

Greater Pittsburgh OA Intergroup Zoom Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2024 Minutes taken by Sheree C.

Serenity Prayer

Reading of the Second Concept of OA Service

ROLL CALL: (21 people present, 19 voting members)

5 Executive board: **Ro M.** (Chair), **Tricia S.** (Vice-Chair), **Dee C.** (Treasurer), **Sheree C.** (Secretary), **Kristi K.** (Ex-Officio and Region 7 Rep)

4 Standing Chair(s)/Regional Reps/WSBC Delegates: **Linda A.** (12 Step Within), **Liv S.** (Speakers), **Beth A.** (VOR Editor), **Melanie G.** (Region 7 Rep) (Outreach and Special Events positions are Vacant)

Jessica F. (Webmaster) (Voice no vote)

10 Reps: **Susan C.** (Mon 7:30p Brentwood), **Debbie B.** (Mon 7:30p Lower Burrell), **Linda C.** (Tue 7p Butler), **Gene M.** (Wed 5:45 Rostraver), **Peggy L.** (Thu 5:30p Bellevue), **Judy D.** (Sat 9a Pgh-Shadyside), **Elaine T.** (Sat 10a Monroeville), **Shannon P.** (Sat 10:30a Bridgeport), **Debbie N.** (Sat 10:30a Castle Shannon), **Juanita K.** (Sat 10:30a Erie)

1 Visitor: **Norma S.**

ANNIVERSARIES: Elaine T. 30 years in OA, Linda A. 38 years of abstinence, Jessica F. 29 years of abstinence

MINUTES: Motion made/accepted to approve February minutes as corrected.

REPORTS (Executive Board): All officer's reports reviewed.

Chair (Ro M): Report reviewed, no questions.

Ex-Officio (Kristi K): Report reviewed, no questions

Vice Chair (Tricia S.): Will have a more detailed report next month.

Treasurer (Dee C.) - Financials Reviewed.

Secretary (Sheree C): No additions or questions.

REPORTS (Standing Committee Chairs): All chairs' reports reviewed.

12th Step Chair (Linda A.): Thanks to all who attended the Unity Day event. It went really well.

Speaker's Bureau Chair (Liv S.) Added one person to the Speaker List. Plans to get out to visit more meetings.

VOR Editor: Recovery from Relapse is the theme of the next issue. Submissions are welcomed and are due by Friday, March 15, 2024. VOR committee has a new member.

REPORTS (Other Trusted Servants): All trusted servants' reports reviewed.

Region 7 (Kristi K & Melanie G): No Region activity until the April assembly. There is a link in the reports for many events happening in Region 7.

WSBC (Tricia S): Report reviewed.

Webmaster (Jessica): report reviewed. Jessica F. has been working on the website to make changes as a result of the feedback focus group. There is now a Newcomers tab at the top. The printable meeting list has been reintroduced. The Calendars have been combined into one block style calendar. Committee meetings are now reflected. There is now a search bar. Service page has been reconfigured to make it easier to navigate. The redesign will continue.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **MOTION:** Approve Annual Financial Report: Report reviewed, There were committee member changes, spending was up as a result of sending someone to World Service, and total expenses were up. Our contributions were fairly steady. Motion passed.
- **Attracting New members:**

- Are we seeing newcomers at our meetings? Some indicated that they have seen newcomers. Q: How did newcomers find out about OA?: Therapists recommended, 12th stepped by other members, Bellevue indicated that newcomers came because it was F2F. Castle Shannon also indicated the newcomers came looking for a F2F. Monroeville indicated that some newcomers were garnered from other meetings.
- Has anyone seen the PSA on television? No
- Who is willing to display 8 ½ x 11 OA posters in public areas? 40 have been put up. We are looking for people willing to put them up at other local public areas. If you can, send your name and address to Ro and she will mail them to you.
- Website revisions making it easier to find newcomer information
- **Encourage Service:**
 - Highlights of January focus group: make service opportunities less time-consuming, easier, less intimidating.
 - Simpler opportunities: display a poster, write an article for VOR, offer some support for an event or committee, ask everyone to register their email address with us
 - Higher level opportunities: become an IR, sponsor events at meeting level (e.g., recovering from relapse, 4th Step options, overcoming shame, anniversary celebrations)
 - Chair opportunities: Outreach, Events
 - Discussion on encouraging service
- **Provide Support for Online Meetings:**
 - Sharing Zoom accounts if there is concern about the cost of Zoom. We have two meetings willing to share accounts.
 - Giving literature to Face-to-Face meetings: Check with GPI if your meeting needs literature before purchasing for a group. Information will be in the Take-Away email.
- **Establish More Face-to-Face Meetings:**
 - Harmarville: Contact Ro if you are interested.
 - Beaver Falls/12 Step Workshop: TBA, working on location, and hope to transition to a regular F2F meeting after the workshop. contact Kristi K. if you are interested.
 - Robinson: A member is looking to start a meeting in this area. Contact Liv S.
- **Special Events**
 - Region 7 Spring Assembly 4/12-13
 - Diamond State Intergroup Annual Retreat 4/25-26 in Ocean City, Md.
- **Focus Group on Reports:** Day-to-day duties aren't being reflected in reports. Have they been scaled back too much? Are you missing information? Do you have time to read the reports before the meeting?
 - Would you find a short 5 minute presentation helpful regarding what each position entails? One position highlighted per month. Show of hands showed lots of interest in this.

Other Issues & Concerns:

- Should we change the meetings to one hour? A: Shoot for an hour but leave the 1 ½ hour meeting schedule in place.
- In minutes, do we need to repeat the take aways? One person responded that it is helpful to have them in the minutes. Q: Could we put the take-away on the website somewhere? Keep them there for the next few months until people are comfortable with the changes. The take aways are normally on the GPI website at the end of the documents list.

ITEMS TO TAKE BACK TO MEETINGS:

- Fresh updated website.
- VOR is back, looking for articles on Recovery from Relapse. Cutoff date is March 15 for submissions.
- Bookmarks with 12-step prayers are available. Contact Sheree if interested.

- Free OA literature available for F2F meetings.
- Abstinent speakers available from the Speaker's Bureau
- Encourage groups to send Intergroup reps.
- Contact Ro for posters to display in public areas.
- Be sure to sign up for emails: link will be in follow up email.
- 7th Contributions - how to in emails.
- Service Opportunities through Intergroup

Meeting adjourned with OA Responsibility Pledge.

Next Meeting: April 7, 2024, 2pm, same Zoom info.