

Northern Colorado Intergroup
Steering Committee Special Meeting-MINUTES
June 30th, 2023

Call to order: 6:01 pm

1. Serenity prayer + welcome; 9 voting members present.

Chair - Rhonda N

Co-chair - George McC

Treasurer - Karen K

Asst Treasurer - Zoe A

Secretary - not present

Asst. Secretary - Amy J

Committee Person-at-Large - Marilyn N

Committee Person-at-Large - Tina P

Central Office Manager-Beth

Volunteer Coordinator- Julie McD

2. Introduction: Rhonda thanks the Steering Committee for meeting on short notice for this Special Meeting and asks Beth and Julie to explain an incident with William P. at the Central Office on Wednesday June 21st, 2023, just before 4pm.
 - a. Julie and Beth's description of events is attached as Appendix 1 at the end of this document.
 - b. George McC also had an interaction with W, which is attached as Appendix 2 at the end of this document.
3. Group discussion on steps that can be taken to ensure safety for Office Manager and volunteers at Central Office. Julie has concerns about volunteer safety and keeping volunteers staffed if this type of harassment continues at Central Office. Possible options for improving safety protocols are listed:
 - a. Post AA safety card at office
 - b. Perhaps let the police know that we have volunteers that sometimes are uncomfortable and to be alert if we reach out for help.
 - c. Beth has a "Volunteer Watch Packet" that she will include safety information and emergency contacts. *Beth will draft up volunteer safety communication for a vote on approval at the next Steering Committee meeting.*
 - d. Installing a Ring doorbell camera at Central Office
 - e. Reducing the number of hours that the Central Office is open to the public.
4. Starting a group text for Steering Committee so Beth or anyone else on SC can contact the group as opposed to email communication. Adding phone numbers and participating in the group text should be voluntary.

- a. Marilyn makes a motion to approve a group text is sent out to the Steering Committee in case of an emergency at the Central Office, George McC seconds, none opposed, motion passes. Steering Committee members are asked to send their phone numbers to Beth.*
5. The group has a discussion on how the Steering Committee should respond to recent inquiries of Central Office procedures and harassment of the Office Manager, Office volunteers, and Steering Committee members.
 - a. Rhonda requests a written comment from the Steering Committee for people with concerns about the recent disruptive incidents, as well as actions the Steering Committee will take if any future harassment or disruptive behavior is exhibited. The Steering Committee members all agree that a statement should be delivered that harassment of Office Manager and Steering Committee must stop. This statement should go on the record at the next IGR meeting. Amy will draft a statement outlining AA guidance on disruptive members, and recommended actions based on experience taken from AA literature and GSO. This statement will be sent to the Steering Committee for a vote on approval.*
 - b. The issue of W misrepresenting himself as an alternate IGR for the Shoulder-to-Shoulder group at the June 19th, 2023, Intergroup meeting is discussed. George spoke with home group members, and W is not recognized by that group as an alternate IGR.*
 - c. George McC has drafted responses to inquiries into Central Office and NCIG procedures, this response will be updated based on discussion from this Special Meeting. G will send the response to Steering Committee members for a vote on approval. After approval, the response will be sent to out through the IGR mailing list and to W. After sending out the response, the Steering Committee's research into these specific inquiries will be closed.*
6. Rhonda thanks everyone for attending. 7th Tradition info shared. Responsibility Statement is spoken by all members.

Adjourned: 7:03pm

Appendix 1: Description by Beth and Julie of disruptive incident at NCIG Central Office on Wednesday, June 21st, 2023

Julie:

"W walked in around 3:30 pm, and I asked if I could help him. W said, "I want to talk to you about some things. How do you do 12-step volunteer sign ups?" I explained the process and W responded that, "it would not work" and told me how it could be better. I further explained the process and showed him the signup sheet. W continued telling me how the process could be improved but was starting to get flustered. I was sitting at the office volunteer desk, and he was standing over me on the other side, I began to feel intimidated. W kept arguing that we were doing it (12-step volunteering) the wrong way. Beth (Office manager) then walked in with her mother. Beth saw that I was frightened and ran him out the door, then we closed the office. It was pretty scary."

Beth:

I came into the office with my mother. She didn't want me to go into the office alone because of previous harassment by W. When I walked in I heard W ask Julie about the 12-step call list, and asked "Why aren't the groups on the list?" I heard Julie respond that we don't automatically put people on the list, they sign up. W asked "Oh, so it's exclusive?" I then stepped in and told W he needed to leave the office. I was very upset because this harassment has been going on for seven months. W had a camera (cell phone) and said he was videoing us. He turned and walked out the door and as he was leaving the office, he threatened to call the police. I said someone should have called the cops when you assaulted someone at a local meeting.

Julie:

"W came back to the office the next morning (Thursday, June 22nd, 2023) at 9:35 asking for Beth and said that Beth should find his phone number and call him to meet at the office to talk."

Appendix 2: Description by George McC of events on the day of the disruptive incident at NCIG Central Office on Wednesday, June 21st, 2023

Rhonda and I received an email from Beth requesting a phone call. Rhonda was on the road, but I talked to Beth at length beginning a little after 3 pm. She expressed frustration with William's "concerns", as some of them seemed to be the same old stuff first brought up by (other AA members) earlier in the year. She was wondering how we were going to respond, as she felt attacked once again. I assured her that we would have a forceful response and make it clear that we backed her 100%. Beth also mentioned that she had to cover a shift at the Central Office and was fearful because of some of the crazy things that had been going on.

At approximately 4 pm I received a call from Julie McD, who was at the Central Office. She said that William had showed up down there and demanded to know how they allocate 12-step calls — saying "did she just choose her favorites" and other rather strange stuff. At some point Beth arrived (with her 85-year-old mother in tow because she didn't want Beth to be alone). When Beth saw William there, she told him to get out. As he was leaving, he held up his phone and said he was shooting video. At around 4:44 pm I received a call from William, which I did not answer. I went to Happy D at 5:30, which, coincidentally, meets in the same room at Mulberry and Matthews as Keep it Simple. William walked into Happy D around 5:35. After the meeting he engaged me in conversation and told me his version of the events that had just transpired at the Central Office. He said he wanted to know how they divvied up the 12-step calls, as he had signed up on the list 2-1/2 years ago and had never received one. I said something to the effect of the following: "William, first of all, did you video Beth and Julie?" He said no, that he just held up his phone but he wasn't really taking a video.

"Well, I find that kind of odd. Secondly, the 'concerns' you brought up Monday night are just a continuation of the endless complaints that (another member) has been pitching all year. Julie and Beth feel attacked, and they're scared, at least partly because of an incident [can't remember if I said 'assault' or 'incident'] that occurred in this very room. Do I need to be more specific about that?" He seemed momentarily cowed and was briefly silent. I continued. "You're not in charge of how they allocate the 12-step calls or anything else. Also, I don't need a lecture from you about my fiduciary responsibility, as I am aware of it [I was referring to his most recent email to me]. We deal with things as a committee, so I don't want to receive any more emails, texts or phone calls from you, do you understand?"

He became angry and said that I needed to look into all the bad things that were going on at the Central Office. I replied that I had been looking into things since March and still couldn't figure out what these "bad things" were supposed to be. He complained that Rhonda and I had originally agreed to meet with (an AA member). but then changed our minds; I told him that was because we realized we needed to deal with things as a committee and not individually, and that if anyone else had concerns they could bring them to the Intergroup meeting as he (William) had just done on Monday. He became quite agitated and held his hand up in a "stop" type gesture a few feet from my face. He muttered some more; I think about our 501c3

status. He went up the stairs for a moment and then came back down and said, "I'm alerting the government!"

I replied, "Have at it, my friend," and then he finally left.