

Service Group Meeting of Secular Meetings on NA

Minutes: 6/14/26

Podcast Update

Amy: No report this month. By all accounts the podcast project is going very well. It is reaching a lot of people and I wish Michael was here so we could thank him.

Instagram

Kris: This has been a bit neglected and I intend to revisit and promote meetings via our Instagram presence.

Special Event Committee - Solstice Day meeting report.

Kris: We are holding a special meeting on Solstice Day (June 21st). We have a SPAD reading and format decided. Maggie M will chair the meeting. The committee is looking for new ideas/suggestions for future events in the next 6 months. Suggestions so far are Thanksgiving Day.

Other Business:

Brian volunteered at an earlier Service meeting to write a short paragraph to use to promote the use of the term "secular meetings of NA" instead of "secular NA" as the use of "secular NA" creates the impression of us being separate from NA. This was his draft statement;

"When we say we are attending a secular NA meeting it can make the meeting sound like something separate from NA and it is important that we not convey that message. We are not a different fellowship or entity, we are simply members attending a special interest group of Narcotics Anonymous. NA Bulletin 18 makes it clear that special interest meetings exist within NA to meet particular member's needs but they remain part of NA not outside it. For that reason it is more accurate to describe us as an NA meeting with a secular focus rather than secular NA or as secular NA meeting."

Amy: Brilliant Brian.

Kris: Excellent.

Ken: This statement might be good to include somewhere on the website and some meetings might even use it as part of their format.

Rushil: A meeting I attend changed their password from "secularna" as part of this effort.

Mike: I have an idea that we create a subscription based newsletter for news and service positions etc.

Ken: Great idea Mike. Can we endorse this idea and then Mike can take the idea to the website committee?

Amy: Are you retired as this idea could take quite a lot of your time?

Mike: no but I don't think this would take that much time.

Ken: I saw this statement on the secular Overeaters website recently and wondered if it could be included somewhere on our website: "Theist and patriarchal language can alienate and cause additional harm to many who come to the rooms seeking relief from addiction."

Amy: I love it. (no one objected to this suggestion.)

Paulette: I really like this suggestion.

Mike: Talked about the idea of having a function on the website where people could donate 7th Tradition funds.

Erin: I think that this should be kept at group level.

Amy: We will revisit this discussion at the next service meeting and asked Mike to investigate further. (Mike agreed to do this)

Kris: Raised the issue of not enough people doing service for secular meetings of NA. She explained how many jobs she was doing and that she had given ultimatums at a number of meetings where she had stepped in to keep meetings running but was unwilling and unable to continue with her commitments at this level.

Cheryl: I have done training for zoom with Kris and am ready to step in and help where needed.

Kris: Offered to help Cheryl find a suitable level commitment.

Erin: Talked about wanting to start another step writing meeting as she was unable to attend the existing one.

Amy: Talked about the use of non-approved literature being used by some meetings.

Kris" Some meetings are still using non-approved "outside" literature and probably shouldn't be doing that.

Amy: Though we don't have any governing authority we as an "ad hoc service committee" would like to recommend that groups don't use any literature not endorsed by NA and don't alter and NA passages used as readings.

Mike: Agreed and stated that we could all be affected by groups working outside the guidelines.

Ken: Reminded the meeting that in more than ten years of secular meetings of NA there has never been any official push-back from NAWS or anyone. Most groups are doing the right thing and we can only encourage that for everyone.

Amy: True.

Erin: Secular OA does have some off-line meetings which use all sorts of literature.

Kris: Mentioned that she is creating a cheat-sheet of security tips for running safe Zoom meetings.

Amy: We will include this on the agenda of the next meeting. Thanks everyone who attended and see you all next time.