

**NJIOA Minutes
January 9, 2025**

Chair: Vacant Vice-Chair: Susan S Treasurer: Ilene W

The meeting was called to order by Susan S.

OA Responsibility Pledge: Susan S

12 Steps: Jeff

12 Traditions: Michael

Concept of the Month: Steve

Unity with Diversity Policy: Gail

Introduction/Roll Call:

Susan S, Acting Chair

Agnes, Sunday pm Montclair meeting

Alice H, Sunday 9 am Mountainside Hospital meeting

Audrey G, visitor

Barbara R, Tues/Thurs 7am Montclair Step meeting

Edward, Thurs pm Gratitude meeting

Fran S, Treasurer/Co-registrar, March Winter Retreat

Gail, Corresponding Secretary, Thurs Relapse meeting

Grace, Wed pm Saddle Brook HOW

Ilene W, Treasurer

Jeff A, Sun am West Orange

Jennie, Zoom chair

Joshua, Into Action Group, Sun Mountainside Hospital meeting

Judy L, Event chair, Zoom committee

June, Sunday, There's a Solution zoom BB meeting

Loraine, Region 7 Rep, Recording Secretary

Marcy, Tuesday pm Wayne meeting, WSO & Region 7 Rep

Mark H, Saturday Cedar Knolls Newcomers meeting

Mary Ann, Oasis co-editor

Maryjean, Fri 7 PM, Sat 8:30 PM meetings

Michael, Men's 8pm Wed meeting

Renee, Sat Montclair Step zoom

Roz, Wed am HOW meeting

Steven S, Website, Zoom committee

Terry P, Public Information chair

Vincent A, visitor, starting new meeting

The minutes of the December 5, 2024 meeting were approved by a show of hands.

Motion: Roz Second: Mark

Treasurer's report: Discussion held later in the meeting.

Oasis: Mary Ann reported the winter edition would be available very soon; final proofreading will take place this weekend. Volunteers are needed to condense Oasis so briefer issues can be distributed to in-person meetings. Addresses will be supplied and costs for printing and mailing will be reimbursed. Gail volunteered to mail the issues. Contact Mary Ann if you have ideas for future topics:

oasis@njioa.org

Public Information: Terry P requested volunteers to serve on this committee to provide information about OA to medical offices and for posting in public areas. Volunteers would also assist a few times during the year at information tables during medical and professional conferences. Terry said help is needed March 30/April 1 in Atlantic City at the National Association of Social Workers conference. The information table will be manned with OA volunteers from South and Central Jersey intergroups, 9 am to 1 pm. Terry wanted two members recognized who volunteered to join the committee, Grace and Susan (from Passaic).

Publicity Committee: Susan S proposed starting a new committee which would send OA materials to hospitals, TV stations and other media. Volunteers are needed who are interested in actively publicizing the OA program to a wider community.

Phone Line: Mark reported that two newcomers called asking for in-person meetings and were not pleased at having to drive considerable distances or to wait until the next meeting was held. These conversations pointed to a service opportunity of opening additional in-person meetings.

12 Step Within: Susan S explained this committee's focus is to help people in the rooms who are struggling with their recovery or to regain recovery. A chairperson is needed; help and support is available for anyone willing to volunteer as chair or as a co-chair.

Literature Scholarship: Susan S explained the intergroup received \$2,000 from a California intergroup in gratitude for help received. The fund is used to provide free copies of a Big Book or Step Book to any member requesting one who lives within the continental USA.

Website: Steve S reported there is a list of meeting updates that are in the process of being addressed. The issue with PayPal for the March Winter Retreat has been corrected. If any chairperson has a problem opening the email account, contact him for access.

Zoom: Jennie recruited a new member today and has the name of another person to contact. The team will be discussing a plan for an educational event to be held for a member from each meeting. General zoom information would be provided as well as ways to deal with zoom bombers. For information or to join the committee, contact Jennie: zoom@njioa.org

World Service: Marcie reported the World Service convention will be held August 21-23, 2025 in Orlando, FL; the percentage for the 7th Tradition donation changed for 2025, it is now 50% to intergroup, 40% to region and 10% to WSO; the OA Birthday Celebration is January 17-19; and a new abstinence book is in the works.

Region 7: Marcie reported the Region 7 convention will be held November 7-9, 2025 in Bethesda, Md.

Events: Volunteers are needed on the Events Committee

Past: Susan S reported the December 12th 12- Step Within workshop had between 80 to 90 attendees.

Present: Judy reported on upcoming events:

January 26, Comfortable in My Own Skin, 2:00-4:00 pm, 3 speakers, ID 856 3940 3141; pass: 012025

February 23, Unity Day, an international event with speakers from the three NJ intergroups, 2-4:00pm.

March 1, NJIOA Winter Retreat, 9:00 am-5:00 pm; Three meeting tracks, speakers from across the country. Register now; online registration payment by PayPal or credit card, mail-in registration by check. Volunteer is needed to assist with typing.

Old Business:

Susan S reported volunteers are needed to fill the following NJIOA positions:

NJIOA Chair

Region 7 Representatives

Publicity Chair

World Service Representative

12-Step Within Chair

New Business:

NJIOA Contact List: Susan S. requested names and email addresses from those in attendance in order to create a contact list for use only by NJIOA members. .

Buddy list: Susan S stated there is need for word from intergroup to reach all our meetings, to make sure nobody is left out. A buddy list will be created and Jennie will be working with it to insure all meetings are aware of what the intergroup is doing. For meetings without an NJIOA representative, Jennie will find a non-rep member of NJIOA on the contact list who is willing to give NJIOA information once a month to a non-represented meeting.

Treasury Report - Dec 2024: Susan S noted there have been many questions about the large balance in the NJIOA account. The December 2024 Total Assets was \$47,465.14. Discussion of how to spend the balance was held in two parts.

Part 1:

Questions:

- Should the 7th Tradition donation owed to World Service be the 2024 30% amount (\$5,360) or the 2025 40% amount (\$7,158)?
- Should the 7th Tradition donation to Region 7 be 10% (\$1,786)?
- Could that Region 7 figure be raised to \$2,000?

A letter from the former Treasurer, ToniAnn, was read and in it she recommended authorization of the 40% donation. ToniAnn also recommended rounding up the Region 7 donation to \$2,000.

An electronic vote was held with choices to say yes to either 30% or 40% for World Service; and 10% to Region 7.

Majority Decision: 40% to World Service, 10% to Region 7

A show-of-hands vote was taken on raising the 10% Region 7 donation to \$2,000.

Majority Decision: Yes.

Part 2: Susan S has set up an Ad Hoc Committee to study what to do about the remaining balance. Jeff A will chair the committee which will review previous operating budgets and expense reports and present suggestions on how much and where money could be distributed. The committee report will be on next month's agenda. In response to a request for volunteers, Grace and Terry offered to serve on the Ad Hoc committee.

Open Position: NJIOA Chair

Susan S stated that ToniAnn will serve as chairperson at next month's meeting and they will rotate that service until a chairperson is found.

Two members volunteered for the position: Audrey and Jeff A. Nominations will take place at next month's meeting.

Susan ended the meeting with a final plea for volunteers to join committees. The meeting closed with the OA Promises.

Motion to close: MaryAnn Second: Mark

Respectfully submitted:
Loraine B