unsafe to keep the meeting open unmonitored; instead encourage people to take conversations offline.

Chair asks if the proposal should be put on the next meeting agenda with specific language for script.

16 people in favor of putting it on next agenda/ 0 opposed/1 abstains

Old Business

1. Proposal: Form a committee to explore reinstatement of a daily Tech Host position.

The committee discussed that now that the EDRG meeting is a large group, we can reconsider opening up the previous tech host commitment that was stopped due to difficulty filling service positions. Recently the group has been able to fill all service positions in a timely manner. It is observed that at times chairs struggle with their multiple tasks. The tech host could host the meeting and be responsible for settings, as well as supporting the host in monitoring activity, muting and unmuting, and lowering hands to help the meeting run smoothly. The committee has not finalized the tech host tasks.

Discussion highlights included:

- *Perhaps the issue is better addressed by clear instructions and training.
- *Chair is pitched as an easy position, but in fact requires a lot of multi-tasking which prevents more people from being able to perform that role.
- *Adding the position will total 35 service commitments if we include daily timer, is this too many?
- *How can we move forward if this is the committee's recommendation?
- *When chair struggles it can take up a lot of time in the meeting
- *Possibly tech host could be a longer term position to facilitate transitions
- *Committee must continue to discuss the role of tech host, some decisions about responsibilities could be made by the daily teams.

Vote to accept committee's recommendation:

19 in favor of adding the position/0 against/2 abstain

Resolution: Group will add a tech host as recommended by the committee. Committee will continue to refine the position's specific roles and how the service position will begin. (Immediately, next month, 4 months from now). A clarification is made that tech host will be a standing daily commitment rather than a daily volunteer position.

Thanks to Dustin for chairing.

Closed with serenity prayer
20 present