

EDRG Group Conscience meeting Minutes 5/1/25

Dustin opened the meeting with the Serenity prayer.

Agenda:

Eli has registered as group representative with Alanon Family Groups headquarters. Andrea, group secretary, reported that the EDRG group is in need of a web chair and a GC chair, starting in June.

Old business:

This is Dustin's last month as GC chair.

Amanda spoke about rotation of leadership, based on her experience and how the position has evolved; she was GC chair prior to Dustin. She spoke of the scope of this service position: to develop the agenda each month, and then facilitate discussion at GC meetings. Further discussion is warranted about clarification of roles and responsibilities of anyone involved in service, in keeping with the group's commitment to knowledge-based decision making (KBDM).

A member asked to hear Dustin's opinion / thoughts about the guidelines, whether they were helpful to him and would they be helpful to someone new coming into this position. Dustin said yes, the guidelines were very helpful. He would add a link for KBDM on the EDRG website, so new GC chair has a reference.

Jen added that there is a link on the website (Group Conscience) to past Minutes, where discussion about KBDM can be found.

Amanda copied and pasted information to the chat that will be helpful to incoming GC chairs, re: agendas and meetings.

A motion was made to accept what was screenshared, and seconded. The motion passed 23 to 4. It will be posted on the website.

Amanda will forward power points to Jen.

Further Old Business:

There is no phone list coordinator. Three people have volunteered for this service position, and have withdrawn. There has been difficulty coordinating a comprehensive phone list. Suzanne, the sponsor contact person, elaborated that there are 651 numbers, and the list is out of date, including the list of potential sponsors to give a newcomer. One person shared that she had asked for this in the chat during a meeting and had not received a response.

Suzanne referenced a South Africa meeting that has a very efficient phone contact list. They are happy to help an EDRG phone list coordinator put something similar together.

A question was asked about having a timer for GC sharing and questions. Dustin said this is a matter to be discussed separately.

Suzanne is the EDRG sponsor contact. She can see why there is so much difficulty with the phone list. The list is not updated; when she gives out numbers for potential sponsors to a newcomer, some people have left the group, some people can't take on new sponsees, some people don't answer.

Suzanne said the group may want to decide how often to refresh the phone list. Not all of the questions that are asked (on the questionnaire to be filled out when adding one's name + number to the phone list) are answered, therefore it's difficult to know where someone is (time zone, where they live). Some people have US phone numbers but are overseas.

There was agreement that it is time for a committee to look at solutions and come up with a proposal.

Sammy said that the hand-offs to new phone list coordinator volunteers have been difficult and overwhelming for people. Guidelines are needed to clearly communicate what the service job entails. There is the issue of how to refresh this many phone numbers.

There was consensus that a committee to address this pressing matter. Hopefully people with experience can be on the committee.

There was a proposal to change to the South Africa meeting system and restart phone list.

Questions: How does the South Africa system work? How is it different?

A suggestion was made to perhaps put a question in the chat during meetings that if someone wants to be on the phone list, or is willing to sponsor, or is no longer able to, please contact Andrea, EDRG secretary.

A motion was made and seconded to form a committee to brainstorm ways to clean up and revamp the phone list. Volunteers are needed.

Announcements can be made at meetings that we need a committee to clean up the phone list, and that this is a short term commitment.

The motion passed 18 to 0, with 0 abstentions.

Suzanne said she can start on Saturday soliciting members for the committee.

Dustin suggested coordinating with Andrea, to put together an announcement.

New business:

A question was asked about adding time limits to GC sharing, and have the voting be done up front because there is a huge drop off as the group conscience meeting goes on.

A question was asked about how to deal with the same people sharing repeatedly. Can the meeting chair monitor? This issue has been brought up previously. It has already been added to the format, ("if you have shared in the last week...") but there still seems to be an issue.

A member said that there are several people who repeatedly share.

Another member said that, in their opinion, when we try to stop people from sharing, maybe we stop HP from being part of our meetings? They are hesitant about monitoring this issue at meetings, that it may stifle a meeting, push it into a controlling aspect.

Dustin said that this conversation will be in the minutes for anyone to check out.

Dustin thanked the remaining group members for being at the meeting. If anyone is interested in being the new GC chair, reach out to him.

Dustin closed the meeting with the Serenity prayer. 12:26