

Chair: Susan S.
Treasurer: Andrea
NJIOA Sec: Bonnie
OAsis: Mary Ann C.
Public Info/Outreach: (Acting) Maria
Region 7 Delegates: Terry P., Bonnie, Carl, Susan L.,
Susan S., Ronni, Maria G.

Vice Chair: Judy
Corr Sec: Ronni
Rec Sec: ToniAnn A.
Web: Mary M.
Media: Sam
World Service Reps: Bonnie F., Carl,
Ronni, Susan S.

7:32 Opening

Serenity Prayer: Jon 12 Steps: Robin 12 Traditions: Joyce
Concept of the Month: Maria Unity with Diversity Policy: Maria

Introduction Roll Call:

Susan S., Chair
Judy, Vice-chair
Marcy, Tuesday night Wayne, public info committee
Maria G., public Info, research delegate committee
Jon K., Zoom Committee
Ronni, Region 7, World Service, corresponding secretary
Sam, tributes, flyers
Sarah, Tuesday night newcomers meeting
Terry P., 12 Step within
Barbara, 12 Step within, website
Nancy, Montclair Saturday morning 12&12
ToniAnn, recording secretary
Steven S., Zoom committee, Wednesday night men's meeting
Carl, Parliamentarian
Lorianne B, Wednesday Hillsdale meeting
Vanessa, Monday Livingston
Bonnie, Secretary, events committee, Region 7, World Service, StarLake
Robin, Berkeley Heights
Jennifer, Incoming Monday morning meeting
Mark H., West Jersey chair
Lorraine, Phone line, Hillsdale Wednesday night
Robin L., Saturday morning Berkeley Heights
Joyce, Tuesday Newcomers
Fran, Friday night HOW
Rachel, Sunday morning West Orange
Roz, Know Your Triggers committee
Brenda, Zoom committee
Harriet S., visitor

Approval of June Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Sarah

Second: Bonnie

Standing Committee Reports:**Treasury:** See attached report.

Fran questioned the placement of the quarterly donations to WSO. She stated the amounts are fine, but they are listed in the reserve section, whereas they should be considered an expense. Susan asked for a follow-up email for clarification.

OAsis: Susan asked for contributions. The theme will be “action plan.” Mary Ann reported through Judy that the deadline for submissions is September 1st.

Info Line: No report at this time. Susan said there are 3 to 4 messages coming in a month.

Events: Bonnie thanked everyone for the events. The last one was great. The handouts for the “What is your Trigger?” are available on the website under “Past Events.”

Website: Bonnie said the website is great and Barbara and Mary are getting things done. The webmaster successfully updated the website software this month.

Susan reported she got a phone call about a newcomer and referred them to njioa.org. She thanked Bonnie for keeping it moving. Jennifer asked for clarification on the handouts. Fran responded to look under “Archives.”

Public Information: Maria stated a local ad is running in the “Patch” newspaper for her zip code in Hoboken. Laura let Maria know that she had talked to the reporter for the “Staten Island Advance,” and she is hoping to get it printed in the Star Ledger. The committee reached out to local and college radio stations, as they are required to make public service announcements required by the FCC. Fran asked if the newspaper article could be posted on the website.

In-Reach/12 Step within Committee: The Thursday Relapse meeting is going strong after changing the format. The attendance has gone from 13 to 15 per week to 20 to 25.

Fundraising: Lorraine said there was nothing new to report. She is always open for suggestions and will put her number in the chat.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

Tributes: Sam sent out seven tributes since the last Intergroup meeting totally \$40.00 raised.

OA Research: Maria said the third quarter newsletter called “A Step Ahead” is available online at OA.org. Lifelines are now online at OAlifeline.org. Under “Find a Meeting” on OA.org, the meeting search tool has added two new categories, Asian/Pacific Islanders and Black/indigenous/Person of Color. Registration is open until July 30th for the 2021 World Service Convention called “Walking in the Sunlight of the Spirit One Day at a Time,” which will be in-person in Orlando, Florida, August 26th to 28th. The OA bookstore has been updated to include links to all e-book purchase options. OA does receive royalties for books purchased on Amazon. The Region 7 Fall Assembly will be in-person on October 1st through 3rd. Save the date for the convention which is November 5th to 7th. The committee will determine next week whether it will be in-person or on Zoom.

Susan said there is an OA Handbook from World Service, which explains procedures and how OA works.

OA Worldwide Outreach: John reported NUIOA will be networking and sharing information with other intergroups regarding events. He sent out 13 emails to Region 1 and received 4 responses thus far to build a database. Susan said at this time the information should be sent to the Public Information Committee. She is hoping to have an individual e-mail distribution list for OAsis.

NJIOA Event Reports:

Outdoor Summer Series

Hike/Mountaintop Meeting: Event was held on June 13 at the Tourne Park. The weather was raining so the event started with lunch under the pavilion and a meeting with a reading and shares from “Bill’s Story.” A group hiked up the mountain trail, while some others stayed below for fellowship and a further meeting. The event was a success.

Know Your Triggers: Roz said there were 90 participants. Both speakers were well received. The handouts were able to be downloaded in advance. If you missed it, you should be able to listen to the recording on the website. Jon said the recordings have not been put up.

Am I Worth It? What is your It? Jon is chairing the next event next Sunday, July 18th. There will be three speakers, a writing exercise, and shares.

Sponsorship Day, August 22: Mark H. reported a flyer is made and 80 percent of the speakers are secured. Susan added Sponsorship day will be two speakers and a panel of four people who will cover all aspects of sponsorship. It will include all of New Jersey together.

Kayaking, Monksville Reservoir, August 29, 8 a.m.: ToniAnn reported there will be a meeting on the water. The rental company was not sure whether life jackets would be supplied due to

(Kayak Event continued.) COVID. The cost is \$35.00. There are waivers that have to be filled out before participating. This is a dry launch, meaning kayakers do not have to get wet. There are many parts of the reservoir where one can stand up that are not deep. There are 20 slots available. If you have your own equipment, there is no cost. Please contact ToniAnn at 973-945-0233 for registration.

Serenity Prayer Workshop: Bonnie reported Sunday, September 26th. There will be three fellows speaking on the Serenity prayers and how to use the Serenity prayer. There will be a brief introduction regarding the etiology of the prayer and how it took hold. The event is 12:30 to 2:30.

A Deep Dive into the 12 Steps: A 15 week Workshop: The workshop will be following the "Twelve Step Workshop and Study Guide." This is a 14-week program on the 12 Steps starting with an introduction on October 5th and following every Tuesday from 3:00 to 4:30 ending January 11th. Registrants are not required to purchase any literature. This is an effective way of working the steps, with homework every week. Participants must attend the first week introduction and is limited to 15 people. The flyer will be out shortly.

Old Business:

Susan took a moment to acknowledge that there were about 15 meetings represented here. She asked all representatives to print out the information and spread the word on the workshops. She thanked Judy, the vice-chair, for all her hard work for NJIOA. If there is something a meeting is doing, please let intergroup know so we can share it. All in-person meetings are listed in red on the website.

Hotline: Carl reported the committee contemplated what is being accomplished by the phone line as most people today do not go to a phone line, but rather go to the internet. The team felt the phone line would be helpful for someone to get general knowledge of OA. It was recommended to find a way to share the voicemails that come from incoming calls to email to be sent to various volunteers which can be delegated. Lorraine reported after inquiring from Verizon, a phone cloud line could be used. Rather than having an answering machine, when someone calls her house phone, her cell phone rings and indicated there is a new message. She suggested this would be a more expedient way to respond to calls.

Fran asked Carl if this was the same service that Google uses. Carl replied that Google doesn't have their own phone service, they use other peoples' services, which can become convoluted. All providers are now UCAS, Unified Communication Atlas Service, which means they have access to the Cloud. The current phone line may not work like Verizon does because they are already a virtual service. Another service provider may be needed. Further information and research will be presented next month. Currently we are using a service called RCF, Remote

Call Forwarding, which is a virtual number in the old-style network, not the Cloud. The question is whether or not we will be allowed to use the same phone number.

Hotline discussion (continued.) Judy inquired about cost. Carl believed it would be less expensive but did not have the exact figure. The committee will gather all the facts including price.

Bonnie asked if a landline number is needed to be in the Cloud. Carl said it is no longer needed. Susan said the committee will report back next week. Carl offered his email to answer any questions.

Facebook Ad: See report.

ToniAnn submitted a report, which included questions and answers. NJIOA can determine any budget for the ad. The ad would be prompted by key words, demographics, and geographical area. West Jersey was using “extreme weight loss” and other iterations of same. The ad may be shown to the same person multiple times. All the ad does is point people to NJIOA.org, which will hopefully bring people into OA.

In order to have an account for the ad, there must be a Facebook page, although the page is not affiliated with the ad. There is currently a Facebook page that says Overeaters Anonymous North Jersey. Nobody will be able to post on the page except the administrator. Currently, the only thing being posted are flyers and information regarding NJIOA happenings. Barry, who is unable to be here tonight, has been administrating the FB page and will also be administering the ad, which is dovetailed off the page. The visual contents of the ad will be something generic to reflect the diversity of our intergroup and perhaps pulled off of OA.org. Hopefully, everyone read the report, which should answer all questions.

Fran asked if the page would be private, secret or public with concern that her friends on FB would see her affiliation. Susan said that will be stopped. ToniAnn added no one should be able to like or click on anything. Fran said she sees 249 people are following the page and it tells her how many of them are her friends. ToniAnn replied only friends who are also following the page can see others’ names. ToniAnn reiterated that the FB page and ad are two separate entities.

Bonnie would feel more comfortable if Barry attended the intergroup meeting. They page still reflected West Jersey, which needs to be corrected. The ad will be maintained with Barry along with the committee.

Judy said there was an unrelated ad on the FB page. ToniAnn replied that it was taken down by Barry. He does monitor the page. Judy pointed out that OA does not wish to be associate with any advertisements as that would be a breach of the Traditions.

Facebook Ad discussion (continued.) Sam felt suspicious that the FB ads are scams and she never clicks on them. She feels it's a strange concept and not official. She said it may just be a perception she had, but she wanted to voice it.

Fran was concerned that the ad was being sent to random people based on demographics and asked is that attraction rather than promotion. ToniAnn responded that some people may have come to OA through a magazine or newspaper article or "Dear Abby." This is no different. Fran's concern was that the ad would be seen multiple times and appear to be a scam. ToniAnn replied that everyone who uses the internet has an electronic footprint. This is today's world and there are benefits, which may also include side effects. A discussion was held about criteria for ad recipients.

Mark said West Jersey picked what seemed to be good key words. It is a random process, whoever clicks on that will get that link. The whole idea is to capture people who are researching the internet because they are bothered by something. The only purpose of the ad is to simply drive traffic to the NJIOA website. He reported that West Jersey did a good job to make sure the ad wasn't harming any other groups or OA as a whole, in other words, there weren't any repercussions or traditions being violated. In fact, the ad did work; it drove people to the West Jersey website.

Carl, in responding to Fran, felt the biggest issue was the repetitive nature of the ad. He asked if there was a mechanism to allow the ad to only appear so many times. ToniAnn said the budget will limit the amount of repetition. Carl volunteered to participate on the committee. Carl said there was an antitrust lawsuit filed today on FB and Google.

Barbara said as a point of order, the meeting ends at 8:30 and it's 8:41 right now. ToniAnn said the meeting ends when business is concluded, but thanked Barbara. Barbara replied the meeting is only an hour. A brief discussion was held. ToniAnn said she would defer to Susan or Carl at which point Barbara made a motion to table the discussion and carry it over to the next business meeting.

Carl thanked Barbara for her concern, and added, just to be clear, it was always a goal to make the meeting end by 8:30 by various chairs particularly for in-person meetings, but there is no rule as such. Carl asked if there was a second to Barbara's motion.

Joyce said she was on the website at the moment and it lists the intergroup meeting as being from 7:30 to 8:30.

ToniAnn made a motion to give the ad a chance for three months with a budget of \$180 to see what happens.

Susan looked to Carl for direction. Carl said there is not a second for either so neither motion is valid.

Fran seconded Carl's motion to table the discussion to find out how to narrow it down.

ToniAnn explained that Carl didn't make a motion.

Facebook Ad discussion (continued.) Carl said there was one motion to table the topic and adjourn the meeting, that hasn't been seconded yet. There is another motion to try the ad for three months. Who is seconding?

Susan said she was unsure which motion was seconded. ToniAnn said Fran seconded the motion to table the discussion. John mentioned the host and co-host cannot vote via the poll and will have to vote independently by messaging Steven.

Carl said just to be clear the motion was to table and adjourn the meeting. Fran said she was not seconding that, only to table the FB discussion. ToniAnn said she will amend her motion to table the FB discussion. Carl pointed out that ToniAnn's motion was not seconded. Carl then turned to Barbara to clarify her motion.

Barbara then said she is motioning to table the discussion and adjourn the meeting. Carl reported the vote is then valid.

Steven said 83 percent voted yes with 2 yeses and 3 noes on the side.

Susan said the motion to adjourn passes. ToniAnn said she had one brief item for new business, which will be carried to next month.

Bonnie said Barbara would accept the friendly amendment, which means the people who are here right now want to close the meeting. Carl explained the vote was split and adjourning was a foregone conclusion.

Ronni read the OA promise.

Meeting closed: 8:52 p.m.

Motion to close: Barbara

Second by: Fran

Respectfully submitted,
ToniAnn A.