

Monday Night Musicians BDA Meeting

Group Inventory – February 21, 2022

At 10:18pm Eastern Time, after Section #8 (A Word to Newcomers), the Meeting Chair turned the meeting over to the Group Inventory Moderator (instead of going into the Speaker/Readings/Topics section).

Question 1:

What is working for the meeting – how well are we fulfilling our Primary Purpose of reaching the compulsive debtor who still suffers and helping them through the Steps?

Answers:

1. We've been here almost 11 years
2. We're good at listening to each other at business meetings
3. We generally have good business meetings

4. Business meetings generally go really well
5. The meeting format is working well
6. The website is working well
7. Having Chris (and others) chairing is going well
8. We have awesome speakers, so speaker seeking is going well
9. The meeting scheduling is going well – there are rarely any interruptions to our service

10. The meeting format is pretty tight and thorough
11. It's nice having speakers on the 1st and 3rd week

12. This is an open meeting – there is a nice balance – it's nice to have a theme, but it is good to be open, too – you don't have to be creative to attend this meeting

Question 2:

In what ways have you found solvent support in the meeting?

Answers:

1. People announce if they are available to serve on PRGs, after they share, which is very helpful – I have found 2 PRG people here at this meeting
2. My IR Service Commitment has greatly enhanced my recovery

3. Phone Calls – I trust the people that come here – they are very honest and work their program with vigor
4. PRGs
5. Service Commitment – I have Chaired this meeting a lot

6. Service – Chairing (the qualifications were waived for me, so I worked even more diligently to keep my solvency and get to the goal amount)
7. Parking lot – there is a lot of support available after the meeting
8. There are honest, trustworthy people here on this meeting

Question 3:

What could the meeting do better?

Answers:

1. Being a small meeting, in general (20 people max), it's hard to find people do service
 - a. It's hard to have a healthy rotation of service
 - b. We have a core group of regulars, but many other people come for a little while and then go
 - c. Some of the people, who go, don't finish their service commitment, leaving us in a lurch
2. We need to manage the business meeting time and expectations better (have more Clarity)
 - a. At our 20m business meetings, I've noticed that we only have time to either do elections or to address one business item
 - b. Yet, I constantly hear our business chairs telling people that we can address their new business item "at the next meeting", when it is impossible because the next business meeting is an election night or there is already another business item on the agenda to discuss
 - c. We need to have a place - early in the business meeting format - for adding New Business Items to the agenda for future discussion, because we often don't get to the New Business section at all, and then people don't get to add their topic or they make a desperate attempt to try to add it at random times, which is very disruptive to the business meeting
3. It seems like more people come on business meeting nights and less come on other nights
4. We get a lot of good regulars, and we get some newcomers and new people to the meeting, but it would be nice to have more newcomers
5. We are lacking consistency – people don't keep their service commitments
6. Important topics get pushed back at business meetings – sometimes 3 months out – because of elections and such, due to lack of time at business meetings
7. It would be nice if the website had a template on it for keeping numbers for freelancers and people in the arts – or links to some templates
8. It would also be nice, if we had a Contact List for this meeting

Question 4:

What am I willing to do to help improve the meeting?

Answers:

1. I can announce this meeting at other meetings to encourage more people to come
2. I can add announcements to the website, as needed
3. I am happy to do service and to do whatever it takes – doing service adds value to my recovery – but I also need to have boundaries – I have chaired this meeting for about 7 years – I have been keeping the doors open at this meeting for many years, and I could use help
4. I am willing to bring up for discussion things that are uncomfortable to talk about
5. I am willing to help increase clarity about time for the business meetings – including helping to edit the business meeting format to include some helpful prompts, if desired

Questions from the floor:

1. We might need a little time to think about this – do we revisit this?
2. Can we post the minutes on our website or have them emailed to everyone?

Answers from the Group Inventory Moderator:

1. Yes, the minutes can be made available. Other groups have typed up the minutes and disseminated them. It is up to the group if and how they want to do that. All names are removed from the minutes before distributing them.
2. Yes, these items are revisited. All the notes taken at the group inventory become business items at your business meeting. The topics are reviewed at the business meetings over time – it might take the next year to get through them all. This gives the opportunity to open up a broader discussion on the more pointed topics.

In closing, the Group Inventory Moderator stated that almost every group problem has a solution and that utilizing humor, allowing for a cooling off period and engaging in respectful, open discussion are more productive than legalistic arguments or accusations.

At 10:48pm Eastern Time, the Group Inventory Moderator turned the meeting back over to the Meeting Chair. (Total Time: 30 minutes) (There was time left for 1 share before the meeting closed.)