

NJIOA Minutes February 13, 2025

Acting Chair: ToniAnn

Vice-Chair: Susan S

Treasurer: Ilene W

The meeting was called to order by ToniAnn, Acting Chair

OA Responsibility Pledge: ToniAnn

12 Steps: Mary Ann

12 Traditions: Ilene

Concept of the Month: Jeff A

Unity with Diversity Policy: ToniAnn

Roll Call:

Agnes, Sunday pm Montclair meeting
Alice H, Sunday 9 am Mountainside Hospital meeting
Barbara R, Tues/Thurs 7am Montclair Step meeting
Gail, Corresponding Secretary, Thurs Relapse meeting
Ilene W, Treasurer
Jeff A, Sun am West Orange
Jennie, Zoom chair
Joyce, Public Outreach, Region 7
Judy L, Event chair, Zoom committee
June, Sunday, There's a Solution zoom BB meeting
Karen, Visitor
Loraine, Recording Secretary, Region 7 Rep
Marcy, Tuesday pm Wayne meeting, World Service
Mary Ann, Oasis co-editor
Mary Jeanne E, Fri 7 PM, Sat 8:30 PM meetings
MaryJean, New Providence 12 o'clock
Roz, Wednesday am HOW meeting
Steven S, Website, Zoom committee
Susan, Vice-Chair, Scholarship
Terry P, Public Information chair
ToniAnn, Acting Chair, Parliamentarian

The minutes of the January 9, 2025 meeting were approved by a show of hands..

Motion: Susan

Second: Gail

Treasurer's Report: Ilene reported significant donations were made to Region 7 and World Service. Checks received in January will appear on the February report. The \$233.00 entry for NJ Prevention Network is the intergroup's contribution towards the cost of renting a public information booth for the convention in Atlantic City in June. The expense for Wisestamp.com is being looked at.

The Oasis: The Winter edition is on the website. The next issue is the Spring/Summer edition which will be published in May. The theme is: The Doctor's Opinion; articles are due by May 1st and can be submitted on the website or emailed to Mary Ann at oasis@njioa.org. There will be three editions for the year: Spring/Summer in May and then Fall and Winter.

Public Information: Terry stated that NJIOA along with Central and South Jersey and Philadelphia intergroups are working together in an effort to get the word out about OA to medical professionals, psychologists and therapists. OA information tables will be present at two major events being held in Atlantic City: March 30-April 1, the NJ Association of Social Workers Convention and June 12-13, the NJ Prevention Network Annual Conference. Volunteers are needed to help at the tables during the events from 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m. Please contact Terry P if you are able to help.

Phone Line: No report available.

12 Step Within: A report is not available. The position of chair is vacant.

Literature Scholarship: No mailings this month.

Sponsorship Report: A report is not available.

A question was raised regarding the availability of a scholarship to attend the World Service Convention in Orlando, Florida

Decision: To be put on the agenda for discussion next month.

Website: Steven said many changes have been made which include: some improvement in the site speed, addressing text and formatting issues, repaginating the welcome letter, highlighting the Oasis newsletter, and updating the metrics on hits on the Oasis. Donations was reorganized and made more prominent. Hits for a month: 1,396 on the main page, 200 on meetings.

Zoom: Jennie reported that the body image workshop had over 200 participants. NJIOA Zoom committee is hosting the all-New Jersey Unity Day and the Winter Retreat. There is a schedule for the rest of 2025 and as events get created, they will be added to the schedule.

World Service: Marcie reported there will be a World Service Convention in Orlando, Florida August 21-23. The theme is Walking in the Sunlight Together. World Service has requested articles from members be submitted for a new pamphlet, *Living Abstinently*; the deadline is March 1. Information and details are available on the website: oa.org.

Region 7: Loraine reported on a Meet the Maker Zoom session during which proposals for inclusion at the World Service Business Conference were read and explained. The proposals should be discussed at intergroup meetings and the World Service delegate would cast the intergroup's vote on the proposals as presented at the WSBC. One proposal was a change in a committee name to *young adult* from *young people*. That would clarify the age group being addressed as 18-30 years old instead of children's age. Another proposed a statement be added to the Unity With Diversity policy, *we do not try to convince any member or visitor to believe in God*. Another proposal would change the process by which by-laws are changed from needing approval of 55% of all registered groups to approval of only $\frac{3}{4}$ of respondents. A proposal was presented to change all gender references to neutral ones.

Events: Judy reported on the upcoming events:

February 26, Unity Day, a zoom event co-sponsored by all NJ intergroups, at 2:30 the OA Promise will be said in unity with OA celebrants throughout the world.

March 1, Winter Retreat, *Feeling Groovy*, the committee is counting on everyone to send out flyers to generate excitement. Scholarships are available, contact anyone listed on the flyer to ask. It will be a great day of activities, fun and fellowship.

Note: Please don't wait until the last minute or the day of the event to register; it could mean a delay in getting into the event and missing part of the opening keynote address. The agenda and the link for the zoom will be emailed a day or two before March 1.

Old Business

Ad-Hoc Treasury Report: Jeff reported that this committee will be discussing NJIOA funds. Since there is a new treasurer and there will be a new budget, the committee review cannot take place until the operating budget is approved.

Open NJIOA Positions

Susan discussed the current open positions.

12 Step Within and Publicity Committees: The purpose of both committees is to spread the word. The 12 Step Within committee focuses on helping members who need help to get better, people who have been to a meeting and have not been successful. The Publicity chair will research to find contacts at hospitals or doctor's offices and mail a packet about OA. .

Region 7/World Service: The volunteers attend meetings, are placed on a region or world service committee and make a report to the intergroup. Some expenses for attending annual Conference and Convention are reimbursed.

NEW BUSINESS

NJIOA Chair: Two members volunteered for the open Chair position at the January meeting. One has withdrawn her name.

Nomination:

Jeff: Nominated by ToniAnn; Seconded by Roz; Approved

Jeff accepted the nomination.

Vote: Electronic: 3 abstentions; All Others: Yes; Approved

Chair's Comment: Jeff asked members to contact him with any suggestions for the betterment of the intergroup. He provided the number to call or text.

Co-Chair's Comments: Susan stated the list of intergroup members contact information has been prepared and Gail, the Corresponding Secretary, will send a copy out to the group.

Meeting Buddy: This is a new program to provide intergroup information to those meetings that do not have an intergroup representative. Members who have agreed to be a buddy will get in touch with the contact person of an unrepresented meeting and ask if once a month via a phone call or email, information from the intergroup could be provided.

The meeting closed with the OA Promise.

Respectfully submitted,
Loraine B